



Impossible Heights: Skyscrapers, Flight, and the Master Builder

Adnan Morshed

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The advent of the airplane and skyscraper in 1920s and '30s America offered the population an entirely new way to look at the world: from above. The captivating image of an airplane flying over the rising metropolis led many Americans to believe a new civilization had dawned. In *Impossible Heights*, Adnan Morshed examines the aesthetics that emerged from this valorization of heights and their impact on the built environment.

The lofty vantage point from the sky ushered in a modernist impulse to cleanse crowded twentieth-century cities in anticipation of an ideal world of tomorrow. Inspired by great new heights, American architects became central to this endeavor and were regarded as heroic aviators. Combining close readings of a broad range of archival sources, Morshed offers new interpretations of works such as Hugh Ferriss's *Metropolis* drawings, Buckminster Fuller's Dymaxion houses, and Norman Bel Geddes's Futurama exhibit at the 1939 New York World's Fair. Transformed by the populist imagination into "master builders," these designers helped produce a new form of visibility: the aesthetics of ascension.

By demonstrating how aerial movement and height intersect with popular "superman" discourses of the time, Morshed reveals the relationship between architecture, art, science, and interwar pop culture. Featuring a marvelous array of never before published illustrations, this richly textured study of utopian imaginings illustrates America's propulsion into a new cultural consciousness.

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Dana Register:

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Brenda Seddon:

Spent a free the perfect time to be fun activity to try and do! A lot of people spent their leisure time with their family, or their friends. Usually they accomplishing activity like watching television, about to beach, or picnic within the park. They actually doing ditto every week. Do you feel it? Do you need to something different to fill your own personal free time/ holiday? Might be reading a book is usually option to fill your totally free time/ holiday. The first thing you ask may be what kinds of guide that you should read. If you want to consider look for book, may be the book untitled Impossible Heights: Skyscrapers, Flight, and the Master Builder can be excellent book to read. May be it can be best activity to you.

Virginia Johnson:

A lot of people always spent their free time to vacation or go to the outside with them family members or their friend. Are you aware? Many a lot of people spent they free time just watching TV, or perhaps playing video games all day long. If you want to try to find a new activity that's look different you can read any book. It is really fun in your case. If you enjoy the book you read you can spent all day every day to reading a e-book. The book Impossible Heights: Skyscrapers, Flight, and the Master Builder it is extremely good to read. There are a lot of people that recommended this book. They were enjoying reading this book. In case you did not have enough space to develop this book you can buy the actual e-book. You can m0ore quickly

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