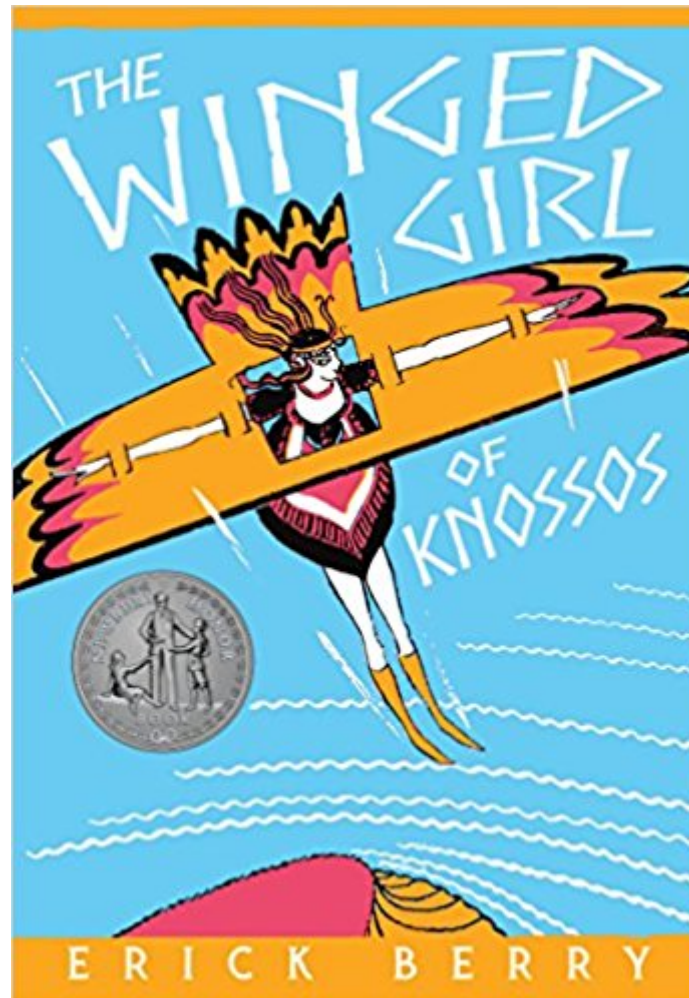




The book was found

# The Winged Girl Of Knossos



## Synopsis

"When push comes to shove, Katniss Everdeen has nothing on Inas, daughter of Daidalos." Betsy Bird Inas leaps at adventure. She dives to the bottom of the Aegean Sea to harvest sponges and somersaults over charging bulls in front of thousands of people. Best of all, she soars from cliffs wearing the glider-wings her father builds in secret, safe from the prying eyes of their neighbors, who think flying is sorcery. When Princess Ariadne seeks Inas's help to hatch a plan with Theseus, a young Greek who's held prisoner in the palace's Labyrinth, Inas doesn't realize how much adventure she is taking on. In fact, Inas suddenly finds that she may be about to lose everything she holds dear on the island of Crete. A fun, fast-paced retelling of the Greek myths of Icarus and Theseus, this 1934 Newbery Honor book was ahead of its time and is sure to find lots of fans among today's readers. Erick Berry was the pen name of Allena Champlin (1892-1974), an award-winning author and illustrator. She was born in New Bedford, Massachusetts, studied art in Paris, and spent time in Africa. She wrote nonfiction about life in Africa as well as historical fiction. She was married to author Herbert Best and illustrated many of his books in addition to her own. Betsy Bird is Evanston Public Library's Collection Development Manager. She has served on the Newbery Award committee and written for The Horn Book. Currently, she runs the blog 'A Fuse 8 Production' on the School Library Journal website.

## Book Information

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Myths & Legends > Greek & Roman #550 in Books > Teens > Literature & Fiction > Classics

## Customer Reviews

'Let's re-establish this book back where it truly belongs. In the canon as a classic of its time.' School Library Journal in its column "Recommendation from Under the

Radar""[I]ngenious reimagining of the myths of Theseus and Icarus with a bold, clever girl in the starring role. Brimming with adventure and historical detail..." ?The Wall Street Journal"A bold, adventurous story with timeless appeal."&#151;Midwest Book Review"Hair-raising moments aplenty move this story along. Gobs of rich detail about the Minoan world are woven in as well...This would make a dandy choice for voracious readers ages 9 and up." ?Orange Marmalade Books"In the wonderfully energetic Inas, [Berry has] created a heroine for the ages, one of the first and most memorable self-determining girls in the Newbery canon...A rediscovery that no fan of children?s historical fiction, myth-inspired adventure stories, or Newbery-award books should miss." ?The Emerald City Book Review

Erick Berry was the pen name of Allena Champlin (1892?1974), an award-winning author and illustrator. She was born in New Bedford, Massachusetts, studied art in Paris, and spent time in Africa. She wrote nonfiction about life in Africa as well as historical fiction. She was married to author Herbert Best and illustrated many of his books in addition to her own.

I have loved this story since I was a child;still do

Attractive and adventurous young female's adventures in Ancient Crete.Interesting idea and background historical facts. However, plot was somewhat too complex.A very different treatment of the legend of Theseus and Ariane.

I first encountered this book as a blogger who has a goal of reading through all of the Newbery Medalists and Honor Books. When researching this one, I kept seeing consistently how much people loved it and how disappointed they were that it wasn't more widely available. After finishing the book myself (which I had to obtain via interlibrary loan, as the initial printing is rare and hard to find), I was in complete agreement. Which is why I was so excited to learn that the book is being reprinted!Winged Girl is a retelling of the myth of Icarus and Daedalus, but from a Minoan (Cretan) perspective, rather than the Greek one to which we are accustomed. Our protagonist is Inas, daughter and only child of Diadalos, an energetic girl who makes herself at ease in all parts of society. She dives for sponges with the fishermen, she vaults bulls with the athletes, she observes and studies with her wise father, and is also at home among royalty when visiting her friend, the princess Ariadne.Inas has another close friend, a sailor named Kadmos who has recently returned home after a trip to Greece. The crew has brought slaves as a tribute, one of whom catches the eye

of the princess. Inas, who speaks the language because her mother was Greek, is asked to discreetly ascertain his condition and help facilitate communication between the two of them. But the powerful civilization of Crete is soon to encounter its downfall, and Inas will find herself pulled in multiple directions and her loyalty tested. This setting leads us into a possible real-life explanation to the myth of Icarus's wings and the Minotaur in the Labyrinth. Anyone who has an interest in ancient cultures and mythology should love this one! Inas is an engaging and sympathetic character who is easy to identify with.

I helped my mother order these two books and she received them very quickly and in good order.

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