The History and the Literature: *Lessons in Chemistry*

Diane and Stan Henderson
University of Cincinnati Osher
February 23, 2024

The History

Overview

- Indigenous and Historical Roots
- The First Wave of Feminism 1848-1960s: Property rights, divorce, votes
- The Second Wave of Feminism 1960s-1990s: Sexuality, family, the workplace, reproductive rights, and domestic violence

A Founding Mother Speaks Her Mind



G. Stuart, 1800 Official White House Portrait



Unknown artist after M. Brown, 1785

"Remember the Ladies, and be more favorable to them than your ancestors. Do not put such unlimited power into the hands of the Husbands. Remember all Men would be tyrants if they could. If particular care and attention is not paid to the Ladies we are determined to foment a Rebellion and will not hold ourselves bound by any Laws in which we have no voice or Representation."

Abigail to John Adams, March 31, 1776

John replied, "I cannot but laugh....We know better than to repeal our Masculine systems."

Women in 18th and 19th Century America

- Women were under authority of their husband, based on religious grounds
- Considered "dead in the law" under the concept of coverture, married women could not vote, sue or be sued, sit on a jury, or exercise any of the rights of a legal being.
- A wife also lost control of her body.
  - She had the legal obligation to submit to her husband's sexual demands
  - Husbands had the legal right to beat disobedient wives
  - Women had no legal rights for or authority over their children
  - Marriage was a covenant with God which no woman had a right to break, even if her life was in danger from a violent husband

Indigenous Women Offer Another Model



- Haudenosaunee (Iroquois Confederation) peoples' matrilineal society developed by 1000 BCE
- Women:
  - Chose the Chief
  - Held political office
  - Helped form consensus
  - Controlled property
- Children belonged to mother's clan



The organizers of the first Woman's Convention in Seneca Falls knew Haudenosaunee women and their matrilinear society. This drawing echoes scholarly analysis that First Wave Feminists' thinking was influenced by the even earlier feminists of the Iroquois.

Seating Inspires a Movement



"The Anti-slavery Society Convention"
Benjamin Robert Haydon, 1841

- The first World Anti-slavery Convention was held in London in 1840
- American abolitionists include many women
- The World Convention made women spectators
- Lucretia Mott, a delegate denied a seat, met Elizabeth Cady Stanton, on her honeymoon, in the gallery
- Outraged, they agreed to hold an American convention on women's rights

The Moralist



Lucretia Mott in 1841

Lucretia Mott was a major figure in the abolitionist and women's movements in the 19th century. Raised as a Quaker, which stressed the equality of all people, she was an active member of William Lloyd Garrison's American Anti-Slavery Society, and she became a spokesperson for both abolition and women's rights. She was a mentor and active partner to many in the women's movement, particularly so to Elizabeth Cady Stanton.

D. Michal

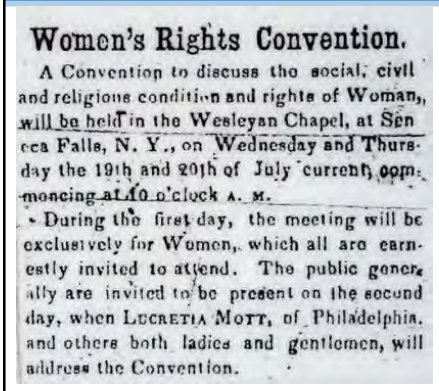
The Theoretician

Elizabeth Cady Stanton was one of the pillars of the women's movement for more than 50 years. She was also closely associated with the abolitionist movement, supporting the 13th Amendment ending slavery, but she opposed the 14th and 15th Amendments because they did not include women's suffrage. She was an outstanding orator who spoke on a variety of women's issues, even as suffrage increasingly dominated the women's movement. She was also a prolific author, writing three volumes of the *History of Woman's Suffrage,* and the controversial *Woman's Bible.*

D. Michal



Elizabeth Cady Stanton in 1848 with her two of her three sons



Women's Rights Convention.

A Convention to discuss the social, civil and religious condition and rights of Woman, will be held in the Wesleyan Chapel, at Seneca Falls, N. Y., on Wednesday and Thursday the 19th and 20th of July current, commencing at 10 o'clock A. M.

During the first day, the meeting will be exclusively for Women, which all are earnestly invited to attend. The public generally are invited to be present on the second day, when LUCRETIA MOTT, of Philadelphia, and others both ladies and gentlemen, will address the Convention.

Along with Mary Ann M'Clintock, Martha Coffin Wright, and Jane Hunt, Mott and Stanton put together a convention—on short notice—to discuss "conditions and rights of Woman" in Seneca Falls.

The site was the Wesleyan Chapel, the only sizable facility that would allow a woman's meeting. 300 persons (mostly women but some men) attended. Lucretia Mott was the main draw. The present-day Women's Hall of Fame sits behind the historic chapel.



"We are assembled to protest against a form of government, existing without the consent of the governed—to declare our right to be free as man is free, to be represented in the government which we are taxed to support, to have such disgraceful laws as give man the power to chastise and imprison his wife, to take the wages which she earns, the property which she inherits, and, in case of separation, the children of her love."

