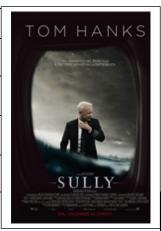
Movies & Languages 2017-2018

Sully

About the movie (subtitled version)

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DIRECTOR	Clint Eastwood	
YEAR/COUNTRY	2016 / USA	
GENRE	Autobiography, Drama	
ACTORS	Tom Hanks, Aaron Eckhart, Laura Linney,	
	Mike O'Malley	



PLOT

Most Americans have memories of January 15, 2009 when Captain Chesley "Sully" and co-pilot Jeff Skiles after takeoff Airbus 320 out of New York La Guardia Airport, collided with a flock of large birds, disabling both engines in a mere 208 seconds (about 4 minutes). Without engine power or airports nearby, Sully made the bold decision to turn the Hudson River into a runway, a risky water landing that ultimatly paid off, saving the lives of 155 passengers in what the media dubbed the "Miracle on the Hudson".

Although Sully is claimed a hero by the press and public, he suffers from a mild form of post-traumatic stress syndrome and a hint of self-doubt. In fact, if the ordeal of Airbus 320 wasn't harrowing enough for Sully, then the following inevitable investigation of the National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) was waiting just around the corner.

Sully and Skiles must answer for their actions to the NTBS investigators, looking into what went wrong, while looking for holes in Sully's account. Did he do everything he could to land the plane safely before resorting to the river? Did he needlessly endanger the lives of his passengers and crew? If the investigation finds him at fault, he could end his career.

PS "If we had done everything by the book that day, we wouldn't be here having this discussion."

Although the film received positive reviews from critics grossing over \$240 million worldwide, it created some controversy with its portrayal of the National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB). The American Film Institute selected the film as one of its ten Movies of the Year.

The film is based on Sullenberger & Zaslow's autobiography "Highest Duty: My Search for What Really Matters" published in 2009.

LANGUAGE

Standard American English, some slang.



CUT EMPTY or INFLATED PHRASES

An empty phrase can be cut with little or no loss of meaning.

INFLATED PHRASES	CUT EMPTY	
As a matter of fact	In fact	
At the present time	Now, currently	
Due to the fact that	Because	
For the reason that	Because	
Have the ability to	Can, be able to	
In spite of the fact that	Although, though	
In the event that	If	
in the final analysis	Finally	
Example:		
We will file the appropriate papers in the event that	We will file the appropriate papers if we are unable to	
we are unable to meet you	meet the deadline	

VOCABULARY

s.o. = someone, s.th. = something

NTSB: National Transportation

NTSB: National Transportation Safety Board:	Mayday: an international radio-telephone single
investigates all civil aviation accidents in the	word used by aircraft & ship in distress (phonic
U.S.	rendering of French "m'aider" = help me!)
ACARS: Aircraft Communications and	Timing : the skill or action of judging the right
Reporting System: digital datalink system for	moment in a situation to do something
transmitting short messages between aircrafts	("tempismo")
and ground stations	
QRH: Quick Reference Handbook: manual for	Bird Strike : the event of birds hitting an aircraft
solving technical aircraft problems	in flight, usually at low altitude.
	In the film, a flock of birds fly head-on into the
	aircraft's engines, causing both to lose power.
	Sully reported "dual engine loss to bird strike"
PTSD: Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder	Out of commission: inoperable, not currently in
	use
CVR : one of the black boxes of an aircraft; a	A runway: a paved surface where planes take off
device that records the last 30 minutes of	and land
auditory communication inside the cockpit	
before crash	
A ferry: a boat to carry passengers on the	Flaps : in aviation, a variable control surface on
Hudson River	the edge of an aircraft wing to increase lift or drag
To be kidding: to be joking	Eyeballing : to estimate roughly by sight
To be overwhelmed: to feel completely	To blow it : spoil, botch, make a mistake, "It was a
astonished or embarrassed	great opportunity, but now I've blown it!"
To lose thrust : to lose power of the two engines	Public hearings : held as part of the public inquiry
	process; provides interested parties with the
	opportunity to discuss inquiry issues in a public
	forum ("udienza")
To be overwhelmed: to feel completely	A fraud: an imposter, a charlatan, a wolf in
astonished or embarrassed	sheep's clothing sheep
To apologize : to be sorry you have hurt or upset	To tease s.o. : to make fun or attempt to provoke
someone	s.o. in a playful or unkindly way

