

Around the World in 72 Days

Jason Marks

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Jason Marks : Around the World in 72 Days before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Around the World in 72 Days:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Publicity Race Around the World By Reading in the Garden Around the World in 72 Days by Jason Marks is a short biography that recounts the amazing journeys of reporter Nellie Bly (Elizabeth Cochrane) from the New York World newspaper and associate editor Elizabeth Bisland from Cosmopolitan

Magazine as they attempt to race each other around the world in 72 days. The year is 1889 and as a publicity stunt New York World newspaper decides to send a female reporter around the world to beat Phileas Fogg's fictional record of 80 days. Enter Nellie Bly. Cosmopolitan Magazine gets wind of this and wants in on the action. Enter Elizabeth Bisland. Nellie was a spunky go-getter. Elizabeth was a dignified Southern gentlewoman. Both were adventurous and daring considering that was the Victorian age where unescorted women were a bit of a novelty. The ladies were given almost no warning. Nellie had two days. Elizabeth had less than a day. Nellie brought only the dress she was wearing, an overcoat, her cold cream, and a couple of extra underwear in a bag that's smaller than my purse. Elizabeth came with a steamer trunk (more my style). Nellie headed east. Elizabeth headed west. Nellie, who didn't even know she was racing against another woman until she reached Hong Kong, took time to stop and visit Jules Verne, author of *Around the World in Eighty Days*, at his home in France. The women visited exotic countries and saw snake charmers, botanical gardens, and were carried on sedan chairs by coolies. It was an exciting adventure. Nellie even came home with a monkey. I really enjoyed this book, mainly because the story was true. The only thing I found a tad distracting was that the author referred to Jules Verne's main character as Phineas Fogg instead of Phileas Fogg. Regardless, it was an unforgettable once-in-a-lifetime trip, the stuff dreams are made of, or in this case, the stuff classic books are made of. Read other reviews at <http://readinginthegarden.blogspot.com>

This book, much of which recounts information compiled by Marks from the actual journals of Ms. Bly and Bisland, is a testament to the adventurous spirit of two women who became trailblazers. A must read for all those who are intrigued by events that influenced American history.

From the Publisher The ultimate picaresque romp...a crackerjack tale of two indomitable and resourceful young women circumnavigating the globe when the going was tough, male and unpredictable. --John Maxtone-Graham, author of *Titanic Survivor* Gay nineties travelogues still make juicy reading. Marks flavors his with romance, youth, ambition, and plenty of historical detail. Brush up on industrialist Americana and follow two enchanting young women around the world in 72 days. (76 for Elizabeth Bisland, the winsome loser.) --Katherine Green, *Small Press Dynamic* Nellie Bly and colorful Elizabeth Bisland pioneered as role models for women today. Both abounded in self-esteem and had strong self-identity. Their dauntless actions in this exciting tale helped launch the Feminist movement. --Jane Douglas Young, Ms. Foundation for Education and Communication Nellie By went East, Elizabeth Bisland went West; their personalities were equally diverse. Marks brings this out out beautifully. While they were both seasoned writers, they were quite different: Bly was a spunky adventurer, Bisland a feminine romantic. --Margaret Choudhury, *The Creative Woman*. A very exciting day-by-day account of two women racing around the world, one of whom was not well-known. The suspense is high and makes for riveting reading. --Hiley Ward, Editor Publisher The stories of Bly and Bisland, two independent pioneering women on their epoch-making journeys, are cleverly intercut by Marks. And two more disparate characters than Bly and Bisland are difficult to imagine...a tale of high drama well worth reading. --Book Page, *The Toledo Blade* High Victorian travel at its best...and worst. Two women of varying temperaments adrift on seas of masculine superiority. The triumph of feminine fortitude is not entirely unexpected. Sometimes erudite, always entertaining, this is one race in which the reader is the real winner. --John P. Eaton, author of *Titanic: Journey Through Time* As a publicity stunt in 1889, rival publishers sent two female journalists (spunky Nellie Bly and charming Elizabeth Bisland) on an around-the-world race. This entertaining account of that spirited competition should garner teen interest. --Booklist An entertaining story..A recommended purchase for travel and women studies collections. --Library Journal Jason Marks offers a fascinating and entertaining account of two American women journalists who raced each other around the world trying to beat the record set by fictional character Phileas Fogg in Jules Verne's *Around the World in Eighty Days*. --The Editors, *American History* magazine A good yarn....Certainly a great adventure that the two women took on their own -- although it's clear they were helped out by a great number of people along the way and it was at the instigation of two men in the first place. It makes me want to read Jules Verne's *Around the World in Eighty Days*. --Catherine O'Haire, formerly an editor with *Reader's Digest* History can be a lot of fun and Jason Marks has written a fascinating story about the race between Pulitzer's Nellie Bly and *Cosmopolitan's* Elizabeth Bisland, two journalists who defied the men-only-club of their time. The time is the 1880's and you didn't hop a jet. You did it the hard way. --Alan Caruba, *Bookviews on the Internet*