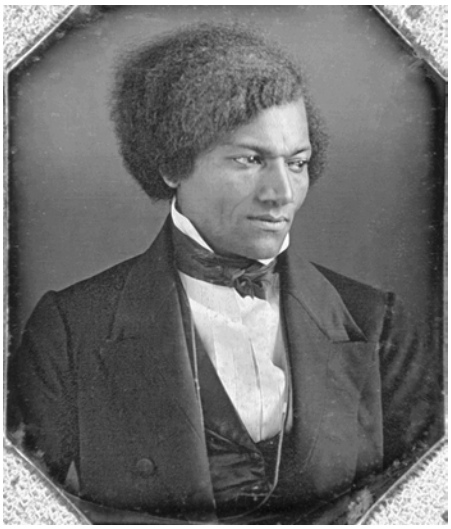
From Seneca Falls Declaration of Sentiments, modeled on the Declaration of Independence



19th Century drawing of Stanton presenting the Declaration of Sentiments to the Convention. James Mott sits in the presiding officer's chair; Lucretia is beside him.

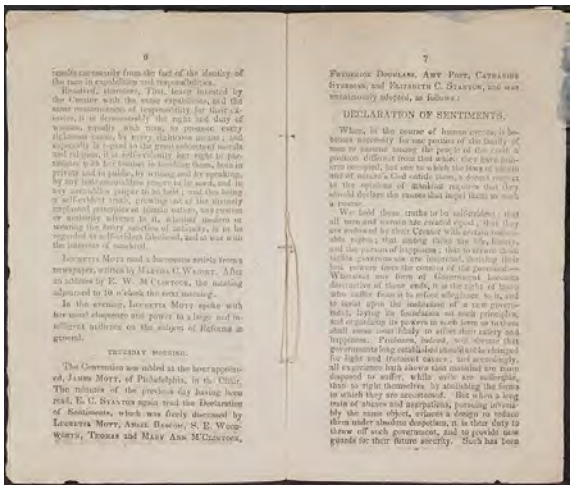
Included in the 12 Resolutions:

- That woman is man's equal
- That it is time "she should move in the enlarged sphere that her great Creator has assigned her"
- That it is the duty of women…to secure their "sacred right to the elective franchise"
- That success depends on securing to woman an "equal participation with men in the various trades, professions, and commerce"



Frederick Douglass in 1840s

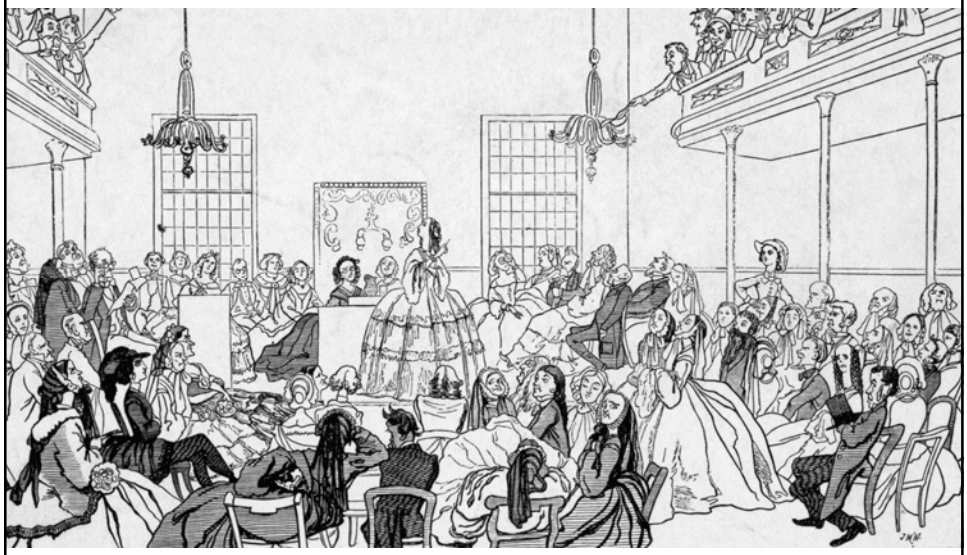
- Most controversial resolution was voting; Mott was opposed: "Why, Lizzie, thee will make us ridiculous"
- Frederick Douglass spoke in favor, saying that he could not accept the right to vote as a Black man if women could not also claim that right and that the world would be a better place if women were involved in the political sphere
- His support carried the day



DECLARATION OF SENTIMENTS.

Douglass used his *North Star* newspaper presses in Rochester to print the Declaration of Sentiments and Resolutions from the notes and minutes of the Convention that Stanton and a committee prepared.

The minutes and notes themselves do not survive.



Contemporary cartoon with caption "Ye orator of ye day denouncing ye lords of creation."

