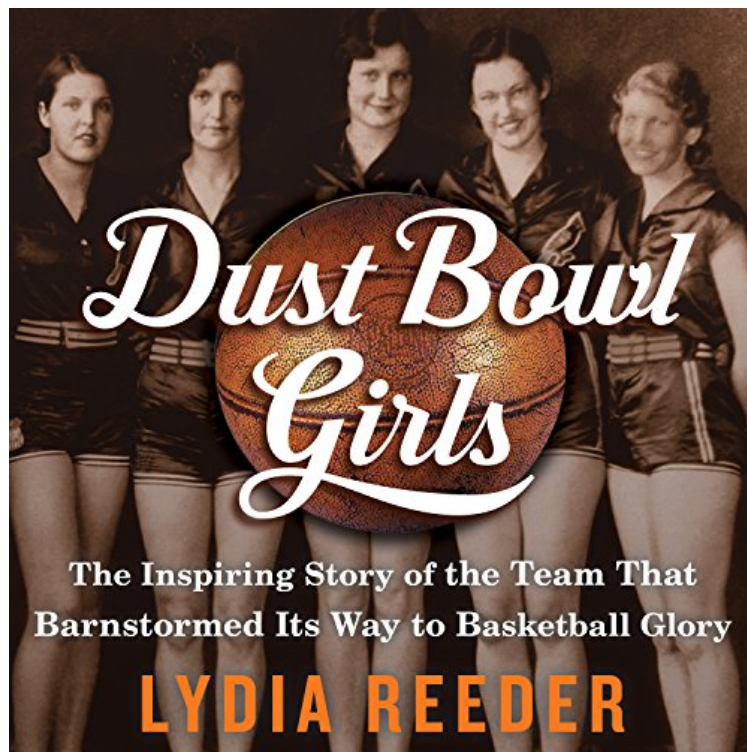


(Read download) Dust Bowl Girls: The Inspiring Story of the Team That Barnstormed Its Way to Basketball Glory

Dust Bowl Girls: The Inspiring Story of the Team That Barnstormed Its Way to Basketball Glory

Lydia Reeder

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Lydia Reeder : Dust Bowl Girls: The Inspiring Story of the Team That Barnstormed Its Way to Basketball Glory before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Dust Bowl Girls: The Inspiring Story of the Team That Barnstormed Its Way to Basketball Glory:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Inspiring and Entertaining Story By A. Reader Nowadays, it is seldom that a book pulls me in and forces me to continue turning the pages. "Dust Bowl Girls" was one of those books. Author Lydia Reeder tells the story of the Oklahoma Presbyterian College Cardinals and their magical year in 1932. The book almost reads like a novel, as Ms. Reeder takes us deep into the history and personality of many of the players and people connected with the school's female basketball team. Readers are also treated to in-depth histories of the players as well as details of the country's landscape at that time, including some attitudes towards women's athletics. While these viewpoints might seem laughable when compared with today's world, it is interesting to learn how fervently many people fought for these alternate beliefs. During a long car ride, I listened to the audible version for the first half of this book and finished by reading the second half. Narrator Virginia Wolf kept the story interesting, keeping my attention through both the storyline as well as the historical background. Ms. Reeder is a perfect person to retell the tale of the Cardinals. Her uncle was Sam Babb, the dedicated coach of the Cardinals. She relates an

emotional, inspiring story of a group of women who strove to achieve something special. The author's notes at the end of the book provide a detailed account of the work she performed to bring this book to fruition. The numerous pictures throughout the book are a perfect accompaniment to this five-star effort. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Sometimes it takes a book like this one to make us examine our history. By MOI never dreamed girls were playing basketball in high school, college and professionally in the 1930's because by the time I was a teen, girls were in the drill team or cheering squad, not on the field or court. Reading this book helped me to understand how attitudes changed from allowing girls to play to requiring more lady-like behavior and then back to encouraging girls playing a wide variety of sports both as students and as professionals. Sometimes it takes a book like this one to make us examine our history. I was fascinated by the stories of the individual girls on Babb's team. I knew about Babe Dedrikson as a golfer, but didn't realize she was an All-American basketball star as well as an Olympic track and field star. The Dust Bowl Girls played well before my time, but I've lived in Texas and Oklahoma. Reeder is faithful to the sense of place and pride in one's home state that continues today, both in and out of sports. Sometimes I wanted the book to read more as a novel (and much of it does) and less like a history. I loved reading about Coach Babb and the quiet, persistent way he chose and developed his players. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. I wish she'd taken all her information and research and found a collaborator to work with -- as well as a good editor. I finished reading because I was hooked ...By Joan N. Boothe Absolutely fascinating content -- a story that needed to be told. But the author writes poorly -- awkward, often amateurish, sometimes wordy, redundant, doesn't understand punctuation. . . What more can I say. It was so frustrating to me to read this book. I wish she'd taken all her information and research and found a collaborator to work with -- as well as a good editor. I finished reading because I was hooked by the story and the women, their struggle, the times, but for me, it was a major effort.

