



Crash: a flight manual

Dana Guthrie Martin and Beth Polkinghorn

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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.

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Temperatures

were calculated

with

free-stream flow. The

plane is included in the

analysis.

Thermal buoyancy effects

tend to

wake

the ground.

The

effects are

not

graphs

and

contours.

Results

for sea level

not included.

Evidence

does not simply add or

subtract

but rather

may

contour

at large distances behind the airplane.

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
Altimeter
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
Compartment
Exit Row
Flap Position Indicator
Flaps
Flashlights
Flatware

Fluorescent Bulbs
Fly-by-Wire System
Food
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

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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

This temperature contours the
747 using
viscous flow and free-stream
flow. The ground plane is tilt
and toe-in. Flows
buoy the jet wake.
The effects are relative to
jet wake velocity.
The results are sea level, static,
wind on wakes. There is
a downwind, an upwind. Simply add or subtract from the
wake The whole envelope is carried
far to the side at large distances.

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