A more nuanced cartoon, likely drawn long after the Convention, shows the influences and purposes of the Women's Movement embodied in the Seneca Falls Convention: Stanton and Mott ride the Declaration of Sentiments as a boat, using their pens to steer down the stream of abolitionism with property, suffrage, education, and employment rights bobbing behind. The falls of historical influences (the Great Awakening, Market Revolution, and 1776) plunge into the pool of equality.





Elizabeth Cady Stanton and Frederick Douglass



James and Lucretia Mott

The major players in the Seneca Falls Convention, as portrayed by sculptor Lloyd Lillie, in the Women's Rights National Historical Park visitor's center.



Thomas and Mary Ann M'clintock



Jane Hunt



Martha Coffin Wright

The Organizer



Susan B. Anthony in 1848

Susan B. Anthony, was the face of the Women's Movement whose strategic and organizational skills gave life to Stanton's ideas. Like Mott and Stanton, she came from a Quaker background and abolitionist passion. As an activist, she was arrested in 1872 for attempting to vote, and protested at the 1876 Centennial Exposition with the cry, "Men, their rights, and nothing more; women, their rights, and nothing less."

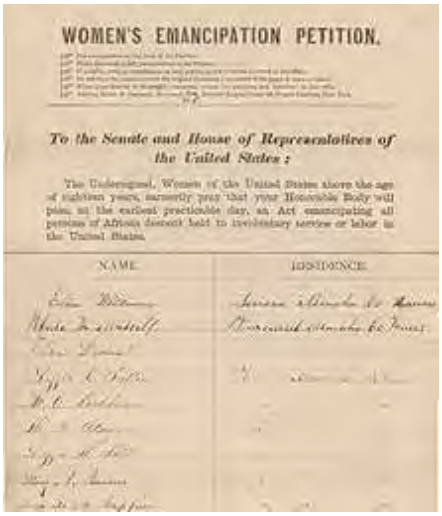
N. Hayward



Statue in Seneca Falls depicting the introduction of Susan B. Anthony (left) to Elizabeth Cady Stanton (r) by Amelia Bloomer (center) in 1851.
Note that Amelia and Elizabeth are wearing the shorter dresses and pantaloons named for Amelia: Bloomers.

Women's National Loyal League

- In 1863, Stanton and Anthony founded the Women's Loyal National League, the first national women's political organization, to work to end the Civil War through emancipation.
- In the largest petition drive in the nation's history up to that time, the League collected nearly 400,000 signatures, one out of every 24 adults in the North, to support emancipation, a major push for passage of the 13th Amendment to end slavery.
- The League disbanded in 1864 after it became clear that the amendment would be approved.



WOMEN'S EMANCIPATION PETITION.

To the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States:

The Undersigned, Women of the United States above the age of eighteen years, earnestly pray that your Honorable Body will pass, at the earliest practicable day, an Act emancipating all persons of African descent held in involuntary service or labor in the United States.

NAME. RESIDENCE.

14th &15th Amendments Expose a Break

- Women's rights and abolitionism had been allies throughout the first 60 years of the 19th century
- When the 15th Amendment failed to include women, Stanton and Anthony refused to support it
- Stanton warned against letting "the lower orders of Chinese, Africans, Germans, and Irish, with their low ideas of womanhood, to make laws for you…."
- She railed against votes for "Patrick and Sambo and Hans and Yung Tung who do not know the difference between a Monarchy and a Republic"

Fallout

- Close ally Frederick Douglass reproached Stanton, saying Black male suffrage was a matter of life and death
- Yet, Sojourner Truth agreed with Stanton: if black men voted they would be "masters over the women, and it will be just as bad as it was before"
- Stanton was unrepentant, justifying taking support from a white supremacist by saying she would take support from the devil himself for women's votes

Outcome: A Split in the Movement

- In 1869, two new organizations form
- One, led by Lucy Stone, wanted close ties with the GOP
- The other, led by Stanton and Anthony, wanted to move closer to Democrats and to focus on a wide range of women's issues
- The split was so bitter, it took 20 years for reconciliation as the National American Woman Suffrage Association (NAWSA) with Anthony as its key leader

A Woman of Many Firsts… and Much Controversy

Victoria Woodhull, the first woman to run for president and the first female stockbroker on Wall Street, was also a suffragist and free love advocate in the post-Civil War period. She was the first woman to testify before a congressional committee (in 1871), arguing women had the right to vote from the 14th and 15th Amendments. Stanton and Anthony embraced her in the women's movement but came to regret her involvement after she was arrested for revealing a prominent cleric's affair.

R. Edwards



Victoria Woodhull delivering her Memorial on Women's Suffrage before the House Judiciary Committee

Frank Leslie captured Woodhull's testimony for his *Illustrated Newspaper*. Stanton is seated behind Woodhull.

Bradwell v State of Illinois, 1873



Myra Bradwell, applied for admission to the Illinois bar but was denied because of coverture denying married women legal existence. She sued under Privileges and Immunities section of the 14th Amendment. The Supreme Court ruled law practice was not covered by the 14th Amendment.

Justice **Samuel F. Miller**, in the 8-1 decision, wrote, "The paramount destiny and mission of women are to fulfill the noble and benign offices of wife and mother. This is the law of the Creator."



