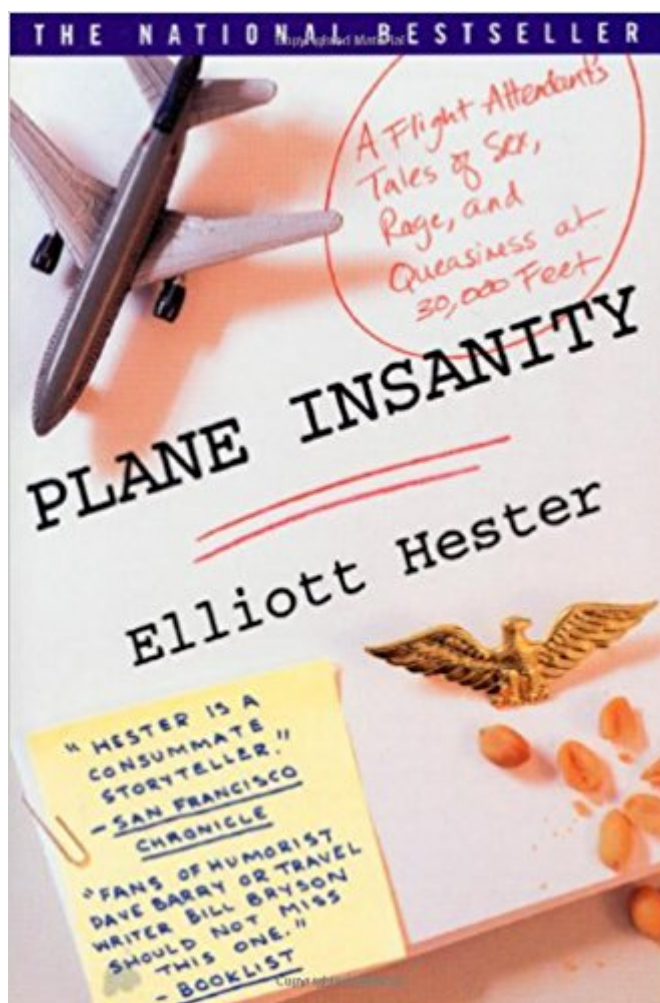


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Plane Insanity: A Flight Attendant's Tales Of Sex, Rage, And Queasiness At 30,000 Feet



Synopsis

You're belted into a middle seat with burly businessmen on either side. It's 92 degrees in the cabin and someone forgot to use deodorant. A baby screams. A kid kicks the back of your seat. After two hours you haven't even left the taxiway. Welcome to modern airline travel! In *Plane Insanity*, Elliott Hester delivers stories that could only come from someone who "rides tin" for a living—a flight attendant. You'll hear about: * the passenger from hell * a smuggled python * prostitutes working the lavatories * a riot in coach-class * a heist * the anatomy of a carryon bag * a malodorous couple * the Mile-High Club * and more! Fasten your seatbelts. After *Plane Insanity*, you'll never think of air travel the same way again.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

It's hard to believe that the stories in *Plane Insanity*, the hilarious book by Elliott Hester, are true. But they are. Before you read even a single page, you know you're in for a wild ride just from the subtitle: *A Flight Attendant's Tales of Sex, Rage, and Queasiness at 30,000 Feet*. Hester has encountered just about everything in his 15 years of flying the skies or "riding tin," and he recounts these laugh-out-loud encounters with plenty of attitude and self-deprecating humor. Not to spoil the fun, but a few juicy tidbits include Hester as the hapless victim of a child's projectile vomit, chasing a sparrow around the cabin, mistakenly putting a woman on the wrong flight, and recalling the unfathomable account of an inebriated man defecating atop a liquor cart, to the horror of passengers and crew. Just when you think the stories can't get anymore outlandish he outdoes himself with the titillating antics of amorous couples who vie for membership in the infamous Mile

High Club. And did our Mr. Hester himself ever become a member of this elite club? You'll have to read the book to find that out. Believe me, you'll be glad you did--this is the one of the year's funniest reads. --Jill Fergus

