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Curie (Life & Times)



Synopsis

Marie Curie made pioneering discoveries in the field of radioactivity and discovered two elements, Radium and Polonium, the latter having acquired new notoriety over one hundred years after Curie's discovery, when she named it in honour of her native Poland

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Another biography of Marie Curie would seem superfluous, but this one has some distinct advantages for readers seeking a short, intelligent, and accessible story of her life and her contributions to science. It also contains some interesting photographs helpful to the text and not readily available elsewhere. Using many quotations from letters written both by Marie Curie and her husband Pierre, Dry chronicles Curie's contributions to scientific thought as well as her private life and something of her political passion, all in a brisk but inviting text that invites the reader into the cultural context in which the Curies lived. Also included is an essay about Irene Joliot-Curie, their oldest daughter, who also received a Nobel Prize but suffered a period of neglect due to her political sympathies. The book's virtues are its scholarly scrupulousness combined with a graceful style, its substance despite its brevity, and a chronology of Curie's life and achievement paired with the larger cultural context, the works of contemporary thinkers, artists, and writers. Well-documented sources; suggestions for further reading that include both primary and secondary sources. Summing Up: Highly recommended. General readers; lower- and upper-division undergraduates. Copyright

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The Life & Times series tells the stories of those who have shaped our present and our past, from Beethoven to Curie, Dietrich to Wilde. Offering expert, eminently readable texts by distinguished authors, these handsomely designed books feature chronologies, full indices, and striking color photos and illustrations. Together, they form a superb modern library of biography.

If you have a teenage daughter, grand-daughter, niece, cousin (or a dear friend who has one), this book might ignite the spark you suspect might be there in that young girl. The subject of Curie is a girl who thought about things greater than herself and pursued them with passion, while ultimately succeeding beyond all probability by being a remarkable wife and mother. (As well as inadvertently committing suicide at the same time.) Curie ultimately was very good at both the pursuit of inquiry and life success. In spite of heart wrenching tragedies. One of her two daughters got a Nobel after their mother had two. And both daughters were remarkable themselves. We should all be so lucky. I have one daughter. She is the equal of any son. My sole regret in reading this book was the fact that it was published in 2003 when my daughter was just nine, but would have, and could have read this book had I known. And benefited from it. There are so many great Curie books out there. Of course. Search : 'Curie'. She was great. Any book written about her is by default great. They all bask in the glow of their subject. Sarah Dry's version offers the following benefits: *It is a succinct and engaging book covering Curie's entire life and times, that might capture and keep the attention of modern Facebook/Twitter/Snapchat thumb driven texting youth, especially and obviously girls. This backpack/iPad case suitable (5x7.5x.5") book has color and B&W images, (printed on glossy paper) which are all very interesting, and wonderful supporting and historical information, (highlighted in red excerpts throughout). So this book could keep young readers engaged. It is somewhat similar in layout to a magazine. But smarter. Actually much smarter. It could be the perfect lure to motivation for a young modern smart girl who actually reads books. *The author, Sarah Dry, went on to write The Newton Papers, (2014) which is a book vividly describing the history of the manuscripts of Isaac Newton, who is of the same ilk as Marie Curie except male. Sexual equality baby! *This book, last I checked on , is still first edition. Glossy paper, b&w and color images, stitched, and compact. They are very nice. Mine is now an heirloom. For my daughter. Who is just too damn busy to read it now.

Well written and edited. Comprehensive yet succinct. Relevant photos. Essay about Irene an

excellent feature.

This book goes beyond discussing the scientific achievements of Marie Curie, as well as the many tragedies she had to go through in life. It also focuses on her early life as a young Polish patriot under the oppressive heel of Russian rule. The young Curie describes attending a kulig, a traditional Polish sleigh party that was recognizably an act of resistance against Russian cultural domination. As a schoolgirl, the Marie Curie would walk to Saxony Square in Warsaw and spit on the obelisk set up by the Russia tsar. When she was older, Curie attended the "Floating University", an underground academy that held secret classes in living rooms and meeting halls. Not mentioned is the fact that the "floating university" was revived after the Germans conquered Poland during WWII and abolished all higher learning for Poles. A stirring read!

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