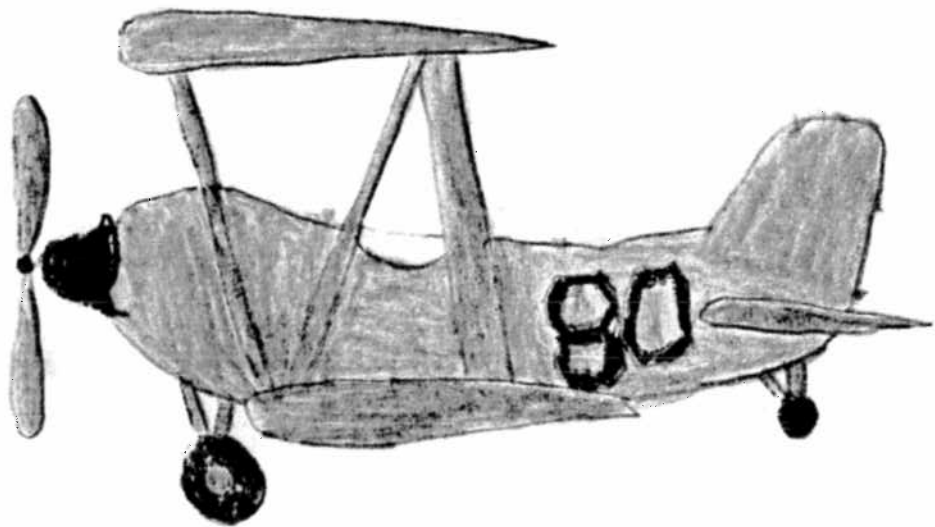


Amelia Earhart spreads her wings



By: Claire B

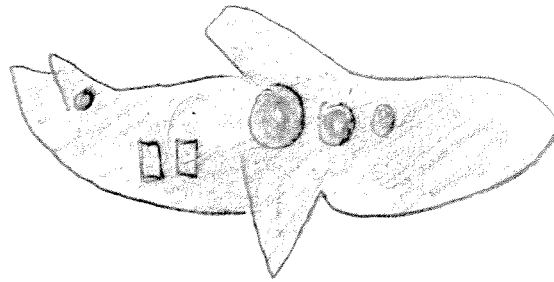
(Claire B.)

Pictures by: Hser P

(Hser P.)

"Amelia, dinner. Come on in. Beef and mashed potatoes tonight!" Mother called from inside the kitchen.

"Coming, Mother!" Amelia cried back. She took her toy plane and rushed inside.

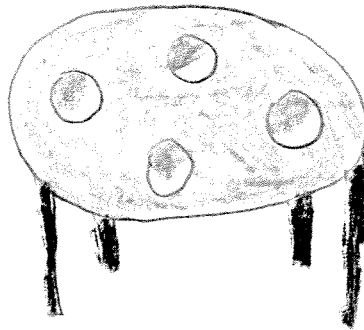


"Amelia Earhart!" her father looked at Amelia in disbelief. "Girls need to be dressed in dresses and play with dolls. But you don't care about a single thing girls should do these days!"

"Father's right. Shorts? On a girl? That's unacceptable. Rush up to your room and change clothes immediately!" Mother sighed as Amelia ran upstairs. Amelia grabbed her dress and all her 'ladylike' clothes and put them on. She grabbed her doll and rushed downstairs.

"A bonnet!" Mother squealed. She had never seen Amelia in her pink bonnet before.

"That's more like it." Father smiled as Amelia sat down with her hands in her lap.



"Muriel, will you care to say grace?" Mother asked Amelia's little sister. Muriel sighed. She didn't believe that girls should do all the work.

"Of course Mother." Muriel proceeded to say grace.

Suddenly, Amelia interrupted the prayer.

"Father, Mother? Is it fine if I go to the Plane Show on Thursday?" Amelia gasped. Had she really just disturbed the prayer?

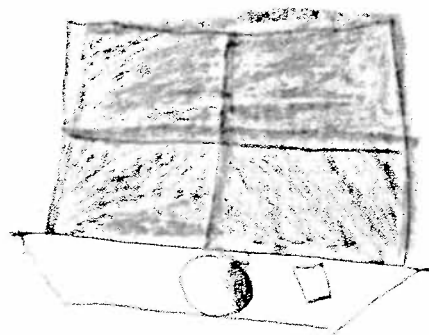
Mother sighed again. "*My daughter is so unladylike.*" she thought.

