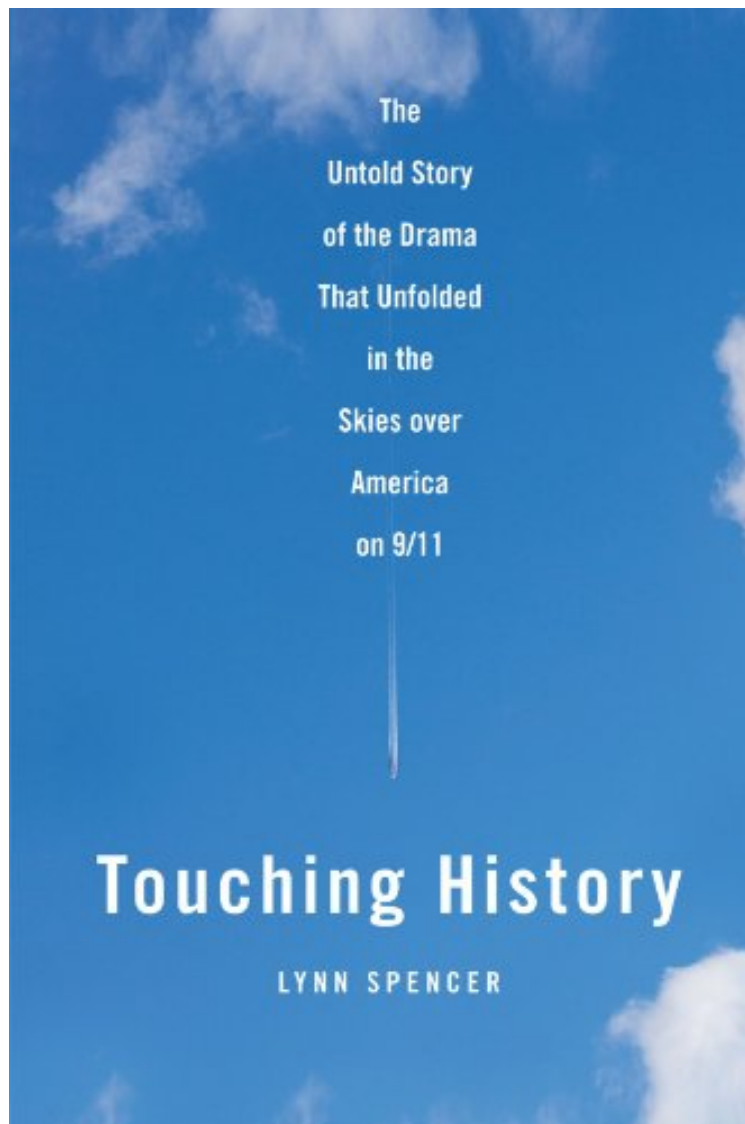


(Mobile book) Touching History: The Untold Story of the Drama That Unfolded in the Skies Over America on 9/11

Touching History: The Untold Story of the Drama That Unfolded in the Skies Over America on 9/11

Lynn Spencer

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Lynn Spencer : Touching History: The Untold Story of the Drama That Unfolded in the Skies Over America on 9/11 before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Touching History: The Untold Story of the Drama That Unfolded in the Skies Over America on 9/11:

3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Best book yet on the aviation aspect of 9/11By Expressed

Reviews This is a riveting account of the job the FAA and others did to remove planes from the skies on 9/11. It's an incredible story and at times reads like a non-fiction book, as it seems impossible to believe that some of the things stated in the book are actually taking place. Taking place they did, and every aspect of this amazing and almost insurmountable task is written about in this marvelous book. Anyone with the slightest interest in what took place in the skies on 9/11, will find this book to be a real page turner. 2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. A book you can't put down

By Bill WOW!!! I don't know where to start, so I will just blurt out a few thoughts. Excellent book... Ms. Spencer did an exceptional job explaining procedures, defining aviation terms and conveying how air traffic controllers, pilots and other aviation personnel were feeling as the events of 911 unraveled. Very emotional book for me... I am not a touchy feely kind of guy. I tried to imagine how these pilots felt after their cockpits were violated by terrorists. With 25 years experience in aviation as a pilot, I learned a lot about air traffic control and their procedures. This book really stimulated my mind on how 911 events took place and made me consider human behavior that was unimaginable prior to ten years ago. A must read for anyone who is interested in aviation. Highly recommend this book for everyone else. It puts a whole different dimension on the events of 911. Ms. Spencer, you are a very talented writer. Congratulations on your remarkable book!

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Shocking, astonishing amazing, thrilling and, oh, so true!

By GA computer user This is a beautifully researched book about the way in which the men and women who guard the air over America responded on 9-11. I was aghast at the way in which our military preparedness had been allowed to erode during the Clinton administration. At the same time I was filled with awe as I read how individuals took potentially career-ending chances to secure our safety in the face of an unfolding national emergency. It's well written and a very good read.

