



America's Girl: The Incredible Story of How Swimmer Gertrude Ederle Changed the Nation

Tim Dahlberg, Mary Ederle Ward, Brenda Greene

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America's Girl is an intimate look at the life and trials of Gertrude Ederle, who in 1926 not only became the first woman to swim across the English Channel, but broke the record set by men. The feat so thrilled America that it welcomed her home with a ticker tape parade that drew two million people. This fascinating portrait follows Ederle from her early days as a competitive swimmer through her gold medal triumph at the 1924 Olympics, to the first attempt the next year by Ederle to swim from France to England in frigid and turbulent waters, a feat that had been conquered by only five men up to that time.

This is also a stirring look at the go-go era of the 1920s, when the country was about to recognize that women not only could vote, but compete on an international scale as athletes. At the height of Prohibition, Ederle's triumph over the formidable Channel was a triumph for women everywhere.

America's Girl immerses readers in a pivotal era of American history and brings to life the spirit of that time.

Winner of the 2010 International Swimming Hall of Fame Buck Dawson Authors Award.

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Irene Wang:

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