Moving Suffrage to the National Stage



Aaron Sargent
Senator from California

In 1875 the Supreme Court ruled in *Minor v. Heppersett* that "the Constitution does not confer the right of suffrage upon anyone." This led Stanton and Anthony to focus on a Constitutional amendment on woman's suffrage. Using the 15th Amendment as a model, they enlisted **Sen. Sargent**, through his suffragist wife Ellen, to introduce their amendment in January 1878. What would eventually become the 19th Amendment would be introduced in every session of Congress for the next 40 years.

Woman's suffrage continued to be the butt of cartoons in the latter half of the 19th century. Here the disapproving males clearly think that women's dresses, sleeves, and hats are too wide to fit in the polling booths.



A Potent Partnership

A biographer said, "Stanton provided the ideas, rhetoric, and strategy; Anthony delivered the speeches, circulated petitions, and rented the halls. Anthony prodded and Stanton produced."

Stanton's husband said, "Susan stirred the puddings, Elizabeth stirred up Susan, and then Susan stirs up the world!"

Stanton herself said, "I forged the thunderbolts, she fired them."



They referred to each other as "Susan" and "Mrs. Stanton."

Where They Differed

- Stanton argued that Anthony focused only on suffrage and missed "women's religious and social bondage", which included:
  - Divorce: "Woman is in a transition period from slavery to freedom"
  - Religion: The Woman's Bible attacked how religion kept women down
  - Self-sovereignty: "No matter how much women prefer to lean, to be protected and supported, nor how much men desire to have them do so, they must make the voyage of life alone"

The Torch is Passed



Susan B. Anthony (seated c.) with her NAWSA presidential successor Carrie Chapman Catt (seated r) with Anna Howard Shaw (seated l), who succeeded Catt. Picture is ca. 1903.

The Chief



Carrie Chapman Catt
ca. 1917

Carrie Chapman Catt, the general-in-chief of the fight to ratify the 19th Amendment, first focused on voting rights when she realized her mother couldn't vote. She was the only woman in her class at Iowa State University. She became valued in the suffrage movement as an orator and organizer, moving into the leadership as "one of 'Aunt Susan's' girls". As president of NAWSA, she devised the "Winning Plan" for ratification, focusing on both state-by-state and national efforts. She did not approve of more militant methods, which led to another split in the movement. After ratification, she founded the League of Women Voters.

D. Michal

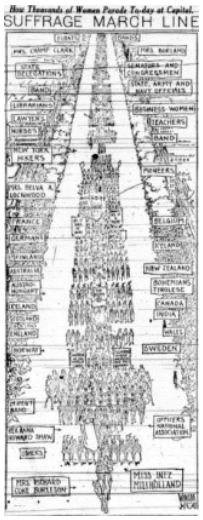
The Militant

Alice Paul was arguably the most brilliant of the suffragists with 3 academic and 3 law degrees. During time in England, she became adept at British suffragists' use of parades and protests, skills she would use to great effect when she returned to the States. In 1913, she organized the first Women's March in Washington DC. Her more militant and nationally focused push for voting rights, led her to organize 1000 women into 18 months of picketing at the White House. Hundreds were arrested and abused in jail. After ratification of the 19th Amendment, Paul wrote the Equal Rights Amendment in 1923.

D. Michal



Alice Paul
ca. 1917





The Suffrage March of 1913 was Paul's brainchild. It included 8,000 marchers representing states, nations, colleges; 20 floats; multiple bands. A tableau of allegorical figures happened simultaneously. Paul deliberately chose March 3, the day before President-elect Woodrow Wilson's inauguration to send a message to the man who said suffragists were "totally abhorrent." He was not amused when his train arrived in DC with only a paltry group of college boys to serenade him.

The parade was led by the "beautifullest suffragette", Inez Milholland, on a white horse (below) with a giant sign behind that said, "We demand an Amendment enfranchising women." At the Treasury building, a German actress portrayed Columbia (right) in the tableau.





Not all went as planned. Worried that southerners would not march with Blacks, Paul tried to relegate Black delegates to the rear. Ida B. Wells (right) joined her Illinois state delegation instead. Crowds of mostly men were in DC for the inauguration, and the "horrible, howling mob" soon blocked the processional route (below).



Chicago *Daily Tribune* photograph, March 5, 1913



Police could not control the unruly crowds, and marchers were harassed and spat upon. Over 100 had to seek medical attention. The publicity brought sympathy to the suffragists.



WOMAN'S JOURNAL
AND SUFFRAGE NEWS

PARADE STRUGGLES TO VICTORY DESPITE DISGRACEFUL SCENES

Nation Aroused by Open Insults to Women—Caste Wins Popular Sympathy—Congress Orders Investigation—Striking Object Lesson

AMENDMENT WINS IN NEW JERSEY

MICHIGAN AGAIN CAMPAIGN STATE

Front page parade story in the NAWSA house organ speaks of triumph in spite of obstacles.