"AMELIA EARHART!" father yelled from across the table. "Do I have to tell you *again* that you need to act more like a young lady? Soon, you will be hired as a housemaid! You need to straighten up. Go to your room instantly!"

"*Housemaid?*" Amelia thought. "*How terrible!*"

Amelia decided look at plane designs while she was in her room. Mother was surprised to see Amelia humming her favorite plane show tune when she walked into Amelia's room.

"I brought your dinner. Quickly eat because it's almost your bedtime." Mother set down Amelia's dinner and walked back to the dining room. Amelia smelled the delicious beef, but she was so interested in the plane designs that she didn't eat that night.

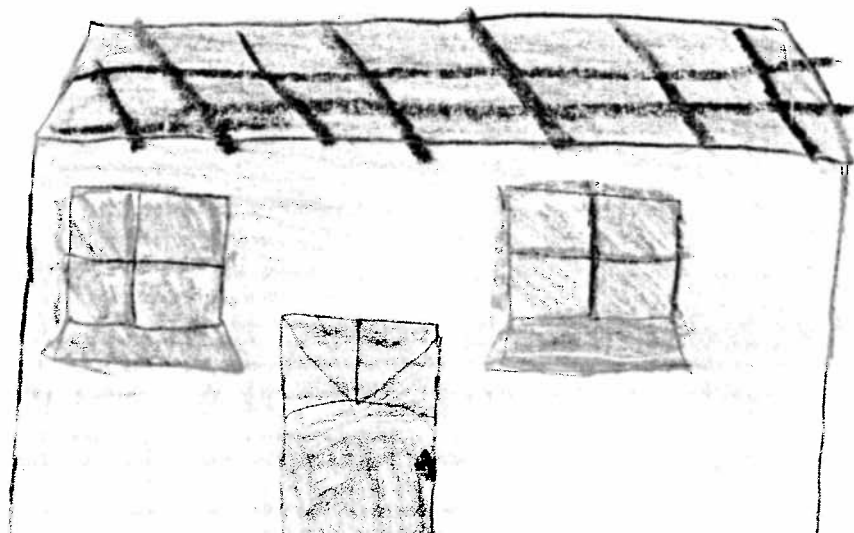


The next morning, Amelia couldn't leave her room because her father told her she needs to think about her actions.

*"How boring!"* Amelia thought.

The whole day seemed to go on forever, and finally Amelia couldn't take it anymore. She was so bored that she decided to escape. But how was she supposed to leave home without Father catching her? Amelia chose to pretend to go to the bathroom and then sneak out the side door.

She snuck to the bathroom and found the door she would go out. She ran to the door and opened it. She dashed out the door to her friend's house.



"Aren't you supposed to be in your room?" Kate Walker asked when she walked into Kate's house. Kate was Amelia's best friend, so she usually understood what Amelia meant.

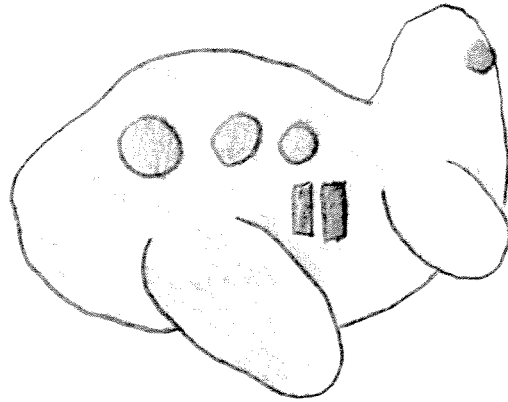
"I escaped from home because I got really tired of looking at plane designs, so I decided to run away for the day. The plane designs just got boring. I will go back tonight." Amelia explained.

Kate gasped. "That's dangerous! You could get in lots of trouble. You shouldn't do that!"

"Why? I could see the plane show. Father won't let me go." Amelia answered.

Even though Kate didn't like the idea, Amelia insisted that she go to the plane show. Amelia ran back to her house and grabbed her two dollar bill. She rushed out of her house and ran to the plane show. She paid a dollar for a taxi ride and another dollar for a ticket. She found a five dollar bill on the ground, so she bought a souvenir from a vendor.

Amelia was super glad to be at the plane show. She was amazed at how well the pilots flew.



Amelia loved planes before, but now she really wanted to be a pilot when she grew up!