# It's Her Story Amelia Earhart

by Kim Moldofsky · Language: EN

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## Overview

The book "It's Her Story Amelia Earhart" by Kim Moldofsky offers a compelling and accessible biography of one of history's most iconic aviators. It chronicles Amelia Earhart's extraordinary life, from her adventurous childhood in Kansas, where she challenged traditional gender roles, to her groundbreaking achievements as a pilot and her mysterious disappearance during her attempt to circumnavigate the globe. The narrative vividly portrays Earhart's pioneering spirit, her unwavering determination to break barriers for women in aviation, and her relentless pursuit of adventure and exploration, making her story resonate with young readers.

Moldofsky's account emphasizes Earhart's role not just as a record-setting pilot, but as a powerful symbol of courage, independence, and the pursuit of dreams. The book delves into her numerous record-setting flights, including her solo transatlantic crossing and her flight from Hawaii to California, which solidified her status as a global aviation icon. It also highlights her significant advocacy for women's rights, her efforts to promote aviation as a safe and viable mode of transport, and her work as a career counselor for women at Purdue University. By presenting Earhart's story in a clear, engaging, and inspiring manner, the book aims to encourage young readers to embrace challenges, follow their passions, and understand the profound impact one individual can have on the world. It celebrates her enduring legacy as a trailblazer who defied societal expectations and soared to unprecedented heights, leaving an indelible mark on history.

## Key Takeaways

- Amelia Earhart demonstrated that determination and courage can break through societal barriers.
- Her life serves as an inspiration for pursuing one's passions, even in the face of skepticism.
- Earhart was not just a pilot but also an advocate for women's rights and aviation safety.
- Her story highlights the importance of setting ambitious goals and working tirelessly to achieve them.
- Even without a known ending, Earhart's legacy continues to inspire exploration and perseverance.
- Embrace adventure and curiosity, as these qualities can lead to extraordinary experiences.

## Chapter Summaries

**Chapter 1: An Amazing Life**

This introductory chapter sets the stage for Amelia Earhart's extraordinary life, highlighting her adventurous spirit and her groundbreaking achievements as an aviator. It introduces her as a symbol of courage and determination, emphasizing her role in inspiring women and pushing boundaries in a male-dominated field. The chapter briefly touches upon her most famous feats, such as her transatlantic flights and her attempt to circumnavigate the globe, immediately engaging the reader with the mystery and excitement surrounding her journey and ultimate disappearance. It establishes the book's purpose: to tell the story of a woman who dared to dream big and fly even higher.

**Chapter 2: A Girl Who Didn't Fit In**

This chapter delves into Amelia Earhart's early life, portraying her as a spirited and unconventional child who often defied traditional gender roles. Born in Atchison, Kansas, Amelia and her sister Muriel lived with their grandparents before moving frequently due to their father's job. The book describes her tomboyish nature, her love for adventure, and her early interests, which included building a homemade roller coaster. It highlights her independent spirit and curiosity, showing how these traits laid the foundation for her future as a pioneering aviator. Her experiences as a young girl, often feeling like an outsider, shaped her resilience and determination to forge her own path.

**Chapter 3: Finding Her Wings**

This chapter details Amelia Earhart's pivotal introduction to aviation and her decision to become a pilot. It recounts her first airplane ride in 1920 at a Long Beach airshow, an experience that profoundly changed her life and ignited her passion for flying. Determined to learn, Amelia took on various jobs to save money for flying lessons. She began training with Neta Snook, one of the few female instructors at the time, and soon purchased her first airplane, a bright yellow biplane she affectionately named "The Canary." This period marks her dedicated entry into the world of aviation, showcasing her commitment and the significant personal sacrifices she made to pursue her dream.

**Chapter 4: A Woman of Firsts**

This chapter covers Amelia Earhart's early career as an aviator, focusing on her initial record-breaking achievements and her rise to public prominence. It details her participation in air races and her efforts to promote aviation, particularly for women. The book highlights her historic flight in 1928 as the first woman to fly across the Atlantic Ocean, albeit as a passenger. Though she wasn't piloting, this achievement catapulted her into the international spotlight, earning her widespread fame and the nickname "Lady Lindy." This period established her as a significant figure in aviation, paving the way for her future, more ambitious endeavors.

