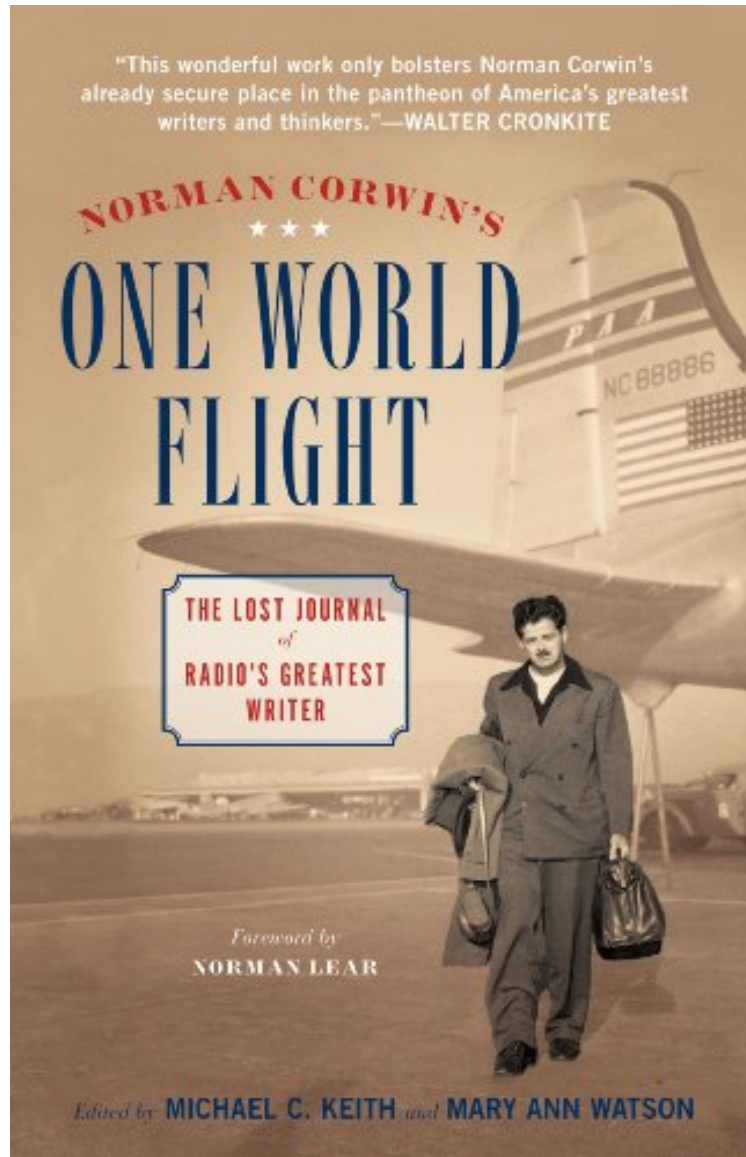


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Norman Corwin's One World Flight: The Lost Journal of Radio's Greatest Writer

Mary Ann Watson

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#2023643 in Books Bloomsbury Academic 2009-09-15 2009-09-01 Original language: English PDF # 1 8.77 x .91 x 5.721, 1.10 #File Name: 0826434118232 pages Great product! | File size: 29.Mb

Mary Ann Watson : Norman Corwin's One World Flight: The Lost Journal of Radio's Greatest Writer before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Norman Corwin's One World Flight: The Lost Journal of Radio's Greatest Writer:

9 of 9 people found the following review helpful. Inspirational Thinking By Thomas A. Mascaro Corwin delights by

putting the reader in his airplane and sharing his enthusiasm and sense of wonder. Approaching Fuji, flying along Japan's coast, spotting the peak above the clouds, he writes: "I went up to the cockpit to sight the old bird. The captain obligingly flew us right up to, over, and around Fuji--and it was one of the top thrills of all the flying I have ever done. The mountain's crater is tilted at a sharp angle, and so was the plane. The result was a fascinating geometrical-spatial-topographical orgy." He makes visual his humility, as in contrasting his bearded, sleepy self to a "fresh" and "bright" Martha Gellhorn (then Mrs. Ernest Hemingway), after a twelve-hour flight. The mark of this remarkable journal, though, is the wedding of inspirational thinking with meaningful, durable writing. We should all appreciate our collective social geography as Corwin does in his *One World Flight*.³ of 3 people found the following review helpful. A lost journal now found written by a great writer--Norman Corwin. By Gunther Purdue A found treasure by a national treasure.² of 2 people found the following review helpful. Five Stars By Customer Interesting reading about a man who made radio what it was for many decades.

