



Phantoms of the Skies

J. Allan Danelek

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This book tells the true story of aviation as it evolved from mankind's first primitive attempts to fly to the remarkable successes of the early twentieth century in a non-technical and even fun way, designed to impress upon the reader that the history of aviation is richer and more remarkable than they ever imagined. It is also a tribute to the men-and a few women-who laid the foundations that made not only Kitty Hawk possible, but Von Zeppelin's great dirigibles a reality as well. Most of the names and events mentioned in this book are known to only a handful of aviation enthusiasts and practically unknown to the general public, making this work an important recounting of the lost history of aviation that demands to be told. Some of it is controversial. Parts of it are contentious, and some of it is even speculative, but all of it is a valuable insight into an era when men dared to dream great dreams and bet their lives on the results. Many times they paid dearly for such presumptuousness, but without their sacrifices, the safety and ease of air travel we enjoy today would not be possible. But even more than a retelling of history, it is also a compendium of over 150 patent office blueprints produced between 1847 and 1903 that faithfully capture the spirit of the age. Carefully reproduced from original drawings, they perfectly illustrate the enthusiasm of technology that ran through the world during the height of the industrial revolution, and though many of the designs were impractical, fanciful, and even outrageous, they are an important part of the infant steps aviation took as it tried to find its wings at a time when anything was thought to be possible.

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Ira Knudsen:

Reading a reserve tends to be new life style on this era globalization. With studying you can get a lot of information that could give you benefit in your life. Together with book everyone in this world can share their idea. Publications can also inspire a lot of people. A lot of author can inspire their own reader with their story or maybe their experience. Not only the story that share in the publications. But also they write about the information about something that you need illustration. How to get the good score toefl, or how to teach your sons or daughters, there are many kinds of book that you can get now. The authors nowadays always try to improve their talent in writing, they also doing some investigation before they write on their book. One of them is this Phantoms of the Skies.

Hubert Smith:

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