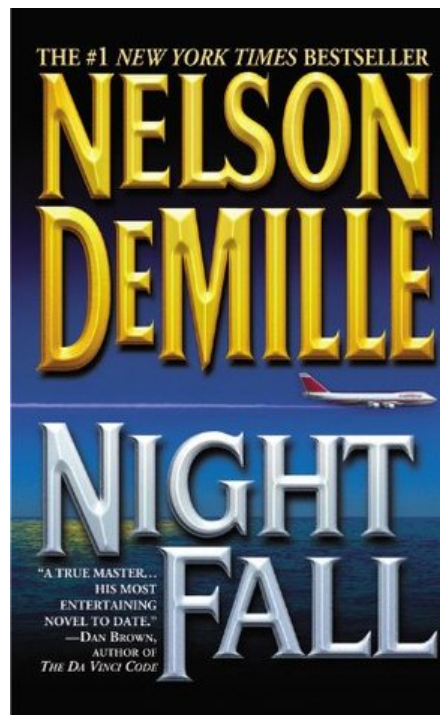




Night Fall

Nelson DeMille

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On a Long Island beach at dusk, Bob Mitchell and Janet Whitney conduct their illicit love affair in front of a video camera, set to record each steamy moment. Suddenly a terrible explosion lights up the sky. Grabbing the camera, the couple flees as approaching police cars speed toward the scene. Five years later, the crash of TWA Flight 800 has been attributed to a mechanical malfunction. But for John Corey and Kate Mayfield, both members of the elite Anti-terrorist Task Force, the case is not closed. Suspecting a cover-up at the highest levels and disobeying orders, they set out to find the one piece of evidence that will prove the truth about what really happened to Flight 800 - the videotape that shows a couple making love on the beach and the last moments of the doomed airliner.

Night Fall Details

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Author : Nelson DeMille

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From Reader Review Night Fall for online ebook

Tim Williams says

This book was 692 pages. For 690 pages it was one of the best books I've ever read and then DeMille completely ruined it with one of the most piece-of-crap, cop-out endings I've ever seen coming a mile away. He even admits that he had no idea how to finish this book and his son came up with the idea for the ending. I guess that's the problem with writing a story based on a real-life event. You can't really change history or present "facts" that didn't actually happen, so he completely wrote himself into a corner and had to find a way out.

I was 3/4 of the way through this book and had it not been so late at night, I would've immediately gone out to the bookstore and bought everything he had ever written. I'm not picking up another one of his books now.

Seriously, the ending of this book is just brutal and it completely ruins how outstanding the rest of the book was. I'm getting disappointed all over again as I write this review. I was actively angry when I finished the book because of what a dumpster-fire on an ending it has.

Bruno says

Este livro foi inspirado através dos factos verídicos sobre o avião TWA 800 que se partiu ao meio e caiu perto da ilha Long Island, no dia 17 de julho de 1996, provocando a morte de 230 passageiros. O que causou aquilo?

Link: http://pt.wikipedia.org/wiki/Voo_TWA_800

As testemunhas viram o que parecia ser um míssil a ser disparado e atingido o avião provocando a sua queda.

Apanharam as peças do avião e reconstruíram este avião a fim de detectar falhas/ causas do “acidente”, mas não encontraram nada que confirmassem os relatos das testemunhas.

Acidente ou atentado terrorista?

A CIA construiu uma simulação, afirmando que a causa provável do acidente do voo 800 da TWA foi uma explosão no depósito central provocada pela combustão de uma mistura de ar aquecido e querosene. Mas este vídeo não faz sentido. Não foi o que as testemunhas viram.

Por que razão a CIA teve a necessidade de construir esta simulação? Para esconder a verdade?

Achei fascinante o enredo todo, os factos verídicos misturados com a investigação do John Corey. É, sem dúvida, um thriller bastante inteligente!

Mas fiquei furioso (como o próprio John Corey) e desiludido com o final que terminou abruptamente, deixando uma parte do mistério em branco e sem respostas.

Shaun says

Great ... until page 325 when the CIA "villain" came back to life and spoiled the show. The arc of the climax is similar to the ill-fated and sad flight of TWA Flight 800; a slow climb off the tarmac, not unlike a 747 lumbering down the runway. But when it gets to cruising speed shot down as it gained altitude.

The controversial CIA animation of "what really and truly happened" to TWA Flight 800 discounts entirely the actual eyewitness testimony of 250 people; all of whom can't be wrong here. I am not prone to conspiracy theories but something more than the "official" findings happened. Some day the whole truth will come out. God help us when it does.

