The Sound Of Wings: The Life Of Amelia Earhart
Synopsis

When Amelia Earhart mysteriously disappeared in 1937 during her attempted flight around the world, she was already known as America’s most famous female aviator. Her sense of daring and determination, rare for women of her time, brought her insurmountable fame from the day she became the first woman to cross the Atlantic in an airplane. In this definitive biography, Mary S. Lovell delivers a brilliantly researched account on Earhart’s life using the original documents, letters, the logbooks of Earhart and her contemporaries, and personal interviews with members of Amelia’s family, friends and rival aviators. The Sound of Wings vividly captures the drama and mystery behind the most influential woman in “The Golden Age of Flight” from her tomboy days at the turn of the century and her early fascinations with flying, to the unique relationship she shared with G.P. Putnam, the flamboyant publisher and public relations agent who became both her husband and her business manager. It is a revealing biography of an uncommonly brave woman, and the man who both aided and took advantage of her dreams.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

“Vividly evokes the tragic aspect of Amelia Earhart, as well as the moxie and grit of her personality and the hair-raising atmosphere of pioneering aviation.” — New York Times Book Review

“The most carefully researched Earhart biography to date.” — The Boston Herald

“A realistic, full-bodied portrait.” — Booklist

“A monumental biography - Mary Lovell is the real thing: a biographer...
passionately interested in her subjects. She realises her material and retells with tremendous verve all the best stories. The Times (UK)

Mary S. Lovell is author of the international bestselling biography Straight on Till Morning: The Biography of Beryl Markham and other acclaimed biographies on Sir Richard Burton, Jane Digby, the Mitford Girls, Betty "Cynthia Pack", and Bess of Hardwick. She lives in Hampshire, England.

Amelia was never considered a natural pilot or even a very good one. Her beauty was natural and character exceeded all her contemporaries for strength, adventure, imagination and courage. Amelia’s story should be more than her last, fatal flight across the Pacific ocean. She challenged and succeeded in equaling what men had done in early aviation frontiers in the face of ridicule and doubt. She helped create the modern air transportation industry by making air travel accessible, showing that even a women could fly safely! This is one of the better books describing her complete life, without worship or criticism.

I’d been told by an authority that this was the best Earhart bio, and I think it is. I especially appreciate the attention it gives to George Palmer Putnam, who’s too often ignored or vilified. And uniquely, it pointed me to GP’s pseudonymous "Cruise of the Kawa," which is really a hoot.

Our daughter used information in this book for a 3rd grade school project on Amelia Earhart. Some sections were too difficult, but the transcripts of radio communication were of particular interest to our daughter.

This is the best biography of AE that I have found to date, although my only complaint is that the author reaches a bit when declaring such statements as: (paraphrased) "One can only surmise that AE had difficulty with the family’s state of affairs, at her tender age". Other than that, it is a fair and balanced report, and it is WONDERFUL that the author has repatriated George Putnam. This is a vital read for anyone interested in AE’s life.

My niece has been studying Amelia. She was thrilled with this.

This is a great informative book about Earhart. It’s well-written and well-researched. Amelia was ahead of her time and truly an inspiration for women, esp. female aviators. Interesting with the
relationship between her and her husband, George; two driven personalities. A good entertaining, informative book!

Excellent book

The Sound of Wings, is an amazing book and biography about an amazing woman named Amelia Earhart. She lives in the pages of this book just as the author brought her to life through her wonderful storytelling. I recommend this book to anyone looking to read about a life of adventure.