**Chapter 5: Solo Across the Atlantic**

This chapter recounts Amelia Earhart's most famous achievement: her solo flight across the Atlantic Ocean in 1932. Five years after Charles Lindbergh's historic flight, Amelia took off from Harbour Grace, Newfoundland, in her Lockheed Vega. Battling strong winds, icy conditions, and mechanical issues, she successfully landed in a pasture in Culmore, Northern Ireland, becoming the first woman to complete a solo transatlantic flight. The book describes the immense public reaction to her triumph, including ticker-tape parades, honorary medals, and a meeting with President Herbert Hoover. This feat solidified her status as a global icon and a symbol of female empowerment.

**Chapter 6: Marriage and More Records**

This chapter explores Amelia Earhart's personal life and continued professional achievements following her solo transatlantic flight. It details her marriage to publisher George P. Putnam, who became her manager and ardent supporter, helping to promote her career. Despite her marriage, Amelia continued to push boundaries in aviation, setting numerous speed and distance records. The chapter highlights her role in founding and serving as the first president of The Ninety-Nines, an organization for female pilots, advocating for women's rights and opportunities in aviation. Her continued flights and public appearances maintained her status as a celebrated figure and an inspiration.

**Chapter 7: The Last Flight**

This chapter focuses on Amelia Earhart's ambitious plan to circumnavigate the globe at the equator, a challenging and unprecedented endeavor. It details the meticulous planning involved, including selecting her navigator, Fred Noonan, and preparing her Lockheed Electra 10E, nicknamed the "flying laboratory." The book describes the initial attempt in March 1937, which ended prematurely in Hawaii due to landing gear damage. Undeterred, Amelia and Noonan embarked on a second attempt in June 1937, flying eastward from Miami. This chapter sets the stage for the final, fateful leg of their journey, emphasizing the immense risks and determination involved.

**Chapter 8: Lost at Sea**

This chapter vividly describes the final, tragic leg of Amelia Earhart's circumnavigation attempt and her subsequent disappearance. After successfully completing much of the journey, Amelia and Fred Noonan departed Lae, New Guinea, heading for Howland Island, a tiny speck in the vast Pacific Ocean. The book details the communication difficulties with the U.S. Coast Guard cutter Itasca, which was stationed near Howland to guide them. Despite extensive search efforts by the U.S. Navy and Coast Guard, no trace of Amelia, Noonan, or their plane was ever found. The chapter explores the enduring mystery surrounding their fate, leaving readers with the unresolved questions that have captivated historians for decades.

**Chapter 9: Her Legacy**

The final chapter reflects on Amelia Earhart's enduring legacy and her profound impact on aviation and women's history. It emphasizes how her courage, adventurous spirit, and determination continue to inspire generations of pilots, explorers, and women striving to break barriers. The book discusses the various theories surrounding her disappearance, acknowledging that the mystery only adds to her legend. Ultimately, the chapter concludes by celebrating Amelia Earhart not just as a record-breaking aviator, but as a symbol of human ambition, resilience, and the relentless pursuit of dreams, ensuring her place as an icon in American history.

## Themes

- Pioneering Spirit
- Courage and Determination
- Gender Equality
- Exploration and Adventure
- Breaking Barriers

## Frequently Asked Questions

**What is It's Her Story Amelia Earhart about?**

"It's Her Story Amelia Earhart" is a non-fiction biography for young readers that chronicles the life of the legendary aviator Amelia Earhart. It covers her adventurous childhood, her groundbreaking flights, her advocacy for women in aviation, and her mysterious disappearance during her attempt to fly around the world. The book highlights her courage and pioneering spirit.

**Is It's Her Story Amelia Earhart worth reading?**

Yes, it is worth reading, especially for young readers interested in history, aviation, or inspiring figures. The book provides an engaging and accessible introduction to Amelia Earhart's life, celebrating her achievements and her role as a trailblazer for women. It encourages readers to pursue their dreams and overcome challenges.

**How does It's Her Story Amelia Earhart end?**

Spoiler: The book concludes with Amelia Earhart's disappearance during her attempt to circumnavigate the globe in 1937. Her plane, along with navigator Fred Noonan, vanished over the Pacific Ocean, and despite extensive searches, no trace was ever found. The book then reflects on her enduring legacy and inspirational impact.

**Who should read It's Her Story Amelia Earhart?**

This book is ideal for children aged 6-10 who are curious about history, aviation, or strong female role models. It's also suitable for parents and educators looking for an engaging and informative way to introduce young readers to significant historical figures and themes of perseverance and courage.

**How long does it take to read It's Her Story Amelia Earhart?**

Given its target audience and typical length for the "It's Her Story" series (around 48 pages), it would likely take a child or an adult reading at a moderate pace approximately 45 minutes to read the entire book.

