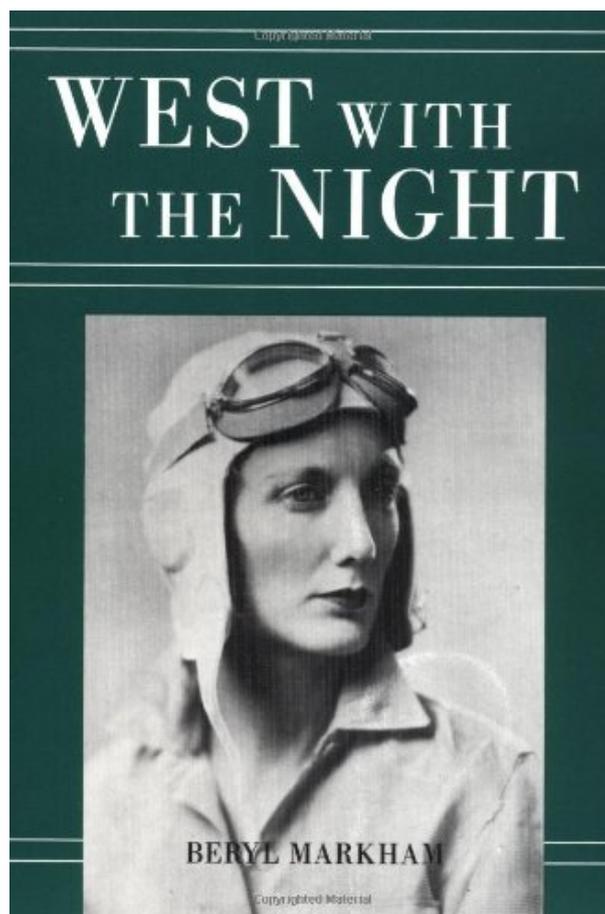


WEST WITH THE NIGHT BY BERYL MARKHAM

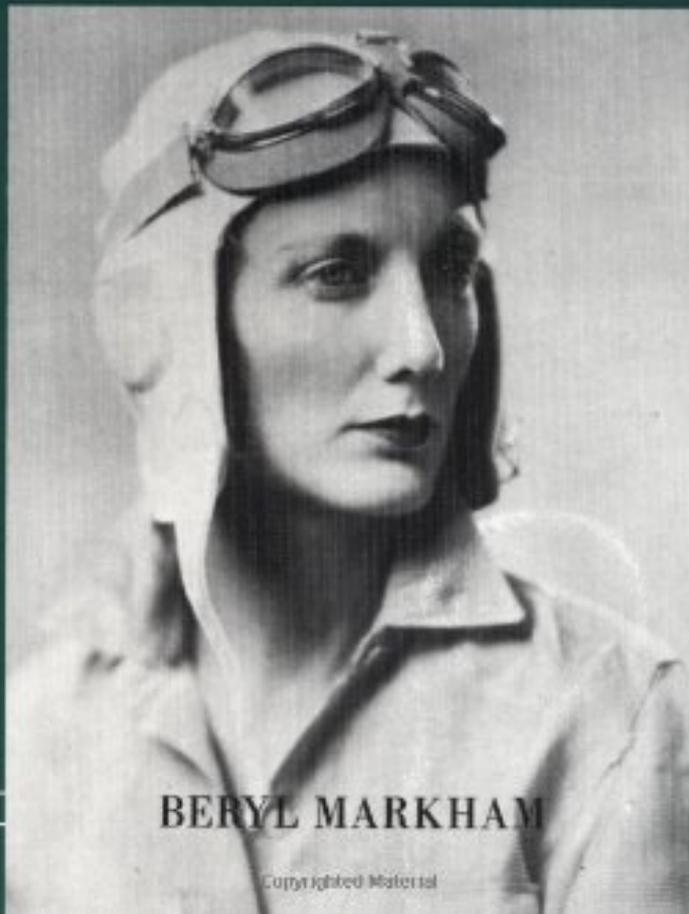


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Amazon.com Review

One of the most beautifully crafted books I have ever read, with some of the most poetic prose passages I could imagine, such as the following, resonating with a stately and timeless quality so absent in our modern life: There are all kinds of silences and each of them means a different thing. There is the silence that comes with morning in a forest, and this is different from the silence of a sleeping city. There is silence after a rainstorm, and before a rainstorm, and these are not the same. There is the silence of emptiness, the silence of fear, the silence of doubt. There is a certain silence that can emanate from a lifeless object as from a chair lately used, or from a piano with old dust upon its keys, or from anything that has answered to the need of a man, for pleasure or for work. This kind of silence can speak. Its voice may be melancholy, but it is not always so; for the chair may have been left by a laughing child or the last notes of the piano may have been raucous and gay. Whatever the mood or the circumstance, the essence of its quality may linger in the silence that follows. It is a soundless echo. Born in England in 1902, Markham was taken by her father to East Africa in 1906. She spent her childhood playing with native Maruni children and apprenticing with her father as a trainer and breeder of racehorses. In the 1930s, she became an African bush pilot, and in September 1936, became the first person to fly solo across the Atlantic from east to west.