Now in paperback, the riveting story of the response of the heroic pilots and air traffic controllers who found themselves on the front lines of an undeclared war on September 11, 2001. In this gripping minute-to-minute narrative, based on an astonishing feat of reporting, Lynn Spencer re-creates the never-before told story of the unprecedented battle in the skies on 9/11, making vital corrections to the findings of the 9/11 Commission and revealing many startling, unknown elements of the day's events. The reader is taken right to the front lines of the heroic response that fateful morning as thousands of air traffic controllers, military commanders, jet fighter pilots, and commercial pilots with flights in the air snapped into stirring action. She brings readers to the hot spot of each split-second decision, taking them inside the cockpits, the control towers, the fighter jets, and the military battle cabs to bring to life the intensity of the firsthand struggles to grasp what was happening and how to respond. From the shocking moment that American Flight 11 fails to respond to a controller's call to the announcement that the last commercial flight has safely landed and military jets rule the skies, *Touching History* is a powerful and deeply moving nonfiction thriller that is a vital addition to the country's understanding of a day that changed our nation.

From Publishers Weekly Starred . While most Americans watched the 9/11 attacks on television, the guardians of the nation's air-control and air-defense systems had the unenviable task of trying to halt them. Working from interviews and tape archives, Spencer's minute-by-minute chronicle recreates their heroics in nerve-racking detail. In her telling, air-traffic controllers panicked as a seemingly routine—and quickly spotted—initial hijacking metastasized into a coordinated terror attack of unknown size and direction, and tried to divine which of thousands of planes on their radars had become guided missiles. Airline pilots dodged through suddenly chaotic skies while assuring suspicious control towers that they weren't hijackers themselves. Meanwhile, Air National Guard fighter pilots, hobbled by bad communications and misdirection, scrambled to defend against a murky threat. (Spencer's sources insist there was a fighter in position to stop United 93, had its passengers not brought it down, by having the pilot ram the airliner with his F-16.) Spencer, a flight instructor, expertly elucidates the complexities and pitfalls of American aviation as it faced a staggering challenge. (June 3) Copyright © Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. "Lynn Spencer...has spent the better part of three years interviewing commercial pilots, air traffic controllers, and military officials who played significant roles on 9/11, and in *Touching History: The Untold Story of the Drama That Unfolded in the Skies Over America on 9/11*, she tells their compelling stories.... By bringing these events and unsung heroes to light, Spencer has done a great public service. Her book is hard to put down, and a grateful nation owes her a debt of gratitude for undertaking this project." -- *Wilmington News Journal* "[P]repare for a quick takeoff with Lynn Spencer's *Touching History*...the personal interviews and Cockpit Voice Recorder transcripts of conversations between pilots and controllers are riveting.... The transcripts provide the book with a sense of immediacy, as though the reader was in the cockpit or control tower, while the interviews offer important background and context.... Spencer's book is worth reading as a thoroughly researched, clearly written account that offers new insights into that fateful day that changed America forever." -- *BookPage* "Spencer shows how, with an American public stupefied by the unimaginable airline attacks on its homeland on 9/11, civil aviation and military circles joined forces quickly to fathom, manage, and defend against a then-unknown enemy.... An impressively researched and compellingly written narrative of one of America's worst catastrophes..." -- *Library Journal* "We need this book! Far too few Americans really understand what happened in the aviation system of the United States on 9/11: The heroic

and selfless decisions and the heartrending attempts of airmen and controllers to respond to a developing catastrophe despite the lack of a viable domestic air defense system. Lynn Spencer has done a masterful job of researching, and then weaving together the story of that day in real-time, pulse-pounding prose. If this superb work doesn't invigorate a revolution in the way we view the role of air defense for the domestic United States, nothing will. Lynn Spencer's *Touching History* is a deeply moving and page-turning insider's brief of what really happened in the aviation system on 9/11. There are many heroes here you never met, struggling to respond with an all-but-dismantled system of American air defense." -- John Nance, bestselling author, Aviation Analyst for ABC World News, and Aviation Editor for Good Morning America "Riveting! On that horrible day -- the first battle in a new and terrible form of war in the new century -- there were many heroes. Lynn Spencer introduces us firsthand to those who confronted an unprecedented threat, from desperate air traffic controllers, to government officials, to cities. We all must remember that day, and this fascinating and gripping history of the drama in the skies that day is a must read." -- Ambassador Mark D. Wallace, former United States Ambassador to the United Nations for UN Management and Reform "One cannot fully conceptualize 9/11 until reading Lynn Spencer's book, *Touching History*. Witness how military and civilian commanders and pilots, air traffic controllers, and airline personnel responded to this 21st century attack on United States soil. Through firsthand interviews, she puts us in the cockpits, the control rooms, and on the tarmacs. Insightful. Exciting. Important. You won't put it down." -- General Richard B. Myers, Ret., Former Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. "As commander of NORAD, I watched 9/11 unfold. Lynn Spencer tells it all and tells it well -- an enthralling read." -- Ralph E. Eberhart, General USAF (ret.) Former Commander, NORAD and Aerospace Defense Command "Lynn Spencer has captured the essence of the terror of that day and the courage of the men and women who experienced first-hand the fallout of these horrific attacks and rose to answer the call in their nation's hour of need." -- Patrick Forrey, President of the National Air Traffic Controllers Association "The 9-11 Commission missed it, but Lynn Spencer nails it -- the dynamite, inside story of heroism on that fateful day. You'll live through hellish decisions with the real players. Well-written, breathtaking." -- Maj. Gen. (Ret.) Don Shepperd, co-author *Bury Us Upside Down*, CNN Military Analyst About the Author Lynn Spencer is a pilot for ExpressJet Airlines as well as the airline's flight instructor. A graduate of Duke University, she lives in Arlington, Virginia, with her three children.