Well-written fictionalized account of an exceptionally sad event in our nation's history. Well worth the time. Sadly, we entered in to a dark alley on July 17, 1996 that we are still trying to come to terms with and work our way out of and away from. Something very wrong is going on in this country and on this planet. Only constant reading, education and vigilance by braver, smarter men and women than yours truly can set us free and back on the right path.

Luffy says

Oh my god. No amount of planning could prepare me to pen a deserving review for Night Fall. I will never ever read such a large book in so short a time. It was unbelievable. This is why I read books. After this, if I have to ditch 10 books in a row, it will be worth it. When I was reading Night Fall, I thought no way does this book get 4/5 stars. But it occurred that all events converged on the remaining chapters. That is the only way an okay setup book jumps from okay to amazing. The most recent film that I've seen that had that structure was Miyazaki's The Wind Rises. The end made the preceding story spine tingling.

I want to convince you that Night Fall is an amazing book. You should read it. Reading, for the moment for me, is so much better than movies or music. It's the remaining medium in which I have faith and which delivers more often than not. Night Fall comprises of 672 pages. I went through them like that. For a story of its type there were few people to keep track of. John Corey always surprises me. He keeps needing to remind me that he does detect and solves mysteries, which is usually not the priority in the twist obsessed world of the thriller.

The genius thing about this book is when the hero and his wife are exiled from the USA. We don't see their extradition. Bang, immediately in the next chapter Corey returns home, and takes up the forbidden, conspiracy laced case and follows its trail from the airport. I will not trade that moment for any other memory of any book that I've read. Take a bow Nelson DeMille, for this book is surely your masterpiece. I feel strongly about the Jill Winslow character. She was a real tragic figure, and I was against her in the beginning. What a turnaround. This is what good art does. It plays with our emotions without making us aware of the manipulation. I will re read this book soon. I have to. I'm still not sure how this embarking became a stroll in the park.

Nicole says

****Spoiler****

I love Nelson Demille books. I love conspiracy theories. I absolutely can not stand it when there isn't an ending and nothing gets solved.

I rated this a 3 because it was highly entertaining. But as I was nearing the end I thought that there was a good chance we wouldn't get any answers...and we didn't. Though it isn't like this book is a history book that has all the details. I know it's a piece of fiction but, come on, finish the da*n story. I'm frustrated, but I literally just finished it. Perhaps tomorrow I'll like it more.

Marilyn says

Provocative, frightening, and based on True Events.

It is dusk on July 17, 1996. A man and a woman who are married - but not to each other - make love on a Long Island beach as a video camera records their pleasures...and something more. Out over the ocean, TWA flight 800 suddenly explodes with 230 victims on board, the terrible blast illuminating the sky. The government's verdict is mechanical failure. But the videotape may tell another story - if it can be found. Now, on the 5th anniversary of the crash, two members of the Federal Anti-Terrorist Task Force set out to reopen the case: John Corey, and ex-NYPD detective, and his wife, Kate Mayfield, a career FBI agent. Together, they hunt for the crucial video...and race toward an elusive truth even more horrifying than the crash itself. Love Nelson DeMille...a great story teller...and this John Corey guy has a fantastic dry sense of humor that keeps you chuckling. And checking the internet to see if what they're talking about is REAL!!!! YIKES!

Mike (the Paladin) says

Demille's books seem to be reliably good (at least this series has been so far). I'm getting these from the public library (hey, I'm already looking at having to reduce the size of my own library...a lot. i can't buy every book I read). That means i usually have to put these on hold and wait to get them.

As I did this one.

This volume of the lives of our heroes begins a little more slowly or maybe I should use the word "obliquely" than the first two. Hang in there it will grab you.

Kate (Mayfield) has ghosts haunting her and as the book opens a particularly tricky and dangerous one.

And she gets John (Corey) involved.

Things go down a somewhat predictable road after that but there are enough twists and turns leading to the strange conclusion that it's all worth it.

And be ready to want the next novel. Recommended. Enjoy.

Sharon says

This book and I may have gotten off on the wrong foot. I wanted to revisit Nelson DeMille--I read *Plum Island* years ago and remembered really enjoying it, especially protagonist John Corey's smartass sense of humor. I recall very little about the book, other than a row between Corey and a villain which ends up with Corey disemboweling him, and proceeding to lay the contents on his open stomach with a flourish ("Your guts,' I declared."). That's a line that stays with you when you're young.

