## Daredevil: The Daring Life of Betty Skelton

Betty Skelton was a pioneering aviator who set numerous records and broke barriers for women in aviation. She was the first woman to fly solo across the Atlantic Ocean, the first woman to fly solo from California to Hawaii, and the first woman to fly around the world. She also set a number of speed and altitude records.





### **Daredevil: The Daring Life of Betty Skelton**

by Meghan McCarthy

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Skelton was born in 1926 in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. She began flying at the age of 16, and by the age of 21, she had earned her pilot's license. In 1953, she became the first woman to fly solo across the Atlantic Ocean. She flew a single-engine Cessna 170 from Newfoundland to Ireland in 37 hours and 28 minutes.

In 1954, Skelton became the first woman to fly solo from California to Hawaii. She flew a twin-engine Beechcraft Bonanza from San Francisco to Honolulu in 29 hours and 53 minutes. In 1957, she became the first woman to fly around the world. She flew a single-engine Cessna 180 from Oakland, California, to Oakland, California, in 99 days.

Skelton's accomplishments earned her a place in the National Aviation Hall of Fame. She was also awarded the Congressional Gold Medal, the highest civilian award in the United States.

Skelton's story is an inspiring example of how determination and perseverance can overcome any obstacle. She was a pioneer who paved the way for women in aviation and helped to change the way the world viewed women's capabilities.

#### **Betty Skelton's Accomplishments**

- First woman to fly solo across the Atlantic Ocean (1953)
- First woman to fly solo from California to Hawaii (1954)
- First woman to fly around the world (1957)

Set a number of speed and altitude records

### **Betty Skelton's Legacy**

Betty Skelton's legacy is one of inspiration and achievement. She was a pioneer who broke barriers and paved the way for women in aviation. Her story is an example of how determination and perseverance can overcome any obstacle.

Skelton's accomplishments have earned her a place in the National Aviation Hall of Fame. She was also awarded the Congressional Gold Medal, the highest civilian award in the United States.

Skelton's story continues to inspire women and girls around the world. She is a role model for anyone who dreams of achieving great things.



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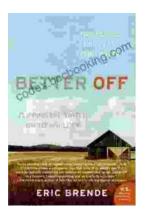
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