

****Kirkus Best Books of the Year (2013)******Time Magazine 10 Top Nonfiction Books of 2013****The New Republic Best Books of 2013****In this heart-lifting chronicle, Richard Holmes, author of the best-selling *The Age of Wonder*, follows the pioneer generation of balloon aeronauts, the daring and enigmatic men and women who risked their lives to take to the air (or fall into the sky). Why they did it, what their contemporaries thought of them, and how their flights revealed the secrets of our planet is a compelling adventure that only Holmes could tell. His accounts of the early Anglo-French balloon rivalries, the crazy firework flights of the beautiful Sophie Blanchard, the long-distance voyages of the American entrepreneur John Wise and French photographer Felix Nadar are dramatic and exhilarating. Holmes documents as well the balloons used to observe the horrors of modern battle during the Civil War (including a flight taken by George Armstrong Custer); the legendary tale of at least sixty-seven manned balloons that escaped from Paris (the first successful civilian airlift in history) during the Prussian siege of 1870-71; the high-altitude exploits of James Glaisher (who rose) seven miles above the earth without oxygen, helping to establish the new science of meteorology); and how Mary Shelley, Edgar Allan Poe, and Jules Verne felt the imaginative impact of flight and allowed it to soar in their work. A seamless fusion of history, art, science, biography, and the metaphysics of flights, *Falling Upwards* explores the interplay between technology and imagination. And through the strange allure of these great balloonists, it offers a masterly portrait of human endeavor, recklessness, and vision. (With 24 pages of color illustrations, and black-and-white illustrations throughout.) From the Hardcover edition.**

La dama duende / The Phantom Lady (Spanish Edition) (Letras Hispanicas / Hispanic Writings), 2 Arabesques (Premiere arabesque " for theatre orchestra): Keyboard Conductor Score (Qty 4) [A4149], Swansea and Gower, Carmarthen (Landranger Maps), Play-By-Play Field, Dawns Big Date (Baby-Sitters Club), The Ordeal of Richard Feverel: A History of a Father and Son [1888],

David Simpson on the individuals who sailed serenely, and those who plummeted. *Falling Upwards* has ratings and 90 reviews. Graychin said: Jorge Luis Borges once said that "reading is a form of happiness." For days after reading. You wait a long time for a literary book about ballooning to appear and then well, the stock joke about coming in threes doesn't quite work. Richard Holmes profiles the pioneers of hot-air ballooning in "Falling Upwards."

Falling Upwards: How We Took to the Air. Julian Humphrys is captivated by a history of ballooning and the pioneers who risked their lives to. 6 Nov - 13 min - Uploaded by Science History Institute In his new book, *Falling Upwards: How We Took to the Air*, Richard Holmes approaches the.

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