Upon recommendation (thanks, Don!), I picked up *Night Fall*, not giving the synopsis a glance. This may have been an issue, as the whole book deals with speculation and conspiracy theories surrounding TWA Flight 800, which exploded off the coast of Long Island in 1996. I had just graduated from high school and remember hearing the news quite vividly. I remember all of the initial eye-witness accounts reporting what seemed to be a missile heading towards the plane before its explosion, and then how all of those reports seemed to just die down. Mechanical trouble, the final report stated.

DeMille gives a great forward about why he felt compelled to write about the explosion--exploring multiple theories, including the official conclusion--framing events and eye-witness accounts within a fictional detective yarn. Part of me was up for the journey. Who doesn't like a good conspiracy theory?

The other part of me was conflicted about the subject matter. What I liked most about DeMille's main guy last time around was his sarcasm, and I just didn't know if I could stomach sarcasm or jokes about something that felt like it happened yesterday. I've suffered from a fear of flying my whole life, so when I hear about a plane crash, hijacking, etc., I go to a bad place.... and stay there. For an uncomfortable amount of time. It's a tragic event, and while I think DeMille's intentions were good, this obviously impacted any pleasure I was hoping to glean from a light, fun read. I mean, I was BUDDY READING this book! (More on that later.)

Anyway, I read somewhere once in "the rules of crime-solving" that a detective can't solve a case until he turns in his gun and his badge; that any grocery bag has to have a baguette peaking out from the top; that a man can take a gunshot wound like a champ but will flinch in distress if a woman is cleaning out his paper cut--many of these cliches hold true in this novel, but DeMille is clever enough to make them part of the fun. And as the story moves farther from the details of the crash, and deeper into the intricacies of Corey's detective work and one-liners, I felt my enjoyment cautiously growing. Nelson knows how to get you to turn those pages, and as Corey's wife Kate must do on multiple occasions, you just want to roll your eyes when Corey's being the colossal dick he fully acknowledges he's being. ... And then give him a big old bear hug and say fondly, "oh, John."

...Until all enjoyment abruptly stopped. When I registered where the final pages were headed (and I had my suspicions early on), I couldn't help feeling tricked and disappointed. Harsh? Maybe. But in the interest of being spoiler-free, let's just say my initial intuition that the subject matter was too much for me was accurate. And I certainly didn't get the resolution that is so satisfying in detective novels.

Would I read another DeMille? I would; he knows how to write page turners, and make me chuckle. This just happened to be the wrong pick for yours truly. Rating: 4 for readability, 2 for subject matter, 2 when I compare it to the other DeMille I've read, *Plum Island*. 5 for book-club worthiness. I settled on a 3.

This marks the second book of the year that I have "buddy read." The first being *The End of the Affair* with Joe Valdez (spoiler: He hated it! I loved it!); this one with whip-smart Carol. I love all "you people" on Goodreads, but Carol is one of my faves. I always look forward to her smart, opinionated reviews: she has a

critical, discerning eye, which she applies to any genre she reads: fantasy, sci-fi, mystery. She loves strong women, kickass authors like Octavia Butler, and when I picture her writing her reviews, I picture her thoughtfully staring into space like her awesome avatar. I also discovered quite recently that she is a speed reader :) Check out her review of *Dune*; you won't regret it.

I'm very curious to see where Carol lands with *Night Fall*, but regardless of her final rating, I'm sure I'll enjoy the review.

Freda Malone says

Wow. I'm shattered, shocked and awed by this novel. Pay special close attention to the time frame in the book. TWA Flight 800 tragedy 1996, the 5 year anniversary 2001. I was so engrossed in this fast paced, action packed, novel that I absolutely did not see the end coming. "Holy Shit" I said to myself and "No Way". I had to go back and look. When you read this you'll be in for the ride of your life and the tension will grow and grow, and you will become shattered at the end. I hate cliffhangers but I'll make an exception this ONE time and only because this thriller was written by a mastermind of a writer. Nelson DeMille is sneaky, clever, and just downright astonishingly intelligent when it comes to creative writing. Just WOW.

John Corey is still his obnoxiously sarcastic self and one of the most fun alpha males in the fictional world and he kicks butt. For truth, for justice and with much patriotism as well as 'doing the right thing'. However, in the real world, he would not get any second, third or fourth chances and so some of DeMille's choices in his writing can be a 'roll eyes', 'yeah, right', type of read but quite entertaining!

