



2019

# Fly Girls: Young Reader's Edition

Gabrielle Borg

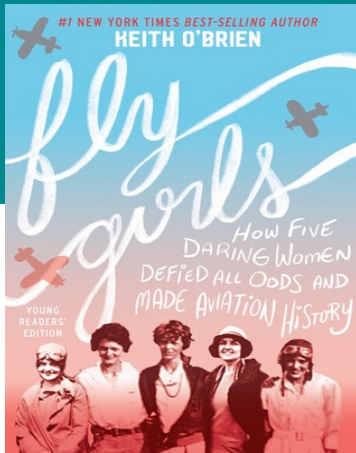
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## Book Review

# Fly Girls: Young Reader's Edition

### Author

Keith O'Brien

### Illustrator

### Reviewer

Gabrielle Borg

### Rating

Outstanding

### Level

Primary, Intermediate,  
Young Adult

### Pages

299

### Year

2019

### Publisher

Houghton Mifflin Harcourt

### ISBN

9781328618429

This book follows the stories of five women and the impact they had on aviation. The aviation industry was considered just for men, and it was dangerous. These women went against all odds and came out on top. Louise McPhetridge Thaden began selling coal in Wichita and went on to set many aviation records. Ruth Nichols started as the daughter of a wealthy New Yorker and set records of her own. Ruth Elder was the first to attempt to cross the Atlantic in an airplane. Florence Klingensmith soon became the woman to beat in the sky. Amelia Earhart would come to be the only one of these five still discussed today. Klingensmith and Earhart both sacrificed their lives to make history. Nichols and Elder continued to fly and tell their stories. Thaden lived out her days as a mother and died peacefully out of the spotlight, just ten years after her husband. These women defied the odds and made history.

Fly Girls is filled with action and adventure, loss and grief, friendship and community. The history of these women is one that many people have not heard before. Nearly everyone has heard of Amelia Earhart, but few people realize she was not the first woman to make aviation history. All five of these women fought and sacrificed to gain a place for all women in aviation. Keith O'Brien does a fantastic job of mixing history with intrigue. The story propels forward and offers insight into the history of flying. In the Young Readers' Edition, unfamiliar words throughout the book are bolded and included in a glossary at the end. This is followed by a reference list of every quote and where it came from. Also included is an index of all the people and places mentioned. This book will enthrall children and adults alike as they learn more about the history of women in aviation.