Paul felt the harassment was fortuitous: an unimpeded parade would have been in the papers for a day and then forgotten. This one was in the papers for weeks as a Congressional committee investigated the harassment and police inaction.

This was the first of many suffrage parades to follow, keeping up pressure for a suffrage amendment. And it would be a model for years to come by many more causes.





Protest!

In 1916, Paul split from NAWSA for more militancy. In January 1917, Paul organized daily picketing of the White House to pressure Woodrow Wilson. The banners used the last words of Inez Milholland, who had died on a suffrage speaking tour. Over 1000 suffragists participated over the course of a year.





At first, the public was relatively sympathetic, but after the US entered World War I, the protesters were seen as unpatriotic. Police began arresting them for "obstructing the sidewalk." Men, like the group above destroying a banner, harassed the picketers. Eventually picketers received prison terms where they were abused. When they began hunger strikes, they were force-fed. This abuse shifted public sympathy back to the picketers.



Alice Burns imprisoned with 33 others in Virginia's notorious Occoquan Workhouse



Dora Lewis, a wealthy Philadelphia widow, is released from prison after five days of huger strike; Alice Paul and others were force fed by prison guards during the hunger strike.

Alice Paul awarded these "Jailed for Freedom" lapel pins to 170 picketers who were imprisoned for the cause.



The Impact of Protest and Politics

- The suffrage amendment finally passed in the House of Representatives on January 10, 1918, with one vote to spare, exactly 40 years after it was first introduced and exactly one year after the first pickets appeared at the White House gates; it failed in the Senate by one
- In 1919, after a NAWSA campaign to elect pro-suffrage candidates, it passed in the Senate by two votes on June 4 and went to the states for ratification





Carrie Chapman Catt, ca. 1917

The Susan B. Anthony Amendment, as it was popularly called, required the approval of 36 state legislatures (3/4 of the then 48 states) to be ratified.

Catt's strategy for NAWSA was to push only where there was the highest chance of success for ratification.

Opponents adopted the strategy of building negative momentum and soon had 10 Southern states in the no column.

The governors of Connecticut and Vermont refused to call their legislatures into session to vote on the issue.

One more state loss and the amendment would be defeated.

Tennessee was the last chance for 36.



THE LAST FEW BUTTONS ARE ALWAYS THE HARDEST.

—Chapin in the St. Louis *Star*.

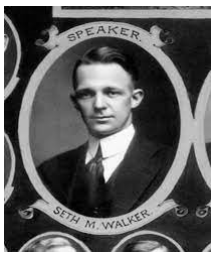
The Tennessee Political Landscape



Gov. Albert H. Roberts

The governor was conflicted in calling a special session to consider ratification: The Tennessee constitution required that a US constitutional amendment couldn't be voted on until after a subsequent election. Even though the Justice Department in DC ruled against it, it was still a potent barrier. Perhaps more important, he was facing a primary election and wanted to avoid controversy.

Walker was initially a yes but would change his position and become the leader of the "anti-suffs" in the House. Playing the race card, Walker exclaimed, "This is a white man's country!" and pedaled the claim that if women had the vote, southern Blacks would also demand it.



Speaker of the House
Seth M. Walker

Headquarters



An aid's telegraphed distress signal—"Regard outlook hopeless under present conditions"—brought Carrie Catt, the Chief, to Nashville's elegant Hermitage Hotel to take charge of the final battle: "Must stay indefinitely," she wired after her first day.



The anti-suff forces also checked into the Hermitage with headquarters staffed by Josephine Pearson (in white) waving a Confederate flag and a Confederate vet. Of greater importance: the "Jack Daniel's Suite" on the 8th floor where Prohibition-averse legislators could sample Jack "in the raw."

Presidential Politics





Both parties believed they would benefit in the 1920 election if women could vote, but the suffragists kept heat on for support in Tennessee. Above, Alice Paul meets with Democrat James Cox. Above right, a women's delegation at GOP Warren Harding's front porch campaign.



Harding's supportive telegram



Ratification passes in the Tennessee Senate easily on August 13, galvanizing both suffs and anti-suffs for the fight in the House of Representatives.

The Role of Race



Juno Frankie Pierce

Woman suffrage in the South was portrayed as a threat to white supremacy: women voting meant Black women voting for the GOP and the end of Jim Crow. The NWP would tell James Cox, the Democratic presidential candidate, that there were more white women in the South (10.6 M) than Black women and men combined (4.3 M) to shore up his support.

Frankie Pierce was instrumental in organizing Black women in Nashville and forged a "rare alliance" with the nascent Tennessee League of Women Voters for social issues. Still, she was kept in the background during the lead-up to the ratification vote.

Harry Burn, at 24 the youngest member of the legislature, had just voted to table the suffrage amendment in an effort to avoid having to take a stand. The motion to table was a tie, and Speaker Walker moved to a vote to pass, expecting the amendment to fail in another tie. Burn had a letter from his mother in his pocket that urged him "to be a good boy and vote for suffrage." He thought about his mother, a college-educated, civic-minded person, without the right to vote. When his name was called, his clear "AYE" sent the house into pandemonium and the Susan B. Anthony Amendment became the 19th Amendment.



