

What Happened?

This is a true story. On July 2 1982, Larry Walters, a 33-year-old North Hollywood truck driver, filled 45 weather balloons with helium and tied them to an aluminum garden chair. Then he put on a parachute and climbed into the chair with lots of supplies, including some water, a pellet gun, a CB radio, an altimeter, and a camera. He planned to fly across the desert.

這是一個真實的故事。1982年7月2日，Larry Walters，一位33歲北好萊塢的卡車司機，他把45個氣象氣球內充滿氦氣，並將他們綁在鋁製的花園椅上。然後他穿上降落傘，爬上有很多補給品的椅子上，包括一些水、一把散彈槍、一台對講機、一台高度計和一台相機。他打算飛越沙漠。

The chair was attached to the bumper of a friend's car with two ropes. But when his friends cut one of the ropes, the other rope snapped too. Larry shot up into the sky at more than 300 meters per second. It was so fast that his glasses fell off. He climbed quickly to about five kilometers above the ground.

椅子被兩條繩子綁在他朋友車子的保險桿上。但是當他朋友切斷其中一條繩子時，另一條繩子也跟著斷了。Larry以每秒大於300多公尺的速度衝向天空。當時的速度太快了導致他的眼鏡掉落。他快速地攀爬到離地面五公里的高空。

Larry spoke to his friends on his radio. 'I'm floating across Los Angeles Harbour', he said. He want to fly to the Rocky Mountains, but the wind took him towards Long Beach Municipal Airport. Two pilots saw Larry and radioed air traffic control. They were all very surprised.

Larry 用對講機與他的朋友通話。我正飄過洛杉磯港，他說。他想要飛到洛磯山脈，但風帶他朝向了長灘市機場。兩名飛行員看到 Larry 並通報給空中交通管制。他們都非常的驚訝。

The air was thin three miles above the ground and Larry felt cold and dizzy. He shot some of the balloons with his gun, the chair floated down, and he landed safely.

地面 3 英里之上的空氣是如此的稀薄，讓 Larry 感到又冷又暈眩。他用槍把一些氣球射破，椅子飄然而下，而他安全地著陸。

Back on earth, Larry was famous. He appeared on lots of television shows and people loved him. But the Federal Aviation Administration didn't think it was funny and they wanted to take away his pilot's license. They couldn't, because he didn't have one.

回到地面上，Larry 變得很有名。他出現在許多電視節目上而且人們喜愛他。不過，美國聯邦航空管理局並不認為這很有趣，他們想拿走他的飛行執照，但他們不能，因為他根本沒有執照。