In 1946, legendary broadcaster Norman Corwin traveled to 17 countries to document the postwar world for the radio series, *One World Flight*. Here, recently discovered and now published for the first time, is his personal journal of that historic trip. A towering figure in broadcast history, Norman Corwin has long been known as "Radio's Poet Laureate." In the late 1930s, a creative revolution was underway in the medium. What some people still called "the wireless" was maturing from a novelty into an art form. After a ten-year career as a newspaperman, columnist, and critic—which began at the age of 17—Corwin joined the ranks of aural provocateurs such as Archibald MacLeish, Arch Oboler, and Orson Welles. Toward the end of 1944, with an Allied victory in Europe apparently assured, CBS asked Corwin to prepare a program celebrating the anticipated event. On May 8, 1945, just after the collapse of Germany, CBS aired *On a Note of Triumph*, an epic aural mosaic. This program is considered to be the climax of the luminous period in radio history when writing of high merit, produced with consummate skill was nurtured and protected from commercial interference. After the broadcast, phone calls and letters of praise flooded the network, including a letter from Carl Sandburg calling *On a Note of Triumph* "one of the all-time great American poems." Corwin went on to win the first Wendell Willkie Award—a trip around the world sponsored by Freedom House and the Common Council for American Unity. Corwin accepted the Willkie Award on the condition it would be a working trip. He wanted the opportunity to record people in various countries and develop a series of documentaries on the state of the postwar world. CBS offered full support. The thirteen-part series, *One World Flight*, aired in 1947. Norman Corwin's *One World Flight* provides the reader with an unrivaled perspective. During Corwin's travels to 17 countries in 1946, he kept a journal of his personal thoughts and observations. It was put in a drawer where it remained for decades. More than sixty years after the trip, media historian Michael Keith asked Corwin—who is now in his nineties—if he had kept a log or journal of his *One World* travels. He had, and his analysis of international communications still rings true today.

What a treasure for posterity that Norman Corwin's *One World Flight* journal has been found and 21st Century readers will be able to share this journey with him. Shortly after WWII, Corwin traveled the globe and produced a remarkable documentary series for CBS Radio. His personal journal entries, however, offer an even deeper dimension of his wisdom and humanity. Corwin's eloquent prose is breathtakingly incisive. This wonderful work only bolsters Norman Corwin's already secure place in the pantheon of America's greatest writers and thinkers. --Walter Cronkite How wonderful this manuscript was found! I was captivated by every word of Norman Corwin's "One World Flight" broadcasts. Norman is my dearest friend and greatest teacher, and I love him dearly. I wrote the *Martian Chronicles* for him. --Ray Bradbury There's nobody quite like Norman Corwin. Not only is he in love with the English language, but as a former reporter, he knows how to arrive at the who, what, where, and why. Now meld that with the poet power of a great artist and you have an American icon of profound persuasion. So, behold this found gem! Fine wine, fine whiskey and fine wisdom are distilled. Dis still is the man! --William Shatner, Actor "Norman Corwin's *One World Flight* details just one chapter of a fascinating life and career that have spanned nearly a century of global upheaval and change. Norman saw it all and told the rest of us about it—a master storyteller, who, during the Golden Age of Radio, rode high atop the airwaves, crafting skilfully woven tales of poetry and drama that entertained and rallied millions to the cause of freedom." "When radio was king, Norman Corwin was its Prime Minister. Treasures such as this book will last as long as there is the spoken word."