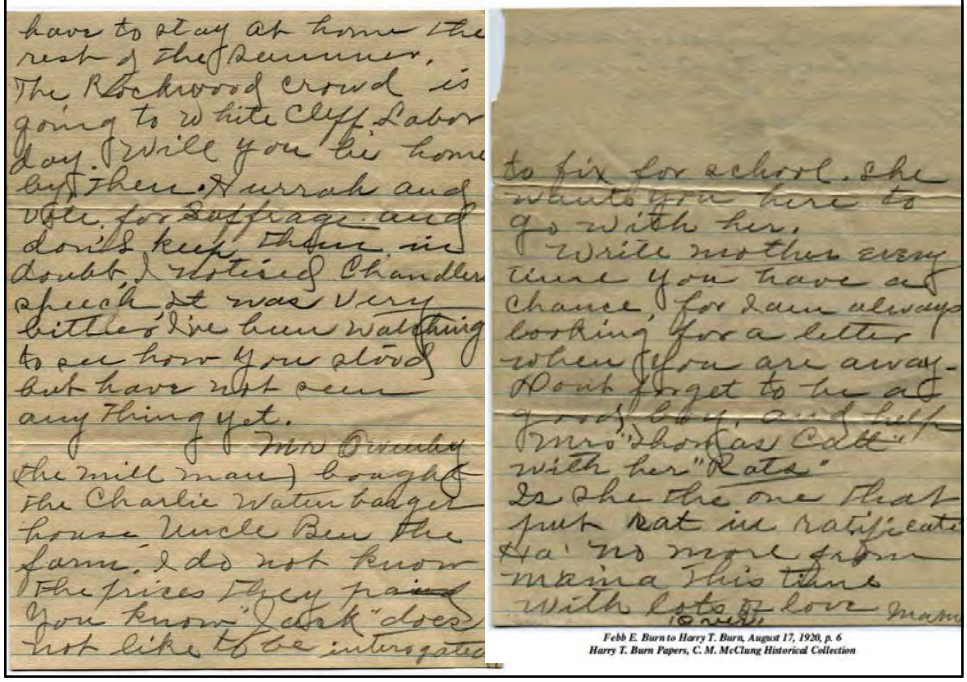
Harry T. Burn



Harry T. Burn Papers, C. M. McClung Historical Collection



Febb Ensminger Burn



have to stay at home the rest of the Summer. The Rockwood crowd is going to White Cliff Labor Day. Will you be home by then. Hurrah and vote for Suffrage and don't keep them in doubt. I noticed Chandler speech it was very bitter. We have been waiting to see how you voted but have not seen anything yet.

Mrs Dinsley (the mill man) bought the Charlie Watson house Uncle Ben the farm. I do not know the prices they paid. You know "Jack" does not like to be interrogated

to fix for school. She wants you here to go with her. Will mother every time you have a chance for I am always looking for a letter when you are away. Don't forget to be a good boy and help Mrs. Thomas Catt with her "Rats." Is she the one that just sat in ratification Ha' no more from mama this time With lots of love Mama

Febb E. Burn to Harry T. Burn, August 17, 1920, p. 6
Harry T. Burn Papers, C. M. McClung Historical Collection



Governor Roberts signs the ratification bill for transmittal to Washington

Gold, white, and purple were the colors of Paul's National Woman's Party



Celebration!





Catt is greeted in New York (above) with flowers from Gov. Al Smith (on the left). Paul (r) toasts the unfurled ratification banner she sewed in Washington with Prohibition-appropriate grape juice.

Legacy

Carrie Chapman Catt's legacy includes the founding of the League of Women Voters, which became the successor of the NAWAS. She served as its honorary president.

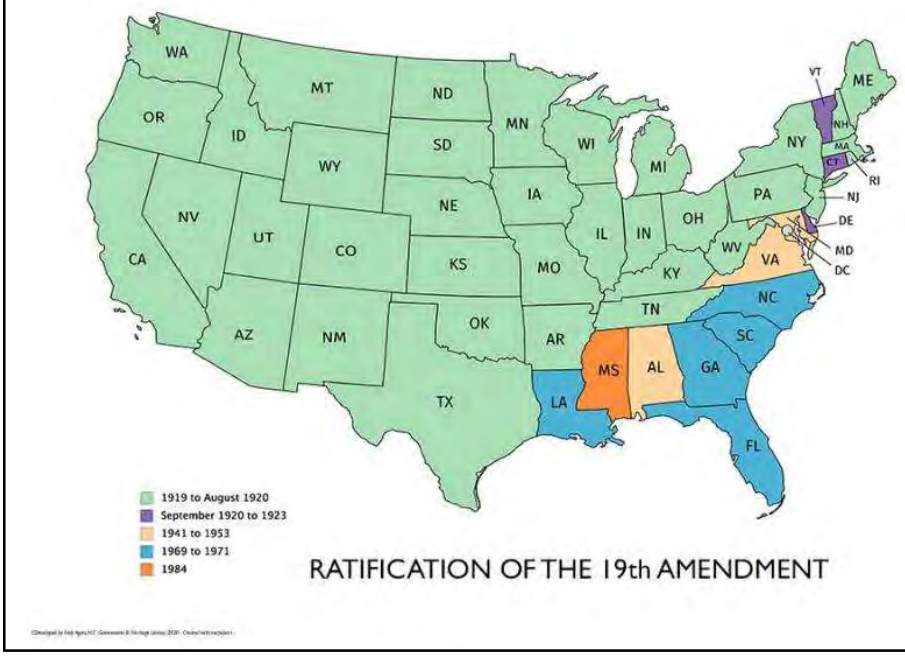
The Tennessee League would honor its "rare alliance" with Frankie Pierce by supporting her social agenda to fruition for the education of Black women.

