

# The True Story of America's Most Famous Clipper Ship and the Woman Who Guided Her

In 1851, the Flying Cloud set sail from New York City on a record-breaking journey around the world. The ship was the fastest clipper ship ever built, and her captain, Eleanor Creesy, was the first woman to command a major American sailing vessel.



## Flying Cloud: The True Story of America's Most Famous Clipper Ship and the Woman Who Guided Her

by David W. Shaw

★★★★☆ 4.6 out of 5

Language : English  
File size : 1808 KB  
Text-to-Speech : Enabled  
Screen Reader : Supported  
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled  
Word Wise : Enabled  
Print length : 336 pages



The Flying Cloud's journey was an incredible feat of seamanship. The ship sailed over 60,000 miles in just over 10 months, setting a new record for the fastest circumnavigation of the globe. Creesy's leadership was instrumental in the ship's success. She was a skilled navigator and a tough disciplinarian, and she inspired her crew to work together as a team.

The Flying Cloud's journey was not without its challenges. The ship encountered storms, pirates, and disease. But Creesy never wavered in

her determination to complete the voyage. She was a true pioneer, and her story is an inspiration to all who dream of achieving great things.

## **The Flying Cloud**

The Flying Cloud was built in 1851 by the shipyard of Donald McKay in East Boston, Massachusetts. The ship was designed to be the fastest clipper ship ever built, and she lived up to her name. The Flying Cloud was a beautiful ship, with a sleek hull and towering masts. She was also incredibly fast, and she could sail over 20 knots in a strong wind.

The Flying Cloud's maiden voyage was from New York City to San Francisco. The ship made the journey in just over 89 days, setting a new record for the fastest passage around Cape Horn. The Flying Cloud continued to set records throughout her career. In 1854, she sailed from New York City to Liverpool in just 13 days and 22 hours, setting a new record for the fastest transatlantic crossing.

The Flying Cloud was one of the most successful clipper ships ever built. She made over 40 voyages around the world, and she carried millions of dollars worth of cargo. The Flying Cloud was also a popular tourist attraction, and people flocked to see the ship in port.

## **Eleanor Creesy**

Eleanor Creesy was born in 1811 in Boston, Massachusetts. She was the daughter of a sea captain, and she grew up with a love of the sea. Creesy began her sailing career at a young age, and she quickly proved to be a skilled navigator. In 1851, she was offered the command of the Flying Cloud, and she became the first woman to command a major American sailing vessel.

Creesy was a tough and determined captain. She was also a skilled diplomat, and she was able to resolve conflicts between her crew members and keep the ship running smoothly. Creesy was a natural leader, and she inspired her crew to work together as a team.

Creesy's leadership was instrumental in the Flying Cloud's success. She was a true pioneer, and she paved the way for other women to command sailing vessels.

### **The Flying Cloud's Journey**

The Flying Cloud's journey around the world was an incredible feat of seamanship. The ship sailed over 60,000 miles in just over 10 months, setting a new record for the fastest circumnavigation of the globe.

The Flying Cloud's journey began in New York City on July 1, 1851. The ship sailed around the Cape of Good Hope, across the Indian Ocean, and through the Sunda Strait. She then sailed across the Pacific Ocean to San Francisco. From San Francisco, the Flying Cloud sailed around Cape Horn and back to New York City.

The Flying Cloud's journey was not without its challenges. The ship encountered storms, pirates, and disease. But Creesy never wavered in her determination to complete the voyage. She was a true pioneer, and her story is an inspiration to all who dream of achieving great things.

### **The Flying Cloud's Legacy**

The Flying Cloud was one of the most successful clipper ships ever built. She made over 40 voyages around the world, and she carried millions of

dollars worth of cargo. The Flying Cloud was also a popular tourist attraction, and people flocked to see the ship in port.

The Flying Cloud was retired from service in 1885. She was sold to a British shipping company, and she continued to sail under the British flag for several years. In 1905, the Flying Cloud was sold to a German shipping company. The ship was used as a training vessel for German naval cadets.

The Flying Cloud was sunk by a German submarine in 1917. The ship was carrying a cargo of wheat from New York City to Liverpool when she was torpedoed. The Flying Cloud sank in just 15 minutes, and all 30 of her crew members were killed.

The Flying Cloud was a beautiful and historic ship. She was a symbol of American ingenuity and innovation. The Flying Cloud's story is an inspiration to all who dream of achieving great things.

The Flying Cloud was a true pioneer. She was the fastest clipper ship ever built, and she was the first major American sailing vessel to be commanded by a woman. The Flying Cloud's journey around the world was an incredible feat of seamanship, and her story is an inspiration to all who dream of achieving great things.



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