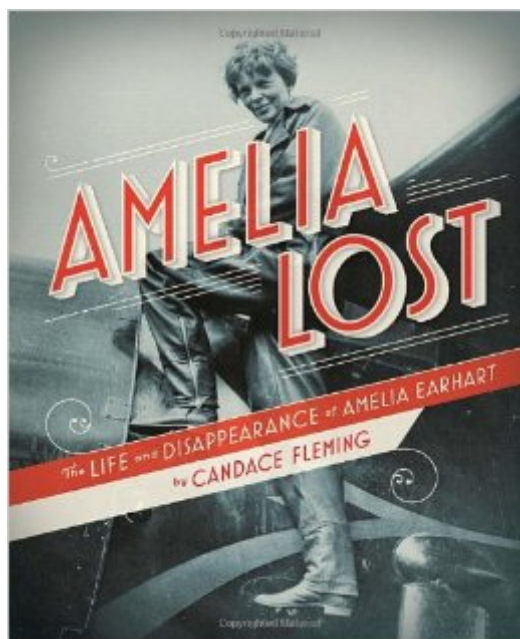


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Amelia Lost: The Life And Disappearance Of Amelia Earhart



Synopsis

From the acclaimed author of *The Great and Only Barnum* as well as *The Lincolns*, *Our Eleanor*, and *Ben Franklin's Almanac* comes the thrilling story of America's most celebrated flyer, Amelia Earhart. In alternating chapters, Fleming deftly moves readers back and forth between Amelia's life (from childhood up until her last flight) and the exhaustive search for her and her missing plane. With incredible photos, maps, and handwritten notes from Amelia herself plus informative sidebars tackling everything from the history of flight to what Amelia liked to eat while flying (tomato soup) this unique nonfiction title is tailor-made for middle graders. *Amelia Lost* received four starred reviews and Best Book of the Year accolades from *School Library Journal*, *Kirkus Reviews*, *Horn Book Magazine*, the *Washington Post*, and the *New York Times*.

Book Information

Lexile Measure: 930L (What's this?)

Hardcover: 128 pages

Publisher: Schwartz & Wade (February 8, 2011)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0375841989

ISBN-13: 978-0375841989

Product Dimensions: 8.1 x 0.6 x 9.8 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.5 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 stars See all reviews (34 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #59,258 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #41 in Books > Children's Books > Cars, Trains & Things That Go > Planes & Aviation #57 in Books > Children's Books > Education & Reference > History > United States > 1900s #74 in Books > Children's Books > Biographies > Women

Age Range: 8 - 12 years

Grade Level: 3 - 7

Customer Reviews

My first reaction to Candace Fleming's new book on Amelia Earhart was really? Did we REALLY need another children's book on this subject? A quick (and by no means exhaustive) search of .com indicates there are 134 children's books about the famed aviator. Comparatively, Clara Barton only rates 65, Eleanor Roosevelt clocks in at 108, Dolly Madison -- 15, Abigail Adams -- 68, Marian Anderson --20, Susan B. Anthony -- 49, Helen Keller -- 119, Rosa Parks -- 122, and Sally Ride --

34. Fleming's book is unique though and is a rich addition to the Earhart bookshelf as 2012, will mark the 75th anniversary of her disappearance over the Pacific Ocean. Fleming shares this story in a unique way by planting the reader right there, on board the Coast Guard cutter Itasca, in the early morning hours of July 2, 1937, where the crew is listening and watching for Earhart's plane. The skillful storytelling pulls the reader right into the mystery of Amelia's disappearance. Even though we know the outcome, the reader feels caught up in the search and hopes that the story might have a different outcome this time. Hope flares for her recovery. The book design invites the reader to dip in anywhere or read the story straight through. Images are captioned, and interesting facts and related events are highlighted in text boxes throughout. Some of the most fascinating aspects of the story to me were the pages featuring shortwave radio listeners in Wyoming and Florida who may have picked up some of the last broadcasts from the doomed plane.

When I was growing up my schoolroom classes would routinely learn about the great unsolved mysteries of the world. How they made Stonehenge. What really happened to the people of Roanoke? And why did Amelia Earhart disappear? Various biographies made of the woman for kids sort of allude to this question early in the book, forget about it during the middle section, then do a quickie wrap-up of it at the end. Basically, they take one of the most interesting mysteries in history and render it a dull dishwater gray. As such, an Amelia Earhart biography would not normally interest me. That is, before author Candace Fleming got her paws on the material. Fleming's no fool. She knows that if you have a mystery then there is probably a pretty exciting story to tie onto it. Continuity has its charms, but why not chuck the standard bio format if you can get away with it? As such, we get *Amelia Lost: The Life and Disappearance of Amelia Earhart*. Alternating between the "life" part and the "disappearance" part, kids get sucked into the nail-biting near misses of Amelia's rescuers between biographical sections where you come to care about the woman herself. And, of course, it's researched to the hilt. Nice, that. When some of us think of the disappearance of Amelia Earhart, we think of that eerie moment when she was there one moment and gone the next. In truth, it wasn't like that. In fact, it was a lot more interesting. In alternating chapters author Candace Fleming jumps back and forth between Amelia's biographical details and the many people who heard Amelia's cries for rescue (in vain). There was the fifteen-year-old in Florida who heard "This is Amelia Earhart" issuing from her radio. The sixteen-year-old boy in Wyoming who heard it too.

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