



Title: Views from the Cockpit

Author: Ross Victory

Genre: Nonfiction/Memoir

Audience: Adult

Word Count: 47,000

Assessment:

**Idea/Concept:** Victory offers a compelling and tender story of his relationships with his father, family, and flying. The author effectively blends memories from his own past, with biographical details from his father's storied history. What emerges is a complex portrait of a father and son whose love persists despite--and in the midst of--broken bonds and betrayals.

**Prose:** Victory's prose is vivid, clear, and pleasantly descriptive. The author's quest to understand his father--and to reconcile the man he knew with the one he sees suffering before him--is poignant and effectively conveyed.

**Originality:** Personal memoirs of family are common, but Victory's memoir stands apart through its unflinching portrayal of complicated family dynamics, mistreatment of the elderly, and the realities of the process of dying.

**Execution:** This work benefits from the integration of its central plane metaphor and Victory's decision to begin the memoir in a present, pivotal moment.

Score:

- Plot/Idea: 9
- Originality: 8
- Prose: 8
- Character/Execution: 9
- Overall: 8.50

Report Submitted: February 28, 2020