## Best Quotes

**“The most effective way to do it, is to do it.”**

This famous quote by Amelia Earhart, likely featured in the book, encapsulates her proactive and determined approach to life and aviation. It highlights her belief in taking action rather than just planning, inspiring readers to pursue their goals with courage and direct effort.

**“Please know that I am aware of the hazards. I want to do it because I want to do it.”**

Amelia Earhart penned this powerful statement before her solo transatlantic flight, expressing her deep-seated motivation and acceptance of risk. The book uses this to illustrate her unwavering resolve and passion for flying, emphasizing that her pursuits were driven by an intrinsic desire for adventure and achievement, not external pressure.

**“Women must try to do things as men have tried. When they fail, their failure must be but a challenge to others.”**

This quote reflects Amelia Earhart's pioneering spirit and her advocacy for women's equality. The book presents this to show her commitment to breaking gender barriers and encouraging women to pursue their ambitions, even in the face of setbacks, thereby inspiring future generations to challenge societal norms.

**“Adventure is worthwhile in itself.”**

This concise yet profound statement by Amelia Earhart, undoubtedly included in the biography, captures her philosophy on exploration and risk-taking. It conveys her belief that the experience of adventure, discovery, and pushing boundaries holds intrinsic value, regardless of the outcome, inspiring readers to embrace new challenges.

## Questions & Answers

**What inspired Amelia Earhart to pursue aviation?**

Amelia Earhart's interest in aviation was sparked early in her life, but a pivotal moment was attending an air show in Long Beach, California, in 1920. After taking a ten-minute ride in a biplane, she knew she had to fly. This experience ignited a passion that led her to take flying lessons, work various jobs to pay for them, and ultimately dedicate her life to aviation, breaking barriers for women in the field.

**How did Amelia Earhart first gain public recognition in aviation?**

Amelia Earhart first gained widespread public recognition in 1928 when she became the first woman to fly across the Atlantic Ocean, albeit as a passenger. Though she was not the pilot, her presence on the flight made headlines globally, earning her the nickname "Lady Lindy" and propelling her into the spotlight as a symbol of female achievement and adventure.

**What was the significance of Amelia Earhart's solo transatlantic flight?**

Amelia Earhart's solo transatlantic flight in 1932 was a monumental achievement. She became the first woman, and only the second person after Charles Lindbergh, to complete this challenging journey alone. This feat solidified her reputation as a skilled and courageous pilot, proving women were capable of matching men's accomplishments in aviation and inspiring countless individuals worldwide.

**How did Amelia Earhart challenge gender stereotypes during her lifetime?**

Amelia Earhart consistently challenged gender stereotypes by excelling in a male-dominated field. She not only broke aviation records but also advocated for women's rights and opportunities. She encouraged women to pursue their dreams, regardless of societal expectations, and demonstrated through her own life that women could be adventurous, independent, and achieve greatness in any endeavor they chose.

**Who was George P. Putnam and what was his role in Amelia Earhart's life?**

George P. Putnam was a publisher and publicist who initially helped organize Amelia Earhart's 1928 transatlantic flight. He later became her manager and, eventually, her husband. Putnam played a crucial role in managing her career, promoting her image, and arranging her record-breaking flights and public appearances, helping to cement her status as a global icon.

**What was the purpose of Amelia Earhart's attempted round-the-world flight in 1937?**

Amelia Earhart's attempted round-the-world flight in 1937 aimed to circumnavigate the globe near the equator, a longer and more challenging route than previous attempts. Her goal was to be the first woman to complete such a flight and to set a new record for the longest flight around the world, further pushing the boundaries of aviation and inspiring women globally.

**What happened to Amelia Earhart and Fred Noonan during their 1937 flight?**

Spoiler: During their attempt to fly around the world in 1937, Amelia Earhart and her navigator, Fred Noonan, disappeared over the central Pacific Ocean. After departing from Lae, New Guinea,

they were en route to Howland Island, a tiny speck of land. Despite extensive search efforts by the U.S. Navy and Coast Guard, no trace of their plane, the Lockheed Electra 10E, or the two aviators was ever found, leading to one of history's most enduring mysteries.

**What theories exist about Amelia Earhart's disappearance?**

Many theories surround Amelia Earhart's disappearance. The most widely accepted is that she and Fred Noonan ran out of fuel and crashed into the Pacific Ocean near Howland Island. Other theories suggest they might have landed on another remote island and survived for a time, or even been captured by the Japanese. However, without any wreckage or remains, none of these theories have been definitively proven.

