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TO UNLEASH YOUR INNER MARY GARBER: *BE INSPIRED!*

Mary Garber was the first full-time woman sports writer and first female sports editor for a daily American newspaper.

In 1940, Mary began her career in journalism working for the *Twin City Sentinel* (later it became the *Winston-Salem Journal*) in North Carolina. Her shift to sports writing came in 1944 during World War II. After the war, Mary returned to reporting general news, but, in 1946, she was placed on the sports staff. As her career progressed, Mary covered many different sporting events. Even though she didn't have access to the locker room or the press box, Mary found other ways to get the story and gained respect for her writing and for her relentless persistence. In 1974, she was allowed access to the locker room.

Mary became *the first* many times during the course of her career. In 2002, she became the first woman to be inducted into the U.S. Basketball Writers Association Hall of Fame. In 2005, she was the first woman to receive the Associated Press Sports Editors Red Smith Award. That same year, she was the first woman to win the Associated Press Sports Editors Award. In 2008, Mary was inducted into the National Sportscasters and Sportswriters Association Hall of Fame. Each year, the Association for Women in Sports Media presents the *Mary Garber Pioneering Award* for female role models in sports journalism.
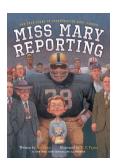
Mary retired in 1986 at the age of 70; however, she continued to write at the *Winston-Salem Journal* part time until 2002. She died in 2008 at the age of 92.

Mary Garber was a woman who loved and wrote about sports; in doing so, she became a trailblazer and a change maker. Her pioneering spirit is truly an inspiration!
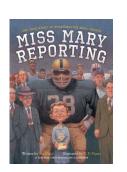
TO UNLEASH YOUR INNER MARY GARBER: *BE CURIOUS!*

Mary Garber stayed curious about her subjects. Use the following questions to interview someone you know!

1. What is your earliest memory?
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_____
_____

2. What is your favorite food? Why?
_____
_____
_____

3. Who is your hero? Why?
_____
_____
_____

4. What is your favorite book? Why?
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_____
_____

5. What makes you happy?
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