



Scope and introduction

More than fearful passengers, the belly of the plane sank broken and silent into plant-sized hills

sliding oily sheaths of grief downward to cover the detritus, spilling wires and scraping raw oxygen masks

General characteristics

Some balance like modern dancers one wing extended toward the sky.

Some are sliced along the middle exposing seats and aisles.

Some wash up on beaches like whales. Some float before sinking.

Some parts are carried by the trades to remote islands.

Some go in nose first and will never be recovered.

Some have come down in meadows next to grazing alpaca.

Enhanced passenger appeal in cabin interior

The plane will crash. Pray. 18A is the calmest seat.

These hushful moments: life and stillness.

Time pulls the earth apart, tumbles the seconds in unknown units.

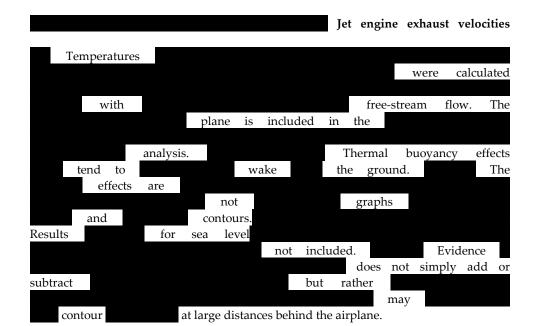
Best flight ever, the plane agrees.

Not even a creak through the slippery throat of night.

Balance, balance: first tickle of the below-world.

Wings that have never touched the earth, will.





Fragments I: the event

deformed bird bare wiring

wing-pulse cloud boneyard

stony hunger disintegrate seconds

drunken compass shudder-bolts

sinuous fall fused organism

blood-oil tumbling sarcophagus

metal fatigue implied blindness

unhinged earth unknown cause

fetching ground killing sky

Interior arrangements

windows will shatter before impact force of forward thrust fabric will scratch and tear

all escapeways will remain sealed all lavatories will empty water into the darkness

Maximum landing weight

They have been burned beyond recognition. They have been reduced to their engines.

They can vanish under snow or vegetation, a lesson for the illusionist in disappearances.

How they strip hillsides of their trees: quickly and by the roots.

They can go silent and without warning. They can scream like terror.

Two might collide midair or mid-runway one's wing into the other's face.

What spills forth besides bodies: luggage, colas, flotation devices

plastic flatware, teabags, V-8, flight safety instruction cards.

Carry-on items

10 Lavatory-Occupied

Signs

10 Passenger Doors

10 Sinks

10 vacuum lavatories

16 toilets

2, 3,060-Gallon Fuel

Tanks

24 First-Class Seats

302 Economy Seats

400 Flotation Devices

400 In-Seat Phones

400 Motion Sickness

Bags

400 Reading Lights

400 Safety Cards

400 Seat Belts

400 Seat Cushions

400 Tray Tables

74 Business-Class Seats

8 Bunks

Accelerometer Aft Compartment

Aileron

Airspeed Indicator

Altimiter

Artificial Horizon Auto-Pilot Indicator

Auxiliary Fuel Tank

Ball Transfer Panel

Beacon

Beverages

Black Box Blankets

Bloody-Mary Mix

Bolts

Bulk Cargo

Compartment

Bulk Cargo Door

Call Button

Cargo-handling Controls Carry-Ons

Cathode Ray Displays

Clipboard Clock Cockpit

Combat Trim Indicator

Compass

Containerized Cargo

Door No. 5

Engine Temperature

Escape Slide Escape Slide Compatment Exit Row

Flap Position Indicator

Flaps Flashlights Flatware Fluorescent Bulbs Fly-by-Wire System

Food Cart Fuel

Fuel Tank Fuel Tank Quantity

Fuel Tank Selection Fuselage Gunsight

High Bypass Ratio Engines In-Flight Movies Landing Gear

Landing Gear Indicator

Luggage Magazines

Main Deck Nose Door

Main Wings

Manifold Pressure

Gauge

Mechanized Cargo-Handling System

Nose

No-Smoking Signs

Oil Pressure Ordnance Display

Overhead Bins Oxygen Masks Passenger Door Propeller RPM Indicator PW 4056 Engines

RB211-524H8-T Engine

Rudder Signs Slats

Slip Indicator

Snacks

Sound Systems Speedometer Spoiler

Structural Carbon Brakes Surface Trim Indicators

Tail Tires

Turn and Bank Indicator

Two-Crew Cockpit with Digital Avionics Upper Deck Emergency

Door Vertical Speed Indicator Vertical Stabilizer Windows



Fragments II: the injury

exploding box broken pulse

punctured lobe leaky valves

shattered ribs skinned frame

foreign object buckled cross

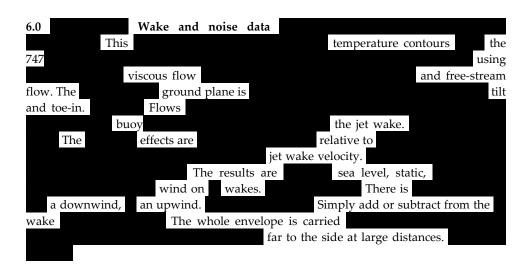
cross-tear perforated bowels

braying murderess burden spillage

hinky brainpan charred lung

shrill dismemberment wire hemorrhage

earth-crush choke-hold



Fragments III: the aftermath

hull loss lake vault

quiet entanglement indecorous river

ragged cleaving crippled earth

atmospheric longing blood meadow

marasmus bones blanched sky

river nerve interred frame

rent air paralytic toy

choked balefire sky burial

pocket shrine b-roll