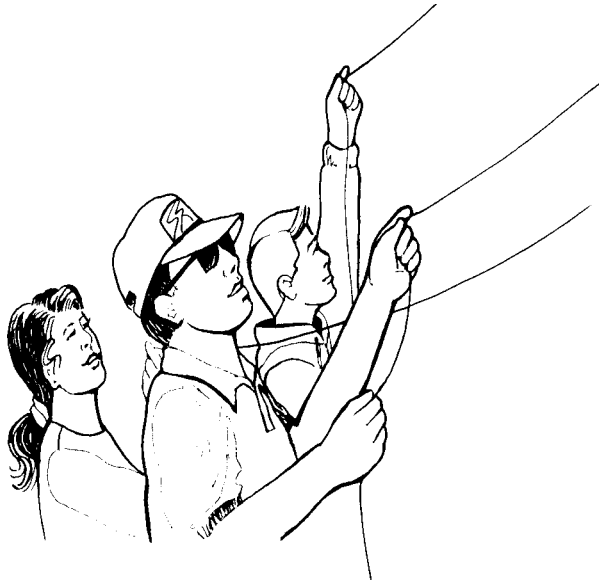


# ***The Fighter Kite Book!***



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and the hundreds of other flyers  
that I have talked to,  
flown with,  
and learned from.

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# Introduction

When I mentioned to a long-time fighter flier that I was working on a book about single-line maneuverables, he laughed out loud. "You've got some brass!" he said. And of course, he was right.

Anyone even contemplating a book on fighters is confronting an ominous task. For one thing, the subject is technically broad and complex. There are hundreds of types of kites, steeped in thousands of years of culture and history. As one of my flying friends has said, a small diamond fighter is deceptively simple in appearance - yet embodied in this modest form made from two sticks and a cover, is the whole essence and spirit of kites.

To make matters worse, fighter fliers are an ominous bunch as well. They are drawn together by a distinctly satisfying pastime which sets them apart even from other kites. Some would prefer that I not share their unique secrets. You can try and teach the fundamentals, they say, but people will only understand the "soul" of fighters by regularly flying one themselves.

Others were anxious to help and to see the sport grow. The strength of this new book is, I believe, the unselfish contributions of some of the best fliers from around the country and around the world. My goal was to produce the "complete flying manual for single-line maneuverable kites".

- In Chapter One, we introduce you to the contemporary fighter and cover briefly — too briefly — the colorful history of fighter flying.
- Chapter Two provides basic instructions for launching, flying, and line handling.
- Chapters Three and Four explain the principles of aerodynamics and weather which effect kite flight.
- Chapter Five is an overview of tuning - one of the most confusing and least understood aspects of kite performance.
- In Chapter Six, we present one basic construction plan to start you making your own fighter.
- In Chapter Seven, we attempt to unravel the mysteries of flying line.
- Finally, in Chapters Eight and Nine, we discuss fighter contests with a particular emphasis on Rokkaku flying. We also talk about tactics and strategy.

The most important thing we want to promote is safe and responsible flying.

Obviously, this isn't a fancy coffee-table book filled with stunning photos of kites and kite fliers. We don't apologize for that. It's a book on how to fly kites. It's a book we hope you'll scribble notes in or put in your kite bag and take to the flying field.

Somewhere between its pages, maybe you too will discover the "soul" of fighter flying.

Good Winds!

David Gomberg  
March, 1992

The Fighter Kite Book!: A Complete Flight Manual for Single Line David Gomberg - 1992 - Crafts & Hobbies - No preview available.Â  
Suitable for any novice kite enthusiast, this volume traces developments from the history of kite flying in Ancient China to present-day international kite-flying festivals. There are step-by-step instructions for building numerous kites, from 1 Review - Write review. Note