At the height of the Great Depression, Sam Babb, the charismatic basketball coach of tiny Oklahoma Presbyterian College, began dreaming. Like so many others, he wanted a reason to have hope. Traveling from farm to farm, he recruited talented, hardworking young women and offered them a chance at a better life: a free college education if they would come play for his basketball team, the Cardinals. Despite their fears of leaving home and the sacrifices faced by their families, the women followed Babb and his dream. He shaped the Cardinals into a formidable team, and something extraordinary began to happen: with passion for the sport and heartfelt loyalty to one another and their coach, they won every game. For author Lydia Reeder, this is a family story: coach Sam Babb is her great-uncle. When her grandmother handed her a worn, yellowed folder that contained newspaper articles, letters, and photographs of Sam and the Cardinals, she said, You might want to tell their story someday. Now, with extensive research and the gathered memories of the surviving Cardinals, she has."

"Still, like other good sports histories, this one allows us to sit in the stands and watch a forgotten era when times were tough, odds were long, and underdogs rose to the occasion."—Minneapolis Star-Tribune "Fascinating." —Garden Gun.com "Lydia Reeder has crafted a thrilling, cinematic story that seems destined for the big screen (please cast Saoirse Ronan as Doll Harris!). I loved every minute I spent with the bold, daring women of the Cardinals basketball team, whose remarkable journey to victory is the stuff of American legend."—Karen Abbott, New York Times bestselling author of Liar, Temptress, Soldier, Spy "As she tells the amazing story of Babb and his underdog women's basketball team, Reeder also reveals the challenges facing serious female athletes during the 1920s and '30s, including the perceived risk of 'destroying their feminine image by invading a man's world.' Sports fans and general readers alike are sure to find the story both worthwhile and entertaining. A heartwarming inspirational tale."—Kirkus "Equal parts social history and sports legend come to life . . . Of special interest for students of women's studies and a strong contender for a film adaptation. With high appeal to sports fans and historians, this hidden gem of a story deserves a place in all public library collections."—Library Journal, starred review "[A] surprising underdog story . . . They demonstrated the perseverance necessary to overcome the political and financial difficulties facing women in sports . . . Engaging storytelling."—Publishers Weekly "Long before the influence of Title IX, a small college in Oklahoma, under the direction of a volunteer coach, was actively involved in recruiting women athletes. Based on extensive research and told with the talented storytelling ability of the author, Dust Bowl Girls is an important and enjoyable story."—Virginia Peters, Ph.D., Former Coach of Women's Basketball and Director of Women's Intercollegiate Athletics at the University of Central Oklahoma, Edmond, Oklahoma "Dust Bowl Girls reads like something pulled from the imagination of a Hollywood dreamer. However, it is a true story of a group of Oklahoma Dust Bowl farm girls melded together by a one-legged coach into the finest basketball team of the Depression era. This epic sports story is the stuff of which legends are made." —W. Lynne Draper, Former President and CEO of the Jim Thorpe Association and the Oklahoma Sports Hall of Fame and recipient of the NFL Players Association National Award of Excellence "Fun. Heartwarming. The story of a little-known but important moment in the history of basketball and women's sports in general."—Erica Westly, author of Fastpitch: The Untold History of Softball and the Women Who Made the Game "For so long, women have been told they couldn't or shouldn't. In Dust Bowl Girls, Lydia Reeder tells the story of pioneers in women's sport who refused to listen. In a mix

of history and sports thriller, Reeder unearths the story a rag tag group of women - some of them teenagers - who took the first steps to proving women could be athletes too. It's an inspiring story.”—Jen A. Miller, author of *Running: A Love Story*“This is a multilayered history and a compelling story as the women who played basketball for OPC reveal much about their time and place. This one seemingly minor aspect of women’s sport in rural Oklahoma is one worth knowing and worth reading.”—NY Journal of Books“Destined to become a classic of sports literature.”—Patrick B. McGuigan, *CapitolBeatOK* “A compelling, heartwarming story of a group of college students determined to accomplish the impossible. This is a book you can’t put down.”—The Denver Post“If you are a sports fan and don’t know the story of the Oklahoma Presbyterian College Cardinals from Durant, do yourself a favor and pick up the new book *Dust Bowl Girls*... (It’s) another great sports story about an underdog whose triumphs inspired a community that badly needed a lift in the midst of hard economic times. I can’t wait for the movie.”—The Oklahoman “A vivid, compelling story.” —TheWichita Eagle