



# Unlearning to Fly

By Jennifer Brice

**Publication Date:** September ,

. | **cloth**  
**xx,** pages | 1/2 x 1/2  
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**Book Synopsis:**

A memoir of a bookworm growing up in Alaska recollecting stories of family and flying.

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## Book Description

*Unlearning to Fly* is the memoir of a bookworm growing up in Alaska—among people whose resilience, restlessness, and energy find their highest expression in winter ascents of Mount McKinley or first descents of wild rivers. These are the flying stories of a fearful pilot, one who admires but does not emulate the more daring exploits of her father and her friends.

Her accounts of Jennifer Brice—at times poignant, funny, and downright nerve-racking—are engaging recollections of deadly, near-deadly, and occasionally comic encounters between human nature and Nature writ large. The unlikely romance between her parents, the Good Friday earthquake, the Alaska oil boom, a stint as a newspaper reporter, and the trials of a student pilot form a few chapters in Brice's remarkable life.

These are the stories in which the physics and metaphors of flight—center of gravity, angle of attack, wake turbulence—illuminate Brice's remarkable life story, recounted in prose that takes wing.

## Pre-Publication Praise for *Unlearning to Fly*

"*Unlearning to Fly* is taut and well-paced, engaging and stunningly visual, original and wise. Alaska is still the frontier to many readers, and Brice unpacks some of our myths about Alaska with witty, down-to-earth candor. How many books have you read in recent years that were written by female pilots? Who are so blessedly brainy? This is a voice and a story we have not heard before."

—Natalia Rachel Singer, author of *Scraping By in the Big Eighties* and the editor of *Living North Country*

"There is a rigorous mind and a humane spirit behind these essays. Ms. Brice has a way of dignifying not only her own life but also the lives of other people, elevating even the most ordinary life and making it worthy of our attention. Readers will no doubt cherish this writer's adventures in an exciting place, but I think they will appreciate even more the collection's beautiful evocation of what is simultaneously most ordinary, and most thrilling, in human experience—our inevitable relationship to family, place, and self."

—Carrie Brown, author of *Rose's Garden*, *Confinement*, and *The Rope Walk*

## Post-Publication Praise

Please visit this book's [Web page](http://nebraskapress.unl.edu/product/Unlearning-to-Fly) (<http://nebraskapress.unl.edu/product/Unlearning-to-Fly>, .aspx) for the most current post-publication praise.

## Praise for Author's Previous Work

### Praise for *The Last Settlers*:

"*The Last Settlers* is both a researched piece of journalism and a meditation on the nature of frontier, of life on the edge, as it applies to the American character. . . . Throughout, a poetic sensibility informs the prose. . . . memorable and lovely."—Madeleine Blais



University of Nebraska Press



## Author Biography



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Jennifer Brice has taught creative nonfiction writing and literature at Colgate since \_\_\_\_\_ and once worked as a newspaper reporter. She is the author of *The Last Settlers*, a work of literary journalism about homesteaders in Alaska. Her work has appeared in such journals as the *Gettysburg Review*, *Manoa*, and *River Teeth*. Brice was born in Fairbanks, Alaska, in \_\_\_\_\_, and graduated from Smith College. Her \_\_\_\_\_ is from the University of Alaska Fairbanks. She now lives in Hamilton, New York, with her three daughters.

Photo credit: Robert Carroll ©

## Additional Information

### Events

For an up-to-date listing of author appearances, visit the Author Events and Book Signings page on the Web site at: <http://nebraskapress.unl.edu/Catalog/ProductEvents.aspx>

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# NEW from the University of Nebraska Press

## Memoir Describes Remarkable Lifetime of Adventure in Alaska

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**Jennifer Brice** is an associate professor of English at Colgate University and the author of *The Last Settlers*. Her work has appeared in such journals as the *Gettysburg Review*, *Manoa*, and *River Teeth*.

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