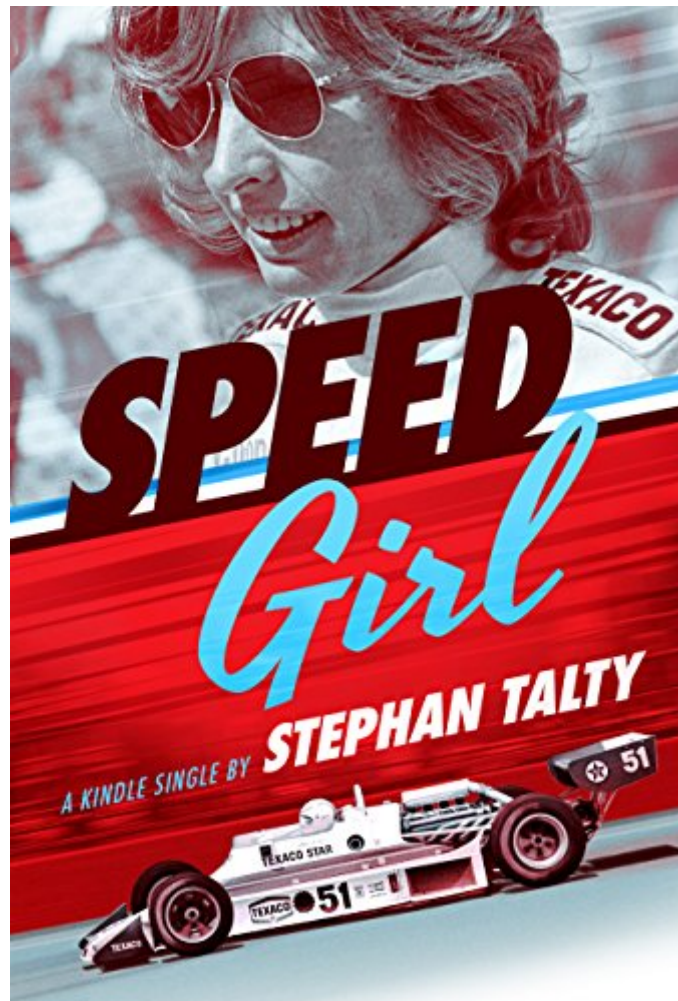




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# Speed Girl: Janet Guthrie And The Race That Changed Sports Forever [Kindle In Motion]



## Synopsis

Speed Girl is the true story of how aerospace engineer turned race-car driver Janet Guthrie triumphed over hostility, chauvinism "even sabotage" to become the first woman to finish the Indianapolis 500. It's the 1970s, and the fight for women's rights is gaining speed. In the sports world, Billie Jean King is breaking gender barriers on the tennis court. Janet Guthrie doesn't consider herself a "women's libber," but to racing's good ol' boys, she's a threat. When Guthrie makes a bid for Indy in 1976, the other drivers slam her mercilessly, even suggesting she's really a man. Fans heckle her, hoping she'll crash. Guthrie smiles through the pain and qualifies for Indy in 1978. And even a broken wrist and a rift on her team can't derail her "she finishes in the top ten. Bestselling author Stephan Litalien's riveting biography brings Guthrie's passion and persistence vividly to life. With gripping realism, Speed Girl immerses readers in the untold story of the woman who came to Indy a racer and left a trailblazer.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

An incredible story of determination and perseverance about the first woman to compete in the

Indianapolis 500. Less a story about racing, and more a tale of triumph over seemingly insurmountable odds. Janet Guthrie was a former aerospace engineer, and she was almost 40 by the time she got the opportunity to compete. A true and unsung American hero, akin to Sally Ride or Billy Jean King. I also LOVED the movies and beautiful pictures. Really added something different and exciting to the book. The cartoon that came to life was great!

Janet Guthrie literally paved the road for other women racers. I wish she could have gotten more support. I remember her races.

This was a great story about an awesome woman that even with the many obstacles she had to overcome made it in a man's racing world. The hostility and chauvinism and disrespect did not stop her. I received the book through Good Reads.

I love it.

I always knew who Janet Guthrie was, but never knew how strong she had to be. Standing up to the pressure thrown at her. I am even more impressed.

I am a "Title IX" kid. I was, and am, a Janet Guthrie admirer. I also worked as a Paramedic at a NASCAR track for over 25 years. I get it. Been there, done that. My first years in EMS and the racing world were filled with sexist pranks, rhetoric, and outright hate from both male peers and race teams. Ms. Guthrie was among my touchstones when it got really bad. And, I thank her for her vision, courage, and for trying to get society to understand that wanting to do something considered "traditionally" male does not make a woman a threat to testosterone. She's just a person who wants to do what makes her happy. Having said that, I was slightly disappointed in the pedantic nature of the writing style, and the lack of depth. OTOH, having met and worked ON a number of the other drivers mentioned therein, I am glad they were either smart enough not to voice their Neanderthal opinions in my presence, or to have manned up and "grown" their own over time.

This book provides insight into the trials and tribulations of the first woman to race at the prestigious Indianapolis 500. Ms. Guthrie shined with her determination to overcome the seemingly impossible task of securing a ride in a car suitable to win. While the story is interesting, I found it did not contain the desirable level of depth I was expecting. My family has a long history in professional auto racing

and I didn't feel the grit and grime that is always present in real life. The story seemed like I was reading a G rated article in a woman's magazine. I think the author missed a great opportunity to share an enriched and realistic insight into quite possibly the most courageous driver of all times.

Such a very interesting book about a woman I have admired for many years. The only woman who had the car to win has been Danica and she was not the driver that Janet Guthrie was. Sara Fisher is another one who had trouble getting sponsorships to run the races to win or be competitive. Janet had even less but she inspired many young women to compete when society told them to sit down and shut up.

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