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As a blizzard bears down on Chicago's O'Hare airport, a critical air traffic control facility is shut down by a grisly accident. When the radar comes back up, two planes have collided. Wayfarer flight 880—half the roof ripped away—flies on. Seated amid dead and dying passengers is Donovan Nash, a pilot who fights decompression and oxygen deprivation to make it to the shattered cockpit. With the help of Audrey Parrish—a woman from his concealed past—and a handful of survivors, Donovan struggles to keep the 737 airborne. Dr. Lauren McKenna waits for Donovan, her fiancé, to arrive only to hear that something has gone awry with the flight. Lauren must convince Henry Parrish, an unlikely ally, to help her save the man she loves. Together, Lauren and Henry have to stay one step ahead of the airline, as well as heightened security, to execute a daring rescue to save Donovan and the others on flight 880.

Code Black Details

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From Reader Review Code Black for online ebook

James Calhoun says

This book was absolutely great! I was hooked from the first page. The action begins immediately and just keeps on going. It is very well written, very well edited, the characters are about perfect, and the story line blew me away!

For the past 20+ years I traveled every week. I looked forward to my home bound flight every Thursday because I could relax with a good book. I don't recall ever enjoying a read more than this one!!

John says

Donovan Nash is a man with a secret past. He's on a 737 headed for O'Hare when his plane suffers a mid-air collision that rips a giant hole in the roof, damages the plane and kills or injures almost everyone on board. Since he's a pilot, he takes over the flight and attempts to get the plane landed. Unfortunately, the worst snowstorm in a century is pounding everything within 1,000 miles. Donovan's fiancée, Dr. Lauren McKenna, is on the ground at O'Hare and trying to help. Can Donovan land the plane without revealing his secret identity? Are there really forces at O'Hare working against him?

The flight sequences in the book are amazing. I couldn't put the book down.

Maybe minus a half a star for just too many coincidences. Of course Donovan is rich beyond belief. Of course Lauren has government contacts who can fix any problem. Of course they can find someone at the airport to give them whatever they need at any given time. Of course everyone in the story is interrelated.

Mark says

A bit cheesy, farfetched, predictable and run of the mill. Not sure I would read any more from this author.

H.W. Bernard says

I love thrillers and I love books about flying. CODE BLACK, by Philip Donlay, is a great thriller about flying. The novel kept me up reading on way too many nights long after my self-imposed "lights out" time.

I suppose I could quibble a bit about the accuracy of some of the meteorological logic in the book and the fact it could have used more diligent editing in a couple of spots, but I won't. CODE BLACK is a five-star read because it's a great story well told.

At the core of the drama is a crippled commercial airliner fighting to land in a shut-down blizzard at Chicago's O'Hare Airport. The airliner, a 737, has had a midair collision with a military tanker and lost all of its avionics, the systems a modern plane needs to fly and land safely.

Not only are the avionics kaput, the flight control surfaces have been damaged, a hole has been ripped in the roof, and only one pilot—who is badly injured—has survived. A passenger, an aviator with only Gulfstream experience, steps into the calamity to try to help, but finds himself quickly overwhelmed as things go steadily from bad to worse (as they're supposed to in a good thriller).

It's a terrific drama with a solid subplot that keeps you flipping the pages as fast as you can.

Bottom line: if you love thrillers and books about flying, get **CODE BLACK**, fasten your seatbelt, and prepare for a white-knuckle adventure.

Terry Imbach says

Suspend your disbelief and dive into this wonderful, non-stop action thriller. I haven't read many books that immediately captured me and carried me on a wave of suspense that left me hanging until the last page - literally.

Nancy Silk says

"A Hold-Your-Breath Thriller"

This is the second novel written by author Philip Conlay. It is absolutely stellar! The writing is excellent which aids the reader to get very involved with the characters and the plot. At times I was breathless about what I was reading. In this book, Donovan Nash is back again on a flight headed from Washington D.C. to Chicago. His fiancée, Lauren McKenna, is awaiting his arrival at the airport. The commercial airliner on which Donovan is, without warning, struck a glancing blow from a military KC-135 aircraft, a large aircraft used by the Air Force as a mid-air refueler. Just before the collision, Donovan is talking to Lauren on the phone, but looking out the port, he see's the approaching aircraft, grabs a woman walking in the aisle and pulls her down onto the empty seat beside him. Suddenly Lauren is panicked when she hears screaming and an explosion, and the connection is broken. While Lauren struggles to gain information from an airline official, Donovan is in the cockpit trying to stabilize the damaged, struggling airliner. This is one of the most exciting novels I've read in a while, one which would make a spellbinding movie. There is one character, Emmett, who I'd love to see played by Samuel L. Jackson in a cameo roll. There is obviously much tension throughout this extraordinary story written by the author who is a 30-year commercial pilot. It is definitely a page turner, one that I highly recommend.

