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# Bird Dream: Adventures At The Extremes Of Human Flight





### Synopsis

Human flight is one of the last great challenges on Earth. Not like how the Wright brothers flew, but how we fly in our dreams. This is the goal of the Wingsuit Landing Project: to soar through the sky at speeds up to 100 miles per hour and to land without the aid of a parachute. This project is the creation of 37-year-old Jeb Corliss, Jr., a Southern Californian who seeks to emulate a mode of flight more like a flying squirrel than bird or plane. Journalist Matt Higgins gained intimate access to Corliss, who, after years of base jumping and skydiving, set out to be the first person to be dropped 2,400 feet and land solely with the aid of a wingsuit. But somewhere in the UK, 42-year-old Gary Connery was plotting to beat Corliss at his own game. Along with an international group of wingsuit pilots. This race will nearly cost one of the competitors his life. A riveting, adrenaline-fueled narrative about a group of unforgettable characters who risk everything to achieve man's age-old dream of flying, Bird Dream takes listeners to the cutting edge of this new frontier - as well as the strange science and fearless history that have led us to this remarkable point in the human experience.

### **Book Information**

Audible Audio Edition Listening Length: 9 hoursà andà Â 6 minutes Program Type: Audiobook Version: Unabridged Publisher: Tantor Audio Audible.com Release Date: July 31, 2014 Language: English ASIN: B00LW799C0 Best Sellers Rank: #91 inà Â Books > Sports & Outdoors > Miscellaneous > Air Sports & Recreation #269 inà Books > Sports & Outdoors > Extreme Sports #1034 inà Â Books > History > World > Expeditions & Discoveries

#### **Customer Reviews**

A GREAT READ. CHOOSE BIRD DREAMS AS MY SUMMER READ AND WAS QUICKLY DRAWN INTO THE WORLD OF BASE JUMPERS, AND WINGSUIT PILOTS. THE AUTHOR, MATT HIGGINS IS A GREAT STORY TELLER. HIS ABILITY TO TO EXPLAIN THE TECHNICAL ASPECTS OF THIS EXTREME SPORT, INTRODUCING THE READER TO THE MEMBERS OF THIS SELECT COMMUNITY AND WHAT MAKES THEM "TICK" AND THEN TAKING YOU TO THE EDGE OF A MOUNTAIN IN SOME FAR AWAY PLACE ANXIOUSLY AWAITING ANOTHER FLIGHT. THAN THE AUTHOR DREW ME INTO THE SUSPENSE OF THE QUEST TO LAND WITHOUT A PARACHUTE, I KEPT READING ON CHEERING ON A FELLOW AMERICAN WHILE ADMIRING THE BRIT'S EFFORTS. BIRD DREAMS IS A GREAT READ, A STORY I NEEDED TO FINISH BUT SAD THAT STORY HAD COME TO AN END. HIGGINS WRITING STYLE MAKES FOR AN EASY AND ENJOYABLE READ AND I WILL DEFINETLY KEEP HIM ON MY READING LIST

I really enjoyed reading this book about the beginning of wingsuits, BASE jumping and the race to land a wingsuit without a parachute. It was well written and the characters were interesting. I would recommend it to anyone who has a taste for adventure.

I loved this book! The subjects of skydiving, BASE jumping and wing suit flying are inherently thrilling; but the combination of this thrilling topic, fascinating characters, and Higgins' impeccable skill as a writer make this book a must read!

Puts you in a wingsuit without the danger...also into the minds of the pilots who jump so precariously. Well paced, engaging writing of fascinating personalities, living on an edge few of us dare to consider. Who doesn't dream of flight? Take the plunge here.

Fantastic subject matter about extreme people living on the edge. Well written and informative without being overly judgmental about the psychology behind these people

Interesting read, even if your aren't into extreme sports! Matt's writing style puts you right in the middle of things!

A dream catcher of a tale about the courageous few that risk their lives to pursue the ultimate flying adventure.

Who are these guys who dream of flying and what compels them to defy death in their pursuit of that dream? Are they crazy and irresponsible or dedicated admirable athletes? These questions went around in my head as I read Bird Dream and tried to figure out what makes these guys tick. Technically and psychologically well researched, Bird Dream is a breathtaking adventure, intense

and dramatic of two men, Jeb Corliss and Gary Connery, who race against each other to be the first to fly in a wingsuit and land without a parachute. Along the way we learn about the adrenaline fueled subculture of BASE jumpers and wingsuit flyers from all over the world and witness both the gritty and the sublime of the sport, from death and bodily destruction to majestic soaring through natural landscapes. The author's research enlightens and his detailed, almost poetic descriptions make this an immensely readable book on many levels. Thoroughly enjoyable, highly recommended to anyone who loves rip roaring thrills and/or a thought provoking study of what inspires great dreams.

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