From Library Journal

Markham's *West with the Night* was originally published in the early 1940s and disappeared, only to be rediscovered and reprinted in the 1980s when it became a smash hit. This latest incarnation is a lavishly illustrated edition. Though Markham is known for setting an aviation record for a solo flight across the Atlantic from East to West-hence the title-she was also a bush pilot in Africa, sharing adventures with Blixen and Denys Finch-Hatton of *Out of Africa* fame. Hemingway, who met Markham during his safari days, dubbed the book "bloody wonderful."

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Review

"Did you read Beryl Markham's book, *West with the Night*? I knew her fairly well in Africa and never would have suspected that she could and would put pen to paper except to write in her flyer's log book. As it is, she has written so well, and marvelously well, that I was completely ashamed of myself as a writer. I felt that I was simply a carpenter with words, picking up whatever was furnished on the job and nailing them together and sometimes making an okay pig pen. But [she] can write rings around all of us who consider ourselves writers. The only parts of it that I know about personally, on account of having been there at the time and

heard the other people's stories, are absolutely true . . . I wish you would get it and read it because it is really a bloody wonderful book."--Ernest Hemingway

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West with the Night is the story of Beryl Markham--aviator, racehorse trainer, beauty--and her adventurous life in the Kenya of the 1920s and '30s.

An aviator, she transport live cargo, hunters,scientists and explorers on her single engine plane. She was known to be one of the best flihers that you could find and count on.

This books is regarded by many as one of the best adventure books ever!

- Sales Rank: #491484 in Books
- Brand: North Point Press
- Published on: 1983
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 8.26" h x .86" w x 5.50" l, .75 pounds
- Binding: Paperback
- 294 pages

Features

- Great product!

Amazon.com Review

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Most helpful customer reviews

77 of 77 people found the following review helpful.

Classic re-read

By Constant Reader

This book comes with a built-in audience...women, pilots, lovers of Africa, loners...and, above all, those who love the English language and how descriptive it can be.

This is NOT a memoir; more a series of vignettes that Markham put together from her memory which she announces from the beginning that is extremely hard to recover accurately. Reprinted when she was in her 80s, it became a best seller. The original printing was received well, but not nearly so well as when she was rediscovered. It didn't help that many believe she was not the "real" author; she never wrote anything else that came close to the beautiful prose exhibited here.

Praised by Hemingway, who evidently envied her writing skills, fame faded away from this woman whose personality was forbidding (except for her lovers, one presumes) and enigmatic. Not one word about her somewhat unconventional life is present in this volume, but her deep and abiding love for Africa is evident throughout. Worth reading for its use of language and evocative images, don't look for her to reveal the private details of a life that must have been fascinating.

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful.

Corageous, respectful, unique

By susan

The first chapters somehow missed the mark with me. But I am so,so glad I kept reading. It is hard to find the right words to describe this book and the person who wrote. She grew up in the early years of the 29th century hunting barefoot in East Africa with her dog, her spear and Murani men. The rest of her life was no less unconventional. At 17 she set out on her own.

Beryl Markham became a recognized horse trainer and bush pilot in the early days of aviation. It is an odd memoir in that there is no mention of her mother, brother, son or husbands yet the story seemed complete without them.

It is easy to see why Hemingway praised her writing. It is clean, eloquent and devoid of sentimentality.

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful.

1940's style memoir of a fascinating woman.

By Bill Manion

Reads in the 1940 style prose that fits the memoir. It is a well done work that if your first taste of Beryl

Markham you will become interested in her life. However, would recommend first reading other works (i.e. Straight on Until Morning and Circling the Sun) on Markham before reading her own memoir. It will make this much more interesting.

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Your impression of this book **West With The Night By Beryl Markham** will lead you to obtain exactly what you exactly need. As one of the inspiring publications, this publication will certainly supply the presence of this led West With The Night By Beryl Markham to collect. Even it is just soft data; it can be your collective data in device and other tool. The important is that usage this soft data publication West With The Night By Beryl Markham to check out as well as take the benefits. It is exactly what we imply as book West With The Night By Beryl Markham will improve your ideas as well as mind. After that, checking out book will certainly also boost your life top quality a lot better by taking great activity in balanced.

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