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**Amelia Earhart - I**

**Lead: Among pioneer aviators, only Charles Lindbergh exceeded the fame and accomplishments of Amelia Earhart. She was a model and inspiration for millions, including millions of women.**

**Intro.: *A Moment in Time* with Dan Roberts.**

**Content: Born in Victorian-era Kansas in 1897 of a prosperous family, Earhart early on demonstrated an independent spirit, an inclination toward adventure, and robust**

**imagination. She refused to be trapped in the usual roles reserved for girls and then later women, playing a variety of sports and showing a remarkable curiosity about all things mechanical. Yet, Earhart read voraciously and had little difficulty succeeding in the affairs of the mind.**

**During World War I she served as a volunteer nurse in the Canadian war effort. In Toronto Earhart was first exposed to flying, an introduction that quickly became an obsession, receiving her first flying lesson in 1921 in California and buying her first airplane the following year. She was the seventeenth person to receive the National Aeronautic**

**pilot's license.**

**After her parents divorced, she moved east and became a social worker, teaching English to non-native speaking students at Harvard and among immigrants in the Boston area, all the while continuing her fascination with flying. In 1928 she was offered the chance to ride passenger on a transatlantic flight and told the story in her first book. Four years later Amelia Earhart became the first woman and only the second person to fly solo across the Atlantic. Encouraged by her husband, publisher George Palmer Putnam, she began a series of record-setting flights overland and sea and began to plan to fly around the world. Next time: Lost.**

# **From Richmond, Virginia this is Dan Roberts.**

## **Resources**

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