**How did Amelia Earhart fund her early flying lessons and plane purchases?**

Amelia Earhart funded her early flying lessons and plane purchases through a variety of jobs and resourceful means. She worked as a truck driver, photographer, and even a medical student for a time. Her determination to fly was so strong that she saved every penny, demonstrating her incredible commitment and sacrifice to pursue her passion for aviation.

**What was Amelia Earhart's connection to the "Ninety-Nines"?**

Amelia Earhart was a prominent figure and the first president of the "Ninety-Nines," an organization of licensed women pilots. This group was founded in 1929 to provide mutual support and advance women in aviation. Her leadership helped establish the organization as a powerful voice for female aviators, promoting their achievements and encouraging more women to enter the field.

**How did Amelia Earhart use her fame to advocate for others?**

Amelia Earhart used her fame not just for personal glory but as a platform to advocate for women's rights and opportunities. She lectured across the country, wrote articles, and served as a career counselor for women at Purdue University. She consistently encouraged women to pursue careers in traditionally male-dominated fields and to live independent, adventurous lives, inspiring a generation.

**What kind of aircraft did Amelia Earhart primarily fly for her record attempts?**

For many of her significant record attempts, including her solo transatlantic flight and the ill-fated round-the-world attempt, Amelia Earhart primarily flew Lockheed aircraft. Her solo Atlantic flight was in a Lockheed Vega 5B, and her final round-the-world journey was in a Lockheed Electra 10E. These planes were considered advanced and reliable for their time, suitable for long-distance flights.

**What was Amelia Earhart's attitude towards fear and risk?**

Amelia Earhart acknowledged the inherent risks in aviation but approached them with a pragmatic and determined attitude. She famously stated, "Please know that I am aware of the

hazards. I want to do it because I want to do it." This shows she understood the dangers but was driven by an intrinsic desire for adventure and achievement, not recklessness, viewing risks as part of the challenge.

**What did Amelia Earhart do before becoming a full-time aviator?**

Before becoming a full-time aviator, Amelia Earhart held various jobs and pursued different interests. She worked as a nurse's aide during World War I, briefly attended college, and later became a social worker at Denison House in Boston, helping immigrant families. These experiences shaped her compassionate nature and her desire to make a difference, even before her aviation career took off.

**How does the book portray Amelia Earhart's legacy?**

The book portrays Amelia Earhart's legacy as that of a fearless pioneer, an inspiring role model for women, and a symbol of human ambition and exploration. It emphasizes her contributions to aviation, her advocacy for gender equality, and her enduring spirit of adventure. Her mysterious disappearance only adds to her legendary status, ensuring her story continues to captivate and inspire new generations.

**What role did navigation play in Amelia Earhart's flights, especially her final one?**

Navigation was absolutely critical in Amelia Earhart's long-distance flights, particularly her final round-the-world attempt. For this journey, she had a skilled navigator, Fred Noonan, due to the immense challenge of locating tiny islands in the vast Pacific Ocean. The book highlights the reliance on celestial navigation and radio beacons, and how difficulties with these systems likely contributed to their tragic disappearance.

**What was Amelia Earhart's relationship with her family like, particularly her parents?**

Amelia Earhart had a somewhat unconventional upbringing for her time. Her parents, Amy and Edwin Earhart, moved frequently, and Amelia and her sister Muriel often lived with their grandparents. Her mother encouraged her independence and adventurous spirit, while her father struggled with alcoholism. Despite challenges, her family supported her ambitions, particularly her mother, who fostered her non-conformist nature.

**What was the public's reaction to Amelia Earhart's achievements?**

The public's reaction to Amelia Earhart's achievements was overwhelmingly enthusiastic and admiring. She was celebrated as a national hero, a symbol of courage, and an inspiration, especially for women. Her flights garnered massive media attention, parades, and accolades. She became a fashion icon and a sought-after speaker, embodying the spirit of adventure and progress during the Golden Age of Aviation.

**What lessons can readers learn from Amelia Earhart's life as presented in the book?**

Readers can learn several valuable lessons from Amelia Earhart's life, including the importance of perseverance, courage, and following one's passions. The book teaches that challenging societal norms and pushing personal boundaries can lead to extraordinary achievements. It also emphasizes the value of advocating for equality and inspiring others to pursue their dreams, even in the face of significant risks and potential failure.

**How did Amelia Earhart contribute to the advancement of aviation technology?**

While primarily known as a pilot and advocate, Amelia Earhart indirectly contributed to aviation technology by pushing the limits of existing aircraft and demonstrating the need for improved navigation and communication systems for long-distance flights. Her record attempts provided valuable data and highlighted areas for technological development, inspiring engineers and designers to create safer and more capable aircraft for future generations.