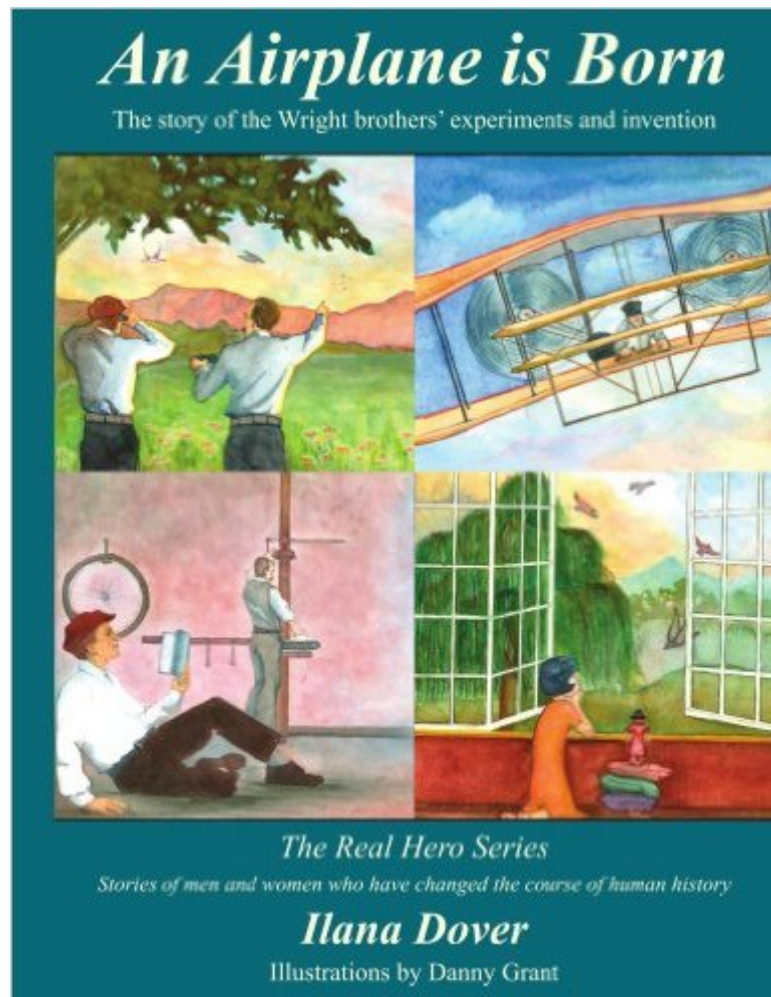


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# An Airplane Is Born: The Story Of The Wright Brothers' Experiments And Invention (Real Hero)



## Synopsis

This book tells the story of the Wright brothers' invention of a heavier-than-air powered flying machine. It is told from the perspective of a curious modern day child and shows how the Wright brothers' perseverance, independence, and tenacious pursuit of new knowledge lead to this magnificent achievement. It is the first book in the Real Hero series of fictionalized biographical stories for young children.

## Book Information

Series: Real Hero

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## Customer Reviews

The most important aspect of this book about the Wright brothers' invention of the airplane is the inspiring lesson it imparts to its young readers -- 'the Wright brothers' perseverance, independence, and tenacious pursuit of new knowledge lead to this magnificent achievement.' As a former teacher of young children, I wholeheartedly recommend "An Airplane is Born". This is a beautifully illustrated book and the first in a series about real heroes that is both well-written and inspiring. The story about the Wright brothers is told by a mother in answer to her very inquisitive daughter and, therefore, is one children can easily appreciate. Even as an adult, I found that the way the story is told compelled me to read from page to page until I had finished the book.

Young children are captivated by stories of imaginary heroes and heroines whose struggles and successes are set in mythical lands or ancient times. But where does the very young child learn about real-life heroes, significant human achievements, and dramatic life events? Too often the answer is nowhere--or at least nowhere reliable. Long-time California Montessori teacher Ilana

Dover aims to remedy that with the Real Heroes book series. Subtitled "stories of men and women who have changed the course of human history," this series is designed to introduce children under age eight to the wonders and struggles of great inventors, business people, and innovators of all stripes--and to motivate youngsters to achieve great things themselves. Meant to be read aloud to children, the first book in the series, *An Airplane Is Born*, is about Wilbur and Orville Wright. The Wright brothers' story is itself framed within the tale of another good role model: a bright daughter asking her mother questions about how things work. This is a lovely book. Carefully researched and crafted to convey basic facts, it highlights, through dramatic storytelling, the Wright brothers' curiosity, ambition, and perseverance...The text, characterized by simple, developmentally appropriate sentence structures, sometimes challenges the child with more difficult words, like "absurd," and even mathematical concepts: "It had double-layered wings spanning 17 feet!" Such passages are intended to prompt curious questions from child to parent...This is part of a full-length review I wrote for this book in *The New Individualist* magazine. You can read the entire review in the November, 2006 issue and later online at their website.

Ms. Dover is helping fill a need in our culture for models of such virtues as perseverance, developing one's mind, rationality, independence and ambition, presented in a way so engaging for children that they are drawn in from the first page. A child with an inquisitive mind can immediately identify with the child whose mother tells her the story of two unusual and delightful achievers. Bright children are hungry for heroes and gobble up stories like this; this is a great gift! The book is full of interesting facts which give children a sense of history as well as details on the struggles and eventual success of Orville and Wilber Wright, but flows in a way that is not overwhelming to children. I hope there will be more books forthcoming.

Confused about why educated, capable parents in 21st century America encourage their daughters to identify with princesses and their sons to identify with superheroes? Me too! Ms. Dover has captured the essence of the human spirit for young children, who need to hear that imagination, reason, determination, perseverance, and self-reliance have made their lives possible. And just as important, who should hear that these are virtues that they can and should possess. Our five and seven year old daughters love this book; and we love to discuss it with them, incorporating the ideas and principles into our everyday conversations. We can't wait for the next book about Alexander Graham Bell. Our children need these kinds of role models---their parents, the historical creators, inventors, and producers, and authors such as Ms. Dover. *An Author is Born!*

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