

Suggested Reading: Amelia Earhart

Compiled by Leslie Goddard, Ph.D. [Note: Books listed here focus on Earhart's life, not theories of her disappearance.]

The Fun of It by Amelia Earhart (1932). Her second memoir, still in print. Earhart describes her life as an aviator up through her 1932 Atlantic solo and gives advice to girls. Not a complete biography but great insight into her attitudes about flying and her admiration for other female pilots.

The Sound of Wings by Mary S. Lovell (1989). The best of the biographies to date. Well-researched and readable. The one I recommend for those who know little about her.

East to the Dawn: The Life of Amelia Earhart by Susan Butler (1997). An exhaustive biography. Recommended for those who already know something about Earhart and want more.

Amelia Lost: The Life and Disappearance of Amelia Earhart by Candace Fleming (2011). A great biography for kids 8 and up. Alternates between Earhart's life story and a "you-were-there" story of the crew waiting for her plane in 1937. Excellent sidebars and photographs.

Still Missing: Amelia Earhart and the Search for Modern Feminism by Susan Ware (1993). An academic biography arguing that the fixation on Earhart's disappearance obscures the more interesting story of how she skillfully crafted her public image and used her popularity to broaden horizons for women.

Amelia Earhart: The Thrill of It by Susan Wels (2009). Glossy, coffee-table book. A good, popular biography, but mostly notable for more than 300 excellent photographs, showing how Earhart's visual image made as powerful an impact as her achievements.