

Page No : 26

Date :

2nd

## THE BLACK AEROPLANE

- ① I'll take the risk what is the risk? Why does the narrator take it?

A huge storm was brewing up and the author was keen to reach his home to spend his holiday with his family. So, he decided to fly through the storm as he did not want to miss the chance to meet his family at breakfast. Thus he took the risk even when the visibility was almost zero in the storm.

(2) Describe the narrator's experience as he flew the aeroplane into the storm.

→ As the pilot entered the storm, his plane started jumping and twisting. He could not see anything outside the plane as it was black. When he looked at compass and other instruments they had stopped to function due to storm. It was a terrible and fearsome experience for him. Then he saw another black aeroplane by his side and the pilot of the plane

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signalled him to follow. It was a surprise for the narrator -  
as the other black plane was having no light in its wings.  
He followed him without any choice and landed safely  
on the runway.

- (b) why does the narrator say, "I landed and was not sorry to walk away from the old Dakota"? → The pilot was delighted to land safely after being caught in a dense storm of dark clouds and was not sorry to walk away from the old Dakota. He was filled with gratitude for the pilot in the other black aeroplane and desperately wanted to thank him for helping him in such a fearsome situation. He was indeed feeling sorry that he could not thank his benefactor enough for helping him land on the railway safely.

(4) what made the woman in the control centre look at the narrator strangely?

The woman in the control centre looked at the narrator strangely because when the narrator mentioned about the black aeroplane that helped him land safely on the runway. She gave him a surprised look and told him that no one except the narrator's plane was in the sky clearing the storm. Even

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the radar reflected the narrator's plane as the only  
one in the night sky.

⑤ Who do you think helped the narrator to reach safety? Discuss this among yourselves and give reasons for your answer?

Although there is no definite answer to express who was the unknown pilot who helped the narrator himself who overcame his fear in the midst of a storm as no other plane was visible in the radar except the narrator's Dakota DS 088. In that frightening situation, the pilot might have fantasized that someone came to his help. However, it is evident that he was a good pilot himself who was brave enough to fly through a dense and turbulent storm and land on the runway safely.