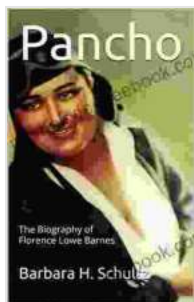


Pancho: The Biography of Florence Lowe Barnes, Pioneer Aviator



Pancho: The Biography of Florence Lowe Barnes

by Barbara H. Schultz

★★★★☆ 4.7 out of 5

Language	: English
File size	: 12901 KB
Text-to-Speech	: Enabled
Screen Reader	: Supported
Enhanced typesetting	: Enabled
Word Wise	: Enabled
Print length	: 294 pages
Paperback	: 96 pages
Item Weight	: 10.8 ounces
Dimensions	: 6.5 x 0.4 x 9.1 inches



Early Life and Education

Florence Lowe Barnes was born on August 17, 1891, in Council Bluffs, Iowa. Her fascination with aviation began at a young age when she witnessed a hot air balloon ascent. She received her first airplane ride at the age of 16, and from that moment on, she knew she wanted to fly.

Despite the social constraints of the time, Barnes pursued her passion for flying. She enrolled in the Curtiss Flying School in San Diego, California, and became one of the first women to earn a pilot's license in the United States.

Aviation Career

Barnes quickly made a name for herself in the aviation world. In 1911, she became the first woman to fly across the United States from San Francisco to New York City. She also set several altitude records, including becoming the first woman to fly over 10,000 feet.

Barnes's accomplishments garnered international recognition. She was invited to fly in air shows and exhibitions around the world, where she captivated audiences with her daring stunts and aerial maneuvers.

The Great War and Beyond

During World War I, Barnes volunteered her services as a pilot for the French Air Service. She flew reconnaissance missions and transported supplies to the front lines. Her bravery and dedication earned her the rank of Chevalier of the Legion of Honor, France's highest military honor.

After the war, Barnes continued to fly and promote the advancement of aviation. She founded the Women's National Aeronautical Association (WNAA) in 1929 and served as its president for several years. The WNAA aimed to encourage women to pursue careers in aviation and to promote aviation safety.

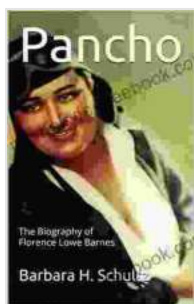
Personal Life and Legacy

Barnes married fellow aviator George Barnes in 1920. The couple had one daughter, Florence "Floy" Lowe Barnes Jr. Barnes retired from flying in the late 1930s but remained active in the aviation community.

Florence Lowe Barnes passed away in 1975 at the age of 83. She left behind a legacy as a pioneering aviator who shattered stereotypes and

paved the way for women in aviation. Her story continues to inspire generations of aviators and those who dream of taking flight.

Pancho, the nickname given to Florence Lowe Barnes by her fellow aviators, was a true pioneer who pushed the boundaries of aviation and made significant contributions to the field. Her determination, skill, and passion continue to inspire aviators and dreamers alike.



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