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**Famous Heroines**

**Joan Of Arc**, **Queen Elizabeth the First , Pocahontas** , **Catherine The Great**, **Abigail Adams**, **Sacagawea**: **Harriet Beecher Stowe**  **Queen Victoria,**

**Elizabeth Cady Stanton,**  **Harriet Tubman**, **Clara Barton**, **Emily Dickinson**

 **Louisa May Alcott, Annie Oakley, Marie Curie, Gail Laughlin, Helen Keller**:

 **Eleanor Roosevelt**, **Georgia O’keeffe**:,**Amelia Earhart Mother Teresa, RosaParks. Anne Frank** **Amelia Bloomer, Beryl Markham, Aphra Behn**

**Joan Of Arc**: Joan of Arc has become a world famous icon from 1412 France. While living she was instrumental in the Hundred Years War and after she passed she became a Saint in 1920. Read more about [Joan Of Arc](https://www.historynet.com/joan-of-arc).

**Queen Elizabeth I** (1533 – 1603) Queen of England. Elizabeth I was the last of the Tudor monarchs. Despite a tumultuous rise to the throne, she reined England with considerable diplomacy and brought a period of peace and enlightenment to England. Read more about [Queen Elizabeth I](https://www.historynet.com/queen-elizabeth-i)

**Pocahontas** (1595 – 1617) Native American. Pocahontas was a Native American princess of the Powhatan tribe. She is believed to have saved the life of the leader of the Jamestown colony, Captain John Smith. This act and her marriage to a Jamestown colonist helped establish peace between the Natives and the colonists, aiding in the survival of the colony. Read more about [Pocahontas](https://www.historynet.com/pocahontas)**Catherine The Great**: Catherine the Great was the Empress of Russia, and during her reign, she expanded Russian boundaries considerably and promoted education and Enlightenment, while continuing to promote nobility and reduce the rights of serfs. . Read more about [Catherine The Great](https://www.historynet.com/catherine-the-great).

**Abigail Adams**: Abigail Adams was the wife of John Adams, the second president of the United States of America. During her husband’s travels the pair kept in contact through letters which has shed much light on their time and relationship. Read more about [Abigail Adams](https://www.historynet.com/abigail-adams).

**Sacagawea**: Guide and Interpreter (1788-1812) Sacagawea was a Lemhi Shoshone Native American woman. She travelled with Lewis and Clark helping them as both a guide and an interpreter. Read more about [Sacagawea](https://www.historynet.com/sacagawea)

**Harriet Beecher Stowe** (1811 – 1896) Author of "Uncle Tom’s Cabin," which brought attention to the horrors of slavery. Read more about [Harriet Beecher Stowe](https://www.historynet.com/harriet-beecher-stowe/).

**Queen Victoria** (1819-1901) Queen Victoria was Britain’s longest ruling monarch and reigned over what is now known as the Victorian era. Read more about [Queen Victoria](https://www.historynet.com/queen-victoria/)

**Elizabeth Cady Stanton** (1815 – 1902) Pioneer of [women’s rights movement](https://www.historynet.com/womens-rights/). Read more about [Elizabeth Cady Stanton](https://www.historynet.com/elizabeth-cady-stanton/). **Harriet Tubman** (1820 – 1913) Born a slave, Tubman was the most famous member of the [underground railroad](https://www.historynet.com/underground-railroad/). Learn more about [Harriet Tubman](https://www.historynet.com/harriet-tubman/).

**Clara Barton** (1821 – 1912) The most famous [civil war nurse](https://www.historynet.com/civil-war-nurses/), Clara Barton later founded the American Red Cross. Learn more about [Clara Barton](https://www.historynet.com/clara-barton/).

**Emily Dickinson**: Emily Dickinson wrote close to 2,000 poems during her lifetime, the majority of which were not published until after her death. Her poems were often poignant and many centered around the mysteries of death. Read more about [Emily Dickinson](https://www.historynet.com/emily-dickinson).

**Louisa May Alcott** (1832 – 1888) Author of "Little Women" and "Little Men," Alcott also served as a [civil war nurse](https://www.historynet.com/civil-war-nurses/) and was an activist for [women’s suffrage](https://www.historynet.com/womens-suffrage-movement/). Learn more about [Louisa May Alcott](https://www.historynet.com/louisa-may-alcott/).

**Annie Oakley**(1860 – 1926) Oakley was a famous woman sharpshooter and star of Buffalo Bill’s Wild West Show. Learn more about [Annie Oakley](https://www.historynet.com/annie-oakley/)

**Marie Curie**: Marie Curie was a famous chemist and physicist who held many achievements for women. She won the Nobel Prize twice and as influential in the world of chemistry. Read more about [Marie Curie](https://www.historynet.com/marie-curie).