Dixie Petersen says

Wow! A very exciting read!

If you like suspense, action and a read you can't put down -- this book is for you! Very well written, it's exciting from the first page to the very end! Descriptive scenes and dialogue take you for the ride of your life, right there with other passengers! I love the Donavan Nash series!

P.S. Upon finishing books 1 through 7, I can honestly tell you the quality and suspense and action are in every single book and I recommend them all!

Shanna Schmitt says

A blizzard suspense! I loved this book. I loved reading another adventure/mystery with Donovan Nash and I really loved that it featured a blizzard. I'm writing this review a few years after I read the book, but the story of the blizzard has stuck with me the whole time. It's gripping and entertaining, a great mix!

Sharon says

Wow. Code black is an action packed, page turning, suspenseful thriller. The Author's writing is descriptive and detailed, allowing the reader to fully experience not only the situations occurring but the actions/emotions of the characters as the story of the plane collision aftermath unfolds. Recommended 4.5 star read.

Debbie Oxier says

I love airplane thrillers. John J. Nuance and Kam Majd are two authors that come to mind. When I ran across Code Black I was hoping for something similar. It far surpassed my expectations. It was a wild ride from start to finish.

Donovan Nash was on a commercial flight to Chicago to reunite with his fiancée. Their wedding was only a week away and he'd flown home to purchase a house for his wife's wedding present. When he first boards, he sees a woman from his past, when he was then a man named Robert Huntington. Only a couple of people besides Lauren, his fiancée, knew he'd faked his own death. It was a dark time in his life and he'd felt he had no choice. Although some plastic surgery helped him disguise his former self, he was afraid Audrey might recognize him. He traded seats with someone in coach in order to avoid her. When a freak occurrence causes a military plane to veer into his plane's airspace, the two collide and suddenly Donovan is in a fight for life and those of the few passengers who remained alive.

Besides the emergency in the air, he has to deal with people from the past that he once worked very closely with. In the meantime, Lauren is on the ground calling in favors from her close contacts high up in the government in order to get the plane and Donovan back safely. When she overhears a plot to crash the plane in order to facilitate a takeover of the airline, she realizes there's more danger involved for the man she loves than what appears on the surface.

Loved the fast pace, the constant twists and turns, and the elements of suspense that kept me quickly turning the pages. A great read from start to finish.

Robert Sory says

Code Black

A thrilling adventure and great read kept my attention the whole time. I was able to follow the the individual people with ease the book was hard to put down.

Rhonda says

Code Black is exciting, emotional, full of drama. It does have a lot of gorrey scenes which might happen in real life scenes of plane accidents. This is the second book of the Donovan Nash series.

It is a week before Donovan and Lauren's wedding. Donovan is a passenger on a Wayfarer flight 880 heading to Chicago's O'Hare and a bad winter storm. When two airplanes collide in midair.

Part of the plane roof is missing. The plane is out of control, some passengers, baggage were sucked out of the airplane. Passengers are fighting over the oxygen masks that come down. Donovan helps and makes his way to the flight deck.

The co-pilot is dead and captain is out. Donovan starts flying the plane. There is no equipment working right.

Lauren was on the phone with Donovan when he saw the plane coming at them and told her they were going to crash. Lauren tries to get someones attention and tell them about the crash.

There is action and drama both in the air and at the airport as they try and figure what to do next. Donovan Nash works for a science company nonprofit. But he has a secret that few know. He is a billionaire who faked his own death. He does not want the world to know.

He realizes that someone on the plane was from his old life. He is afraid that she will realize who he was. I did like it but so far not my favorite of the three Donovan Nash books that I have read this week. I have a couple of more books of the series ready to read.

I bought this ebook on Amazon.

Jackie says

Out of this world amazing. Suspenseful until the end. Seat gripping and your stomach does flops, every time something else happens. You wonder how much more the plane or the people can take. This book is movie worthy. First time for me for this author, but not the last

April says

Fast paced thriller...

I have read most of the Donovan Nash series and this one does not disappoint. Quick paced and well established settings with strong characters make for a great read.

William S Rogers says

This a great read. I was hooked, I read the whole book in one Sunday afternoon and evening. Looking forward to the rest of the Donovan series.
