

THE LITTLE BIG FLIGHT

by

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FADE IN:

INT. HOME OFFICE - DAY

Late morning sunlight streams in through the window, lighting up a room bursting full of airplane posters, magazines, and models. Specifically, a LEGO REPLICA of the Spirit of St. Louis sits on a desk. On the opposite side of the room a retired PILOT sits watching an old documentary on his laptop. The introductory fanfare is followed by the sound of a loud beaming voice.

NARRATOR

Tonight on Planes that Changed the World: The Spirit of Saint Louis!

The Lego replica perks up at hearing the sound of that name. He shifts over to see the screen better.

NARRATOR

The first plane to cross the entire Atlantic Ocean, it travelled from New York to Paris in 33 hours. Equipped with—

A distant voice leaks in from the hallway.

WIFE

Honey! It's time for lunch!

PILOT

Coming, dear.

The man slaps his laptop shut, and leaves the room. Seeing an opportunity, the plane rolls across the desk and turns facing the door, with the expanse of desk in front of him.

NARRATOR

It is May twentieth, nineteen twenty-seven. The Spirit of Saint Louis gets ready for takeoff.

His propeller begins to spin, but when it gets up to speed, he hesitates.

NARRATOR

He isn't scared. Not even a little.

The pressure mounts with the sound of the propeller. The Lego replica hesitates a little longer, then bursts forward. Then he lifts up, and flies into the hallway.

NARRATOR

He did it! He's headed for Paris! The only thing stopping him now...

The plane flies out of the hallway and into the living room. As he does, the house around him fades, and becomes an imaginary blue sky and a vast expanse of water.

NARRATOR

...is the Atlantic Ocean! He has nothing to guide him but his math, the stars, and the determination to do what used to be impossible! But what's this up ahead? It's a storm!

Lightning strikes, and immediately the plane is flying through a turbulent thundercloud filled sky.

NARRATOR

Will the Spirit of Saint Louis survive?

As if it were an old video game, the toy rises and dips up and down to dodge the clouds and lighting.

NARRATOR

Unwilling to surrender, the plane hatches a daring plan to escape the lightning.

CUT TO:

INT. STAIRWAY TO BASEMENT - DAY

He soars right over the stairway, then pulls up to make a big arching loop. Then when pointing straight down, he twists, and pulls up straight into the basement. He shoots through a messy laundry room, then tips sideways just long enough to squeeze through a door that opens to the outside of the house.

NARRATOR

Success! He's made it into the clear.

EXT. BACKYARD - DAY

The toy flies across a grassy backyard.

NARRATOR

Now only one thing remains. The landing in Paris!

He points straight towards a shed, and as he does, the world around him fades and becomes the landing site in Paris.

NARRATOR

It's ten P.M., May twenty-first. The lights of the crowd flood the airport with light. History is about to be made!

As the plane nears touchdown on the historic runway, there is a loud thud, and the plane jerks backwards suddenly.

EXT. BACKYARD - DAY

The plane smacks into the shed, flips over backwards, and lands upside down, wheels up, in the grass.

NARRATOR

And the wheels touch the ground! One little plane has made the impossible possible!

The toy lies sunken in the grass. He is alone, with no audience, and no welcome. The only sound that can be heard is the slow rustling of the wind through the trees. Then, the retired pilot pops over to open the shed, and on his way, steps on the plane's wing. He looks down and is surprised to see it there. He picks it up in confusion, but as he looks at it, the confusion turns to curiosity. Holding the plane like it was folded from paper, he proceeds to throw it into the air, and it flies forward.

NARRATOR

The Spirit of Saint Louis!

The man stands dumbfounded. The plane flies across the backyard and up towards a tree house.

NARRATOR

Named after a plane that changed the world, this daring toy is about to attempt something that no-one thought a brick-built model could do.

The plane flies up through the trees and towards the bright sun-filled sky.

NARRATOR

Cross over the entire neighborhood!

FADE OUT