In his debut book of hilarious essays, syndicated columnist Hester expertly recounts "lowlights" from his 16-year career as a flight attendant for major U.S. airlines. Like an angrier, more street-wise Dave Barry, Hester zeroes in on bad trips, in-flight fighting, intolerable co-workers and airline procedures, broken airplanes, bad layovers and sex on airplanes (aka the "Mile High Club"). Addicted to "travel by whim," Hester isn't complaining "The ability to fly for next to nothing is the reason I took this job." He's just sharing: "I once saw a drunken couple puke on each other until they looked as if they'd emerged from a pool of oatmeal. I watched a smug-faced man receiving high altitude fellatio from a woman he'd just met on the flight," as well as "full-blown airplane brawls, passenger stampedes, a flight attendant in the midst of a nervous breakdown, passengers in various stages of undress, and stressed-out flyers attempting to open the emergency exit six miles above the Atlantic." These and other stories (an onboard robbery in which \$500,000 was stolen on a 727) will be a revelation to anyone who has flown; Hester's careful, well-paced descriptions show that what happens behind the scenes is worse than one could imagine and that modern attendants take this craziness for granted. Hester also provides a wide assortment of various other true-life airline shenanigans taken from newspapers and wire service reports, which adds to his book's lurid charm. 7 b&w illus. Copyright 2001 Cahners Business Information, Inc.

I tried hard to like this book. I kept waiting for it to become "shocking, bizarre, hilarious, and outrageous." It was, however, mildly amusing, though it is clear to any seasoned road warrior that many, if not most, of the author's alleged personal experiences are gross exaggerations if not in fact fictional. Unfortunately, the author comes across as the "flight attendant from Hell" about whom he himself rants. He admits he applied for the job with the sole motivation of traveling for free, despite his utter disdain for the airline he works for, the public he serves, and the laws and regulations he is supposed to honor. Yes, everyone who travels for a living has stories to tell about unruly passengers, most more interesting than his. The book would be more likeable if the author was more likeable. Unfortunately, he comes across as a misanthropic scam artist with nothing of interest to say, other than what we have already read in the newspapers.

Great book Elliott! I'm a flight attendant and this book is a must! Sooo funny! And you get to see

what really happens behind the scenes with some of you crazy passengers! Lol!

While I expected a lot of humor, and some sub-zero zany insanity that comes with the territory of flying more than once or twice a year (major incident free), I none-the-less didn't expect the sheer gravity of combative theatrics. Most of the stories were not shocking, but reminiscent of incidents that happen daily on the ground—particularly in large cities. My favorite tales were of the soldier who switched seats with a woman who understandably didn't want to travel the remaining flight seated next to a dead man, and the Norwegians stealing seatbelts to wear as the latest fashion fad. It also might not be a bad endeavor that FAA pursue, or resume testing that restraint thingamajig to control rowdy passengers. Great title.

My husband & myself fly pretty often as a family member works for an airline. They told me about the book. Very funny, definitely made me laugh & I hear stories about things that have happened. Definitely believable, as people do crazy, goofy things & a lot does go on, on airplanes. Things that people don't even think could happen. A funny book, makes you smile & laugh. I really liked the book.

Hilarious at times. Insightful I heard author on the radio talking about the book. I happen to know the radio host Art "Chat Daddy" Sims, who once worked for an airline also. I never realized they see so much. Great read. I have flown quite a bit, but I think I prefer the Train.

I'm a former Pan Am flight attendant so I love reading things by other FAs. This book was fun...I highly recommend it.

This is a well written book. I now have a greater understanding of what the flight crews have to deal with as far today's flying public are acting. I have a friend who is a flight attendant and will compare notes with her.

This is a fun read with a laugh now and then but I felt it dragged just a bit now and then. It does provide a good picture of the wacky situations airline Flight Attendants are faced with. It is well worth the time to read and enjoy.

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