Alice Paul wrote the Equal Rights Amendment in 1923, which has still not been ratified.

Harry Burn was pilloried for his vote, hired security for safety—BUT was re-elected to his seat in the House.



Alan LeQuire Nashville statue honoring, l-r, Sue White, Catt, Abby Milton, Ann Dudley, and Frankie Pierce. Catt is the non-Tennessean.





Women in War

As American men went off to war, the government heavily recruited women to replace them in war industry jobs with ads like these. The language of the ads spoke to women's ability to do the work just as well as men. 11.5 million women were working already in 1940, and 6.5 million joined them during the war. An estimated 50% of adult American women were working at the height of the war in 1943-44. This would reshape how many women thought of themselves.







Going Back to "Normal"

By 1945, the advertising was selling a different approach: A War Department brochure said, "A woman is merely a substitute, like using plastic for metal." Women workers were accused of doing unwomanly jobs and reminded that GI Joe would expect his job back when he got home. Women's magazine covers from 1942 (l) and 1946 (r) tell the story graphically. These magazines explained women's lives, telling them they were the domestic mainstay to support their leader and hero husband.









Suburbs Set the Stage for a Second Wave of the the Women's Movement

- Moving to the suburbs was "an ascent to an ever better style of living; but also…a retreat from earlier ambitions and standards" for women
- The more time-saving machines there were, the more things there were to do with them
- A "certain emotional malaise, bordering on depression" was afflicting American women: The Housewife's Syndrome
- And no one was talking about it

A Seminal Reunion



For her 15th reunion in 1957, Smith College alumna Bettye Goldstein, now a suburban housewife, surveyed her fellow 1942 alumnae for an article in McCall's.
The results were stunning: she found "doubt, frustration, anxiety, and resentment."

"It was a strange stirring, a sense of dissatisfaction, a yearning that women suffered in the middle of the twentieth century in the United States.... Each suburban wife struggled with it alone. She was afraid to ask of herself the silent question—'Is this all?'"



In this *New Yorker* cover, Betty Friedan, holding *The Feminine Mystique*, encounters a housewife washing her windows.

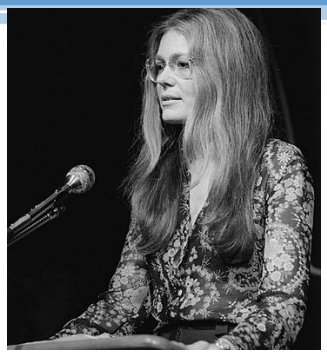
The resulting article about what the Smith alumnae had said was embraced by *McCall's* women editors, but ultimately turned down by their male superiors. *Ladies Home Journal* so rewrote it as to deny what the alumnae had told Bettye, and she pulled it. *Redbook's* response was, "Only the most neurotic housewife would identify with this." She decided to write a book instead.

Six years later, Betty Goldstein **Friedan** would publish *The Feminine Mystique*. It would become a handbook for a **Second Wave of feminism** of the Sixties and Seventies focused on sexuality, family, the workplace, reproductive rights, and domestic violence.

The Face of Feminism

Journalist, activist, feminist, **Gloria Steinem** became one of the most visible spokeswomen of the Second Wave. She struggled as a journalist with sexist editors that tried to relegate her to the "Women's pages". Her undercover article, "I was a Playboy Bunny," in 1963 detailed the sexism involved in Playboy Clubs. She established *Ms.* as an alternative to women's magazines that highlighted domesticity. She founded the National Women's Political Caucus with Friedan, Shirley Chisolm, Bella Abzug among others. She helped establish Take Our Daughters to Work Day in the 1990s to empower young girls learn about careers. She received the Presidential Medal of Freedom in 2013.

D. Michal



Gloria Steinem



First edition of *Ms.*

The Speech

"It is time we act to assure full equality of opportunity to those citizens who, although in a majority, suffer the restrictions that are commonly imposed on minorities, to women.

The Constitution [the Founders] wrote was designed to protect the rights of white, male citizens. As there were no black Founding Fathers, there were no founding mothers — a great pity, on both counts. It is not too late to complete the work they left undone. Today, here, we should start to do so."

