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Parachute And Its Pilot,The: The Ultimate Guide For The Ram-Air Aviator

The PARACHUTE and its PILOT

The Ultimate Guide for the Ram Air Aviator



Brian Germain

Foreword by
Dan Poynter



Synopsis

The Parachute and Its Pilot is the singular resource for canopy flight information. Whether you're a new jumper looking to further your education or an expert canopy pilot seeking tips on advancing your techniques, this book has something for you. The book is jam-packed with information compiled over twenty years of skydiving experience and offers technical, straightforward explanations of ram air parachute flight. Written by one of the industry's leading parachute designers, The Parachute and Its Pilot is a must-have handbook for every skydiver.

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Customer Reviews

First of all, beware that this is a physically large book. The size is 8.5"x11" (A4 size), the same as what probably goes into your home printer. I am an inexperienced jumper, sub-100 jumps and on my first non-student canopy. I found a lot of good information in this book, teaching me the basics of how the parachute works and why it does what it does when I pull the toggles. It's worth reading it with a highlighter in your hand, to mark the most important tips for future reference. I read the book

from the beginning, stopping when I came to the chapter on high-performance landings. I am too new to be putting those ideas into my head. I also didn't read the hippy self-improvement stuff in the second half of the book. My biggest problem with the book, and the reason I took off a star, is the apparent lack of proof-reading. There were many spelling and grammatical mistakes, more than in most things I read. Maybe a nitpick, but it is a book and should be proofread properly.

I can't say enough about this book. Reading through a second time and highlighting. Loads of canopy performance info and things to ponder/understand to make one safer after deployment. Brian does a great job weaving the psych aspects of the sport into stuff I can understand and then improve. I'm not going to be a serious swooper but the info is applicable in other way too. IMO, a must have for ANY jumper. Thanks Brian.

This book is fantastic. Brian's friendly yet eloquent writing style brings the reader easily digestible knowledge of canopy flight - from theory to equipment to skills and techniques. My canopy piloting and love of the sport as a whole has increased even more having read this book. I highly recommend it to experienced and new skydivers alike!

Not a beginning skydiver's book, but some great info in this. He does a great job explaining how the canopy works and other aspects of the entire systems such as the risers. Unless you are a swooper, or wanting to learn to swoop, the second 1/3 of the book will be pretty much lost on you. However, the last part of the book dealing with fear and the human mind is outstanding. I liked that part so much, I turned right around and got Germain's other book "Transcending Fear: The Doorway to Freedom" to get the full intent of the last part of the this book. Overall, a great book to learn about the canopy and the way it works.

Short of attending one of Brian Germain's canopy piloting courses, this book is a must for any safe jumper looking to better understand the inner workings of a ram air canopy. It's descriptive, yet easy to understand. It focuses on what makes a canopy fly the way it does, how to manipulate and control your canopy beyond the obvious toggle turns, and how to avoid situations that could end your skydiving career. Brian Germain is a subject matter expert on canopy design and performance. The knowledge written in this book will help you take your canopy ride to the next level while still giving you the know-how to stay safe.

I had never heard of Brian Germain and his Canopy Course until a few days into my AFF when I saw a posting on our 'local' dive zone's (Skydive Georgia) Face Book page. I googled Brian and found this book which I bought along with The Skydiver's Handbook. After a quick read, I signed up for Brian's course which was a month away. I reread Brian's book and completed 10 jumps before the 2 day course began. I recommend studying the book before taking a canopy course. The book, with a lot of work, will take you from riding the canopy to Flying it in coordinated flight.

I read this after taking a great canopy piloting course. It reinforced what I had just learned and also gave me a few more pointers that have helped me to land the mark. I still have a lot to practice but I have plenty of material to keep me busy.

Brian is a good guy. Nice read for a rainy day. Unfortunately more than a few will read this and not have the experience required to do some of the things Brian warns against. But that's Darwinism in action. Additionally he does a great job of how the irresponsibility of a few does great damage to the sport. But this book will fall on deaf ears for a very vocal minority. For the rest of us this is required reading!

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