**Gail Laughlin** (1868 – 1952) Attorney and prominent [women’s rights activist](https://www.historynet.com/womens-rights/)

**Helen Keller**: Helen Keller became blind and deaf at the age of two as a result of a severe illness. She overcame her handicaps to earn a college education, and she spent her life championing for the rights of those with physical handicaps. Read more about [Helen Keller](https://www.historynet.com/helen-keller).

**Eleanor Roosevelt** (1884 – 1962) Wife of President Franklin Roosevelt, Eleanor was a prominent figure during WWII, a skilled writer, politician, and activist. She served as the Chairperson of the United Nations Human Rights Commission. Read more about [Eleanor Roosevelt](https://www.historynet.com/eleanor-roosevelt/)

**Georgia O’keeffe**: Georgia O’Keefe was a painter who received great recognition for her paintings of flowers and landscapes, including barren desert scenes. She received many prominent honors during her lifetime, including the Medal of Freedom. Read more about [Georgia O’keeffe](https://www.historynet.com/georgia-okeeffe).

**Amelia Earhart** (1897 – 1937?) First woman to fly solo across the Atlantic Ocean. She disappeared while trying to circumnavigate the world. Read more about [Amelia Earhart](https://www.historynet.com/amelia-earhart/)**argaret Mead**: Margaret Mead was the author of Growing up in New Guinea, Male and Female and Coming of Age in Samoa. She is known for illuminating the concept that personality differences is more of a cultural conditioning than an inherited trait. Read more about [Margaret Mead](https://www.historynet.com/margaret-mead).

**Mother Teresa**: Mother Teresa is a world iconic woman who performed many charitable acts. Her marks on international charity and helping starving children and children that were victims of conflict are well-known. Read more about [Mother Teresa](https://www.historynet.com/mother-teresa).

**Rosa Parks** (1913 -2005) Rosa Parks was an American civil rights leader. Known as “The First Lady of Civil Rights” she is best known for refusing to give up her seat on a bus to a white man in Montgomery, Alabama. Read more about [Rosa Parks](https://www.historynet.com/rosa-parks)

**Anne Frank** (1929 – 1945) Author of "Anne Frank’s Diary" about her experience in a Nazi Concentration Camp. Learn more about [Anne Frank](https://www.historynet.com/anne-frank/)

**Amelia Bloomer**
If you’re female and wearing pants right now, you can thank Amelia Bloomer. The eponymous Bloomer was not the first to wear the balloon-like trousers that cinched at the ankles, but she advocated wearing them, wrote about wearing them, and wore them herself. The press assigned these ridiculous firsts of the female pant world the name Bloomers.




Beryl Markham's renowned memoir

**Beryl Markham**
Markham’s autobiography, *West with the Night* (1942), is more than just a story of being the first person to fly non-stop from England to North America. It’s the story of a young British girl growing up in Kenya at the turn of the 20th century, a girl deeply connected to her adopted country. Chapter after mesmerizing chapter, we are delighted with stories of her escaping being mauled by a lion (oh my!), breeding winning racehorses, effortlessly landing her plane in the African bush on medical, postal, and safari expeditions, and eventually flying into the wind across the Atlantic Ocean. Markham writes with such vigor that you can see the beautiful horses she’s training, marvel at the expanse of the African landscape, and fear the dark nights she’s accustomed to flying in. In fact, her writing is so evocative that Papa Hemingway himself wrote of her: “She can write rings around all of us who consider ourselves as writers.”

**Aphra Behn**
When Behn sailed to Antwerp in 1666 to spy for King Charles II of England, he refused to pay her for services rendered, and she landed in debtors’ prison. After her release, she eked out a living the only way she knew how: by writing.


Aphra Behn. Library of Congress

For the next 20 years, Behn wrote and performed in plays on the bawdy English stage. Playwriting afforded Behn (rhymes with Dane) some fortune, some fame, and some infamy. Her plays gained notoriety as being too risqué. She became known as the Restoration’s version of Jackie Collins.

Her most famous play, *The Rover* (1677), is still performed today and has handed posterity such wonderful lines as, “There is no sinner like a young saint.” But Behn gave us more than staged 17th century sexually provocative themes and neat aphorisms; apart from the myriad of poems she wrote, she also produced what some consider to be the first English novel. English literature had been comprised of epic poems: *Beowulf*, *Sir Gawain*, and *The Faerie Queen*. Behn produced what some consider the first prose narrative—certainly it is one of the earliest English novels—in her groundbreaking work *Oroonoko* (1688), the tragic story of a slave in Surinam. She is believed to be the first woman to make a living solely as a writer. Two hundred and fifty years later, Virginia Woolf recognized the debt all women owed Ms. Behn: “All women together ought to let flowers fall upon the tomb of Aphra Behn … for it was she who earned them the right to speak their minds.”