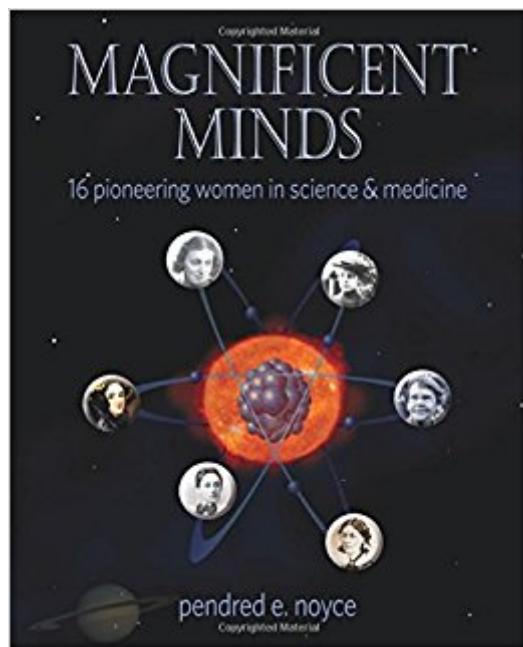


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# Magnificent Minds: 16 Pioneering Women In Science And Medicine



## Synopsis

Did you know that Florence Nightingale pioneered the use of statistics in public health? That Marie Curie is still the only person to have won the Nobel Prize in both physics and chemistry? And the only winner whose daughter also won a Nobel Prize? That in the 17th century, the most accomplished scholar in mathematical astronomy was a Polish woman, Maria Cunitz? This book, which grows out of an exhibit at the Grolier Club in New York, introduces the lives, sayings, and dreams of sixteen women over four centuries and chronicles their contributions to mathematics, physics, chemistry, astronomy, computer science, and medicine.

## Book Information

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Grade Level: 7 and up

## Customer Reviews

The exhibition celebrates [women scientists™] accomplishments, and makes it plain that they are all the more extraordinary given the deeply entrenched biases they had to overcome. There were parents who thought it improper or wasteful to educate girls; universities and professional societies that would not admit women; employers who either would not hire them or would not pay a fair wage. But there were also mentors and champions who opened doors and gave credit where it was due. "New York Times review of the Grolier Club exhibition that forms the basis of this book" The sixteen heroines of these pages dared their way to discovery. In her recounting of their achievements, Pendred Noyce assures the new generation of STEM-empowered girls that women

have a history in science as well as a future." • "Dava Sobel, author, *Longitude*, Galileo's Daughter, A More Perfect Heaven" • A wonderful collection of stories . . . The author provided explanation and context of both a scientific and a geopolitical nature. I hope the author will keep the stories coming. • Shirley Malcolm, head of Education and Human Resources, American Association for the Advancement of Science --This text refers to the Hardcover edition.

Pendred (Penny) Noyce is a physician, advocate for science education, and mother of five. Her past books for children include the award-winning Lexicon series from Scarlella Press and several Galactic Academy of Science adventures with inset mini-biographies of scientists from Tumblehome Learning.

Pendred Noyce has created a very inviting look into the historical world of women in science. Each woman contributed to her field against the greatest of odds. The paths that had to be single handedly forged by these pioneers was no small feat. As interesting a narrative as it is for the development of science I found it even more compelling as a voice for women's role in society. It paints a very clear picture of the systemic bias that is still evidenced in institutional sexism today. This is a must read foundation book for young men and women to begin to understand our society today. Great job, Pendred Noyce.

Good introduction to these top women of science. It is a perfect gift for a young girl who may be thinking about her career choices.

I appreciated the emphasis on studious preparation for work, how to obtain a mentor, traits to seek in a spouse who would be supportive.

Young lady interested in science really appreciated receiving a book about women in science.

Great book!

Got this for my scientist niece. Should be inspiring

It takes a little while for this book to get going -- the first 3 or 4 biographical sketches are about women so early in scientific history that there's not a whole lot of info about their lives and their

science is incomplete (historical), so it's not included in great detail. But it warms up after that. The last few are very good, with excellent stories and better science. This is a visual book, laid out like a magazine. There are breakout boxes to explain historical contexts or scientific ideas. There are quote boxes. Lots of pictures. The language is very simple. I'm terrible at guessing these things, but I would say it's about a 7th or 8th grade level book. In any case it should be a straightforward, interesting read for young people (either male or female) interested in science. That being said, it is more of a history book than a science book. Just the intro to the science is included. But knowing about their lives is important. Very enjoyable, easy read. I got a free copy of an early ebook version of this book from NetGalley in exchange for an honest review.

"Why has woman passion, intellect, moral activity--these three--and a place in society where no one of the three can be exercised?" Florence Nightingale in "Cassandra" Florence Nightingale conjurers up an image of a compassionate woman tenderly caring for war wounded men. She is remembered as a nurse--a role consistent with social expectations of women as mothers and nurturers. We may know that she revolutionized hospital care and inspired the founding of the Red Cross, but how many of us know that she loved mathematics and employed statistics in her research and created pie charts for her reports? Or that 'Crimean fever' left her in extreme pain and often bedridden while she continued her crusade? Nightingale was the founder of modern nursing based on evidence and experience--and mathematics. Nightingale was selfless and devout, like the Victorian model of womanhood. But her brilliant mind and willingness to go into the filth and gore of the battlefield and hospital instead of expected marriage and motherhood set her apart as a 'remarkable woman'. Pendred Noyce's book *Magnificent Minds: 16 Remarkable Women in Science & Medicine* considers women from across history whose curiosity drove them to achieve important advances in physics, astronomy, chemistry and medicine. The book is beautifully presented with an historical time-line for each woman, a concise biography including both her private life and career, illustrations, and side bar explanations. The achievements of each woman is understandably presented in context of their time and from a historical perspective. The women include: Louise Bourgeois Boursier, 1563-1626, France, Midwife Maria Cunitz, 1610-1664, Poland and Germany, Astronomer Marie Meurdrac, 1610-1680, France, Chemist Laura Bassi, 1711-1778, Italy, Physicist Augusta Ada Bryon, Countess Lovelace, 1815-1852, England, Computing Science Florence Nightingale, 1820-1910, England, Mathematics Mary Putman Jacobi, 1842-1906, United States, Medial Science Sophie Kovalevskaya, 1850-1891, Russia, Mathematics Marie Skłodowska Curie, 1867-1934, Poland and France, Physics Lise Meitner, 1878-1968, Austria, Physics Emmy Noether,

1882-1935, Germany, Mathematics Barbara McClintock, 1902-1992, United States, Medical Sciences Grace Murray Hopper, 1906-1992, United States, Computer Science Dorothy Crowfoot Hodgkin, 1910-1994, England, Chemistry Chien-Shiung Wu, 1912-1997, China and the United States, Physics Gertrude B. Elion, 1918-1999, United States, Chemistry Each loved a challenge and desperately wanted to work and contribute to improve society and expand our understanding of the world. I was kept interested throughout the book and it left me wanting to know more. Happily, the author includes a reading list so one can learn more about each woman. This is a wonderful book for classroom use or to share with young women to encourage their dreams. I received a free ebook through NetGalley in exchange for a fair and unbiased review.

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