



Falling Upwards: How We Took to the Air

By Holmes, Richard.

Pantheon. 1 Cloth(s), 2013. hard. Book Condition: New. (One of Time Magazine's Top Ten Nonfiction Books of 2013) "The dream of flight is to see the world differently," posits the National Book Critics Circle Awardwinning author of *The Age of Wonder*, who here chronicles how the 1783 invention of the hot air balloon kindled the imaginations of explorers, artists, and entrepreneurs worldwide. The colorful cast includes Napoleon's official aeronaut Sophie Blanchard, photographer Felix Nadar, and pioneering meteorologist James Glaisher, who rose seven miles above the Earth. Richard Holmes's "quirky, endearing, and enticing" (Publishers Weekly) history features 24 pages of color illustrations. "No writer alive and working in English today writes better about the past than Holmes. The stories themselves are remarkable." NYTBR "The book is nominally a history of the hot air balloon, but it would be more accurate to describe it as a history of hope and fantasy and the quixotic characters who disobeyed [those] most fundamental laws of physics and gave humans flight." New Republic 404.



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