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The Fun Of It



Synopsis

Autobiography of the famous flyer which describes her own ambitions to become a pilot and offers advice to others.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

"Miss Earhart knows a great deal about aviation, especially as arts and business and her pages are full of experiences, the information, the little things and the big things the public likes to know about." *—* • New York *—* Times "... an account of the vibrant aviator's childhood, her fascination with aviation, and her life through her 1932 flight across the Atlantic." *—* • Booklist

Unlike Earhart's other works, *20 Hours, 40 Minutes and Last Flight*, which focus on flight details and aircraft specifications, this one is about HER and her life and her love of flying. Amelia began her life in Kansas and she became a nurse, a car mechanic, a social worker, a photographer, and even an airline vice president before she became America's aviation sweetheart. In this book she tells about those occupations and the impacts they had on her life and choices. She also tells a funny tale here and there like the time she was sledding and barely missed a head on collision with a horse, going between its legs as luck would have it. Another funny tale (that also involves a horse) is when she had one as a passenger! I got bored, however, when Earhart started about the weather bureau and went on a bit too much about the autogiro (helicopter today). The last quarter saves it from becoming a four star book tho. When today someone says the words "women in aviation" we immediately think about Amelia. Amelia generously hands out the credit tho. In the last quarter,

Earhart talks about numerous women and their accomplishments in aviation including but not limited to Ruth Nichols, Elinor Smith, Bobby Trout, Anne Lindbergh, Phoebe Omlie, and even a historical great, Ruth Law. There is also a chapter devoted to the early days of hot air ballooning and the ladies involved. This is a must read for any and all aviation buffs. I will be reading it again.

Interesting but a bit boring and factual. I liked that it was written in Amelia's own words but she told me more than what I was looking for. Too much about other people and not enough about her! She went on and on about other flyers of her day and aviation history, which is nice, but if you want more of an autobiography, like I did, this isn't the book for you. But if you are an aviation history buff you might just love it. I'm keeping it for further reference as I'm writing a book about Wiley Post and Harold Gatty and their famous flight around the world in 1929.

I am a female pilot. I felt like I was sitting in an airport lounge with Amelia as she told me the story of her life. Even though there was a recent movie and many other books written about her, this book contains so many more details about the rich and courageous life she lived. For example, her mother did not believe in her daughters wearing skirts at a time when that was considered required by polite society. Amelia truly charted her own course through life from an early age and wrote about it honestly and engagingly. I highly recommend this book!

"The Fun of It: Random Records of My Own Flying and of Women in Aviation", by Amelia Earhart - Brewer, Warren & Putnam, NY 1932. HC - 213 pages, a list of Aviation Books By Women, and includes 31 B & W photographs, (many full-page and of good quality). 8 1/2" x 5 1/2" Dedicated "To the Ninety Nines", this is the 2nd of 3 books Amelia wrote, the 1st being "20 Hrs. 40 Min." after her 1928 Atlantic crossing, whilst the 3rd was "Last Flight" in 1937 on her failed attempt to circumnavigate the globe at the equator. Herein, AE writes largely a discursive autobiography, reveals her visions of the past, present and future for aviation, impels a strong calling for feminism/equalism of working sexes, ending with a final section about her 1932 solo flight across the Atlantic. AE is quick to point out much of her acclaim is/was due to contribution of others - that, as a girl or woman, she received a luxuriance of acclaim, and reveals a modesty not often admitted by others. There is, thoughtfully, and purposefully, only minor mention of her husband George Putnam. AE provides a modest 'tour de force' on the history of flying: -- from balloons, dirigibles, to flying at time of Wright Bros., Dec. 17, 1903 and up to the early 1930's with speculation about supersonic stratospheric flight, space ships, rocket engines, giant airlines, etc. and discussion of her

flights in autogyros which predated helicopters. What we find in AE's writing is her directed appeal to encourage women's involvement in each and every phase of aviation (mechanics, pilotage, meteorology, sales, production, and design): -- AE promotes aviation as an important industry still in its infancy for cargo, mail, transportation and 'for the fun of it'. AE is a skilled writer, making good analogies for her audiences/readers to follow concepts in a book largely free of error, written before 'spell-checker', etc. It is non-technical and should make for a wide reading audience.

It's a good autobiography. Amelia Erhardt was an amazing person.

A fine book

Amelia was quite a pioneer in the world of flying. I learned a lot about the history of the beginning of flying including the women who first flew as well as the economics of flying.

This book inspired many girls and women long ago when it was first published, and it's still both inspiring and great fun to read. I wore out my first copy, so I ordered this as a replacement.

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