READ THIS BOOK! It will shatter you too!

Carol. says

Generally, I'm not a fan of political thrillers. You say to me, "Carol, here's a political thriller I just know you will love..." and I will not be rushing to the library or my favorite dealer to get a copy. Frankly, I find most of them silly and poorly written. Government conspiracies? Puh-leaze.

Not so believable.

At any rate, this one popped up in discussion and due to enthusiasm from Sharon and recommendations from Alfred (and others, I think—I lost the thread), Sharon and I decided to give it the buddy read treatment.

I'm not a very good reading best friend. because I'm completely one of those people that talks while reading. Or updates. Or tends to drop spoilers. Or really, really wants to share quotes.

John Corey is a rather typical, maverick cop, an ex- NYPD detective who now works with the FBI on part of a dedicated terrorist task force with his wife, a FBI agent herself. Like all great detectives, she has a case that haunts her with its lack of resolution. She persuades John to go with her to the memorial for TWA Flight 800, a Paris-bound airline that broke apart due to 'mechanical failure,' killing everyone on board. At the memorial, a CIA agent that John has a highly antagonistic relationship with warns John to let the case be.

Like waving a red flag

John finds himself playing devil's advocate as Kate gradually takes him through the details of the case, but when they get to an unshakable eye-witness who swears he saw what seemed to be a missile, even John feels niggling doubts. He knows he has to work fast to make progress before he is shut down by his superiors. DeMille is clever with pacing in this book. It begins with a lurid sex scene hinting at potential video tape, and then moves into detailed background building of the investigation of a crashed plane. It could have easily been boring, but I was quickly engrossed in the details, and I enjoyed the complex motivation of justice, stubbornness and independence that keeps John on the case.

“But it wasn’t about Kate or me, or anyone else, in or out of the government. It was about them. 230 of them. And their families and loved ones, the people who had placed roses on the seats of the aircraft, and who had lit the candles and waded into the ocean, and thrown the flowers into the sea. And the people who haven’t been at the service, who sat at home tonight and cried.”

John uses old contacts in the NYPD to do some investigating, and doggedly tracks the pieces leading to the potential videotape. There was a very police procedural aspect to it; it felt real, somewhat slowly methodical, and somewhat maddening as John runs into leads seemingly dead-ended by... someone. Meanwhile, superiors at the Task Force are bringing pressure to bear and threatening both him and Kate. It morphs into a thriller, leading me to turn pages faster and faster by the end.

I enjoyed the characterization. I found John to be rather typical of the maverick detective school; the one who is willing to flaunt authority, but because of his amazing skill remains useful and not completely ostracized. He is, of course, very attractive to the ladies, but avoids further entanglements due to his commitment to Kate. Kate was an interesting foil whose lingering compassion for the loved ones sets off an investigation she is ambivalent about. Although never really fleshed out well, we get a sense that John both loves and respects her, despite occasionally antagonistic behaviors. In fact, they felt like a real couple. I immediately wanted to read more books with him and thought of starting with the first, Plum Island, but basically heard he was exponentially more of a chauvinist (or the writing was) in that one, so it's a pass until I need a rant-read.

Plotting was solid, with a couple of quirks that will linger.

MILD SPOILER: (view spoiler)

VERY MILD SPOILER: I ended up reading faster and faster, but it was the end that was pretty much a solid punch in the face.

I looked a lot like Crowley at the end, without the cuts.

Let's just say that thanks to Tana French, I know how to take a punch. It was appropriate, but I can appreciate it pissed some readers off.

Overall, a super-engrossing read. Perfect for a sick day with a head cold, where I was completely taken out of my own physical tissue-wasting experience and not thrown back into reality by hack writing. I'll check out more DeMille.

Thanks, Sharon!!

Kimber says

I absolutely loved this book. After a co-worker had been talking about it for weeks she finally brought it to me. As soon as I opened it I was hooked. It took me a Sunday to finish it and I fell in love with John Corey the detective in the book. If you are into a suspense novel then this is for you!

Barbara says

I had not read a DeMille book in a long time and while I liked this one (part of the John Corey series) I don't think it was as good as his earlier efforts, such as *The General's Daughter* and *The Charm School* (my personal favorites). The book had an e-x-t-r-e-m-e-l-y slow start and there were a few times when I thought I would just throw it aside and not finish. The clues to the mystery were too slow in coming and the author seemed to prefer to continually go over and over the aspects of the crash of TWA flight 800. I did not learn anything new each time he described the crash. In fact, I started skipping that part! Usually when a mystery author does that, they will plant a small clue or add another piece to the puzzle that's building. I just found it too repetitive. I did like the ending, it was a great tie in, but I won't give it away! No spoilers.

