



Air Babylon

Imogen Edwards-Jones

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Heard the one about the airline that has introduced 'corpse cupboards' on new planes to cope with the number of people who die in the air? Heard the story about the First Class air hostess who got fired for sitting on the face of a passenger during a long haul flight? Heard about the amount of knickers and false teeth that are left behind in the body of the plane? Heard how pissed-off stewards put laxatives in your drinks? Heard about the pilot who ran out of runway? Heard of the disabled passengers who miraculously walk again?

No? Then you haven't read *Air Babylon*.

Do you know the best place to have sex on a plane? Do you know how to dress for an upgrade? Do you know that one drink in the air equals three on the ground? Do you know who is checking you in? Who is checking you out? Do you know exactly what happens to your luggage once it leaves your sight? Is it secure? Are you safe? Do you really know anything about the business that you entrust your life to several times a year?

Air Babylon is a trawl through the highs, the lows, and the rapid descents of the travel industry. It catalogues the births, the deaths, the drunken brawls, the sexual antics, and the debauchery behind the scenes of the ultimate service industry - where the world is divided into those who wear the uniform and those who don't...

Air Babylon Details

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From Reader Review Air Babylon for online ebook

Ruth Johnson says

Actually really impressed. I was a bit dubious to begin with but it really was laugh out loud funny in places. While it's obvious all of this can't happen in 24 hours or certainly not to one person, it does get the behind the scenes look of the airline industry information out and in a fun read.

Lorenzo Phillibuster Fireworks says

This book is certainly entertaining though I am dubious as to how truthful this book actually is. While I believe a majority of these stories, I doubt that they happened in a 24 hour period and I STRONGLY doubt any flight attendant would really be stupid enough to rub someone's steak on the toilet seat before serving it to the first class passenger just because he was rude.

It was however an insight to passengers that will hopefully provide some perspective into the lives of airline employees.

Alex is The Romance Fox says

I loved this book. Having been one of those "hosties" with a major international airline for years, I identified with so many of the stories...which by the way have some truth in them even though some might be termed exaggerated....but hey it makes for much more interesting reading.

An hilarious ride.....

The story, told thru the eyes of an airport duty manager, which happens in a span of 24 hours shows us all the dramas that go on in an international airport...from the baggage handlers, check-in agents, flight attendants and more. It's an hilarious ride.....you now have discovered all the secrets of all those people who you don't give a toss for and take for granted.....and how they go about getting their revenge on those so called hideous pax!!!!!!

Yes, flight crew...cockpit and cabin do get up to mischief...though the days of fun times during long lay-overs are a thing of the past. Now you fly to your destination and if you are lucky, have a day there and then fly right back home....no time given for partying...well how much can one cram into a night-stop I ask????

Travellers are given a few tips on how to.....in a fun way.....get yourself upgraded....now that's very hard...but one can still try I suppose...those drunken pax....they happen believe me!!!!!! And sex in the sky...it's not a myth.....it happened on one of my flights!!!!

I absolutely loved the scenes with the crew in the Dubai hotel. I couldn't stop laughing...in fact I laughed through most of reading this book. A real buzz.

And finally it did bring back the most amazing memories I have of my flying life.....you know it's really

true.....we flight attendants are really “Jetsetters on the cheap!!!!”...and oh yes buy the book, have a laugh and try not to take it toooooo seriously....just have fun as u turn the pages!!!!!!

Emily says

I bought this book for cheap on Amazon after learning about the author from "Hotel Babylon", a guilty-pleasure BBC series about what goes on in a luxury London hotel, based on her book of the same name. The author has made a career out of books about the inner workings of certain industries, so this one delves into what it's like working for an airline, supposedly based on real interviews with anonymous airline staffers. It's a fun beach read if you happen to find it, and there are a few laugh out loud bits. My favorite: the story of a clueless, spoiled mother on an airplane who hands her baby to a flight attendant, saying "she needs changing". The flight attendant walks down the aisle, returns with a black baby, and asks the mother if the baby is changed enough for her. Who doesn't love little stories of comeuppance like that? Airline staff have to deal with people at their absolute worst, so as you can imagine, this book is full of similar tales.

Holly says

This is so trashy, but SO GOOD. It's like an episode of Airline that gets so raunchy they have to show it at 11pm on like, 5Star or something. Obviously it's exaggerated massively and there's no way that all this could actually happen to one person/crew in a 24 hour period but that's the FUN in it!

Vismant? says

„Labai dažnai, kai mums atrodo, jog tai per gerai, kad b?t? tiesa, ir b?na per gerai, kad b?t? tiesa.“

Cathy (cathepsut) says

Funnily enough, I bought this at duty free in Heathrow Airport. This book is a loose collection of anecdotes of the shenanigans in the airline industry. They are told in the form of one day in the working life of an airport duty manager. Very British, very shallow, occasionally very funny - especially if you have flown a few times. Brain candy. This is probably a great read during a long-haul flight with too much alcohol.

Michaela says

I really liked the first part set in the airport wasn't fussed about the rest but overall very good.

Darla Ebert says

Fascinating and entertaining, jaw dropping stories. At the same time, I felt the course language was unnecessary to the telling of the escapades on a fictional airlines (though all the stories purport to be true)

Andreas says

Mildly entertaining.

Odette says

As with all the books under the "Babylon Genre", Air Babylon is no exception. It is witty, and very well researched. I was both highly entertained and shocked at the facts that the book pointed out. One of my favorite parts, was about the window shutters on the aircraft and why they are to be kept open during the landing and take-off procedures.

Imke says

Finished this in no time! Really funny, and gives you great insights in the life of the duty manager of an airline. You'll never fly with the same easy feeling again after reading this book.

Margaret says

Highly entertaining look at the airline industry.

Imogen Edwards-Jones took stories of real events told to her by airline workers and wove them into a novel covering 24 hours at a fictitious airline.

Hilarious and horrifying in equal measures.

If you are a traveler you need to read this.

Tania Kliphuis says

I found this book hilarious.

The way it is written is interesting, as it has the fiction essentials: main characters and an interesting plot. However, all of the incidents and characters are supposedly true - albeit a bit squashed into 24 hours.

This book made me want to be nice to every person working in an airport. If they can really get that nasty then I don't want to cross them. I was also tempted to become terrified of flying, but figure that it's out of my hands anyway so may as well not freak myself out.

If you care to know what really goes on in the cockpit and behind-the-scenes at airports, then read this book. Don't bother though if you don't have a sense of humour, and think that air stewards are braindead waiters in the sky who don't deserve some respect.

Steve Horsfall says

I read 'Air Babylon' during a recent trip to NY, enduring a number of BA cabin crew telling me it was all pure fiction. It is a very interesting concept in revealing the trade secrets of a chosen industry and a difficult one to pull off - my only criticism is that the 'do you remember the time that...' anecdotes come a bit too thick and fast towards the end of the book and do not flow into the day's diary of events as smoothly as the earlier chapters set in the Airport. There is some real food for thought here (speaking of which, you may never eat an airline meal again after reading this). In summary 'Air Babylon' will really get you thinking about very aspect of the flying experience next time you pass through a UK Airport, which may not be a good thing for the more nervous flyers out there.