Julie says

I just finished this book and before writing my thoughts on this book I read the preview here. So, where did Bob Mitchell and Janet Whitney come from????? It is BUD Mitchell and JILL WINSLOW for cripes sake! I liked the book and wanted to read faster when it got down to crunch time. The ending was totally unexpected and not sure if I like it yet but it was appropriate.

Mikey B. says

Once again Mark Twain's formula for an American crime writer of killing everybody off at the end is followed. This time September 11th does it, wiping out witnesses and conspirators alike. Too bad!! For almost 500 pages we surely want to know who targeted this flight and why was there a cover-up? There is much humour and suspense through-out but the essentials are unanswered.

Jerry B says

Suspenseful tale built on TWA-800 crash - but sloppy ending!

We are loyal followers of DeMille's entire bibliography, so looked forward to "Night Fall", especially once we got the drift it was based on fact and embellished with fiction (ala the Da Vinci Code). The author concocts two eyewitnesses to the crash of TWA flight 800 in 1996, who not only claimed to have seen a

"missile" streak skyward toward the plane, but may have videotaped it as well, as part of a secret, sex-filled beachside rendezvous! Enter John Corey (from DeMille's "Plum Island" and "Gold Coast"), now part of an FBI anti-terrorist task force, and now married to Kate Mayfield, another FBI-type who personally interviewed many of the some 200 people who also claimed to have seen a missile-like object heading toward the plane. Corey attends a 5-year memorial service re the tragedy and starts looking into matters never very well resolved by the official explanation of mechanical failure that brought down the airliner. He doesn't know about the sexy couple at first like we do, but sensing a conspiracy or cover-up, pursues them all book-long in a suspenseful prelude to a showdown with federal officials. The book ends in a predictable yet unexpected fashion -- and the loose ends left flapping bothered us a bit just as it did many other readers.

DeMille has written a clever book that makes the pages fly. As the timeline of the book proceeded throughout 2001 toward that now fateful day of infamy, we wondered how he would handle the outcome of his main story. To us, the abrupt dissatisfaction of the ending detracted from an otherwise well crafted yarn - one that looks to be backed up with substantial research. Give us a better ending, and a fifth star would be no problem!

Corey says

I don't know what to say about Night Fall, the premise is very different than the first two books in the series. It's about the attack on Flight 800, which I didn't know much about until reading this book, a few nights ago I did some research on the real thing, and I learned more about it. This book also seemed to have a more serious tone to it than the first two.

The ending really shocked me, I never saw it coming. I don't want to spoil it for anyone so I won't give anything away. However it was still a great book, highly recommended.

Chipper says

DeMille's wit is in full effect in the suspenseful thriller! Made me laugh over and over and over again. The characters are likeable and believable, the story has the right level of sophistication and many of the theories in the book are based on verifiable facts and eyewitness statements regarding TWA Flight 800. Some readers have been and will continue to be displeased by the last couple pages. I, on the other hand, felt it was a perfect conclusion to a fastastic and wildly entertaining story.

Margarida says

3,5*

Erik says

This was one of those novels that the pre-release hype was so great that as a reader, I was not sure what to expect but Night Fall with a few small exceptions lived up to the media hubbub. The novel starts with a

flashback scene that takes us to the Atlantic coast on the fateful night of the TWA flight 800 crash. On the beach, two "consenting adults" are enjoying their night out and for posterity sake filmed the evening. On this tape, the "accident" and a strange shooting light is trapped on celluloid.

Cut to five years later and we are introduced to FBI consultant John Corey and his wife Kate Mayfield, recurring characters from DeMille's other works. Mayfield having been an investigator at the original scene is concerned with eye witness discrepancies, the TSA's official cause and other miss steps. As her concern builds, her husband becomes interested as well.

What follows is a tightly scripted story with twists at every turn right up until an explosive ending that can leave the reader with an adrenaline high or a sense of bewilderment. Overall, Night Fall was a wonderful read but may disappoint readers who are looking for answers and not just a compelling novel.

Veronika Sebechlebská says

Už dávno som nečítala niečo tak plytké a bezduché a to hovorím ako žlovek, čo na večku so záujmom študuje etikety žistiacich prostriedkov