Speech on the Floor of the US House of Representatives in support of the ERA, August 10, 1970



Congresswoman Shirley Chisholm, First Black woman to run for a major party presidential nomination, co-founder of the National Women's Political Caucus

A Stalled Ultimate Goal

The Equal Rights Amendment, first introduced in 1923, gained little traction in Congress until the 1960s. It was eventually endorsed by both political parties and was sent to the states in 1972 with a seven-year deadline for ratification. With opposition from conservative "family values" activists, it stalled three states shy of ratification. Congress extended the deadline (a move Alice Paul advised against), but some states began to rescind their original approvals. An additional three states have ratified, but the courts have ruled the deadline held.



Alice Paul, who wrote the original ERA in 1923, started a charm bracelet after the ERA was sent to the states in 1972, adding a charm for each state ratification. This is the first of four bracelets she had created before her death.

STOP ERA

Schlafly was an influential conservative voice in the 1970s, opposing feminism, abortion, and gay rights. She championed family values, channeling conservative religious sentiment. Her main target was the ERA with the slogan "STOP ERA" or Stop Taking Our Privileges. She claimed the ERA would make women eligible for the draft and **IN**eligible for Social Security benefits, among others. Her efforts were instrumental in eroding support for the ERA. She continued to oppose social causes, including same sex marriage, even after her son came out as gay. She said he agreed with her stance. She targeted political candidates who supported abortion and other "family values" topics.

A. Johnson



Phyllis Schlafly



Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg

On the Basis of Sex

Some of the aims of the ERA have been achieved, particularly through the groundbreaking legal arguments of **Justice Ginsburg**. As general counsel of the ACLU, she argued over 300 gender discrimination cases—six before the Supreme Court. Her novel argument was that the 14th Amendment's equal protection clause negated "males must be preferred to females" laws. She even argued that a lower age for women to buy beer discriminated against men to make the case for equity among the sexes (and won).

E. Blakemore



Sources

Blakemore, E. Ruth Bader Ginsburg's Landmark Opinions on Women's Rights https://www.history.com/news/ruth-bader-ginsburgs-landmark-opinions-womens-rights-supreme-court

Brandman, Mariana. "Victoria Woodhull." National Women's History Museum. 2022. https://www.womenshistory.org/education-resources/biographies/victoria-woodhull

Edwards, Rebecca. Early Women's Rights Activists Wanted Much More than Suffrage. https://www.history.com/news/early-womens-rights-movement-beyond-suffrage

Johnson, Arbora. "Phyllis Schlafly." National Women's History Museum. 2022. www.womenshistory.org/education-resources/biographies/phyllis-schlafly

Michals, Debra. "Alice Paul" National Women's History Museum. 2015. www.womenshistorymuseum.org/education-resources/biographies/alice-paul.

Michals, Debra. "Lucretia Mott," National Women's History Museum. 2017 www.womenshistory.org/education-resources/biographies/lucretia-mott.

Sources, cont'd.

Michals, Debra. "Elizabeth Cady Stanton." National Women's History Museum. 1917. www.womenshistory.org/education-resources/biographies/elizabeth-cady-stanton

Michals, Debra "Gloria Steinem." National Women's History Museum. 2017. www.womenshistory.org/education-resources/biographies/gloria-steinem

M. Rampton. "The Four Waves of Feminism." 2008. https://www.pacificu.edu/magazine/four-waves-feminism [for insights into a third and fourth wave of feminism].

Roberts, Rebecca Boggs. *Suffragists in Washington, D.C.: The 1913 Parade and the Fight for the Vote*. Charleston, South Carolina: The History Press, 2017.

Rebecca Boggs Roberts, "The Great Suffrage Parade of 1913." National Park Service. https://www.nps.gov/articles/000/the-great-suffrage-parade-of-1913.htm

Santana MC (2016) From Empowerment to Domesticity: The Case of Rosie the Riveter and the WWII Campaign. *Front. Sociol.* 1:16. doi: 10.3389/fsoc.2016.00016

Sources cont'd

Wagner, S. R. *Sisters in Spirit: Iroquois Influence on Early Feminists*. Summertown, TN. Native Voices Book Publishing Company, 2001.

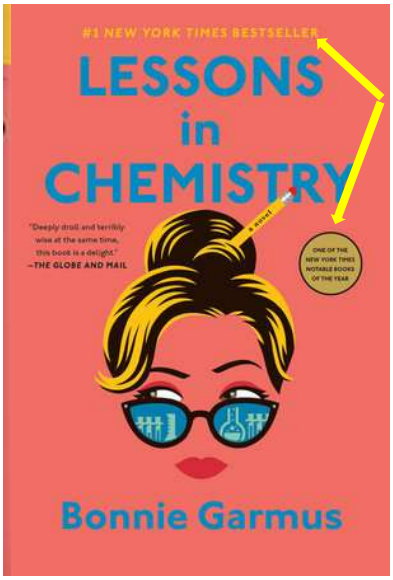
Weiss, E. *The Woman's Hour: The Great Fight to Win the Vote*. Penguin Books, 1918.

https://www.womenshistory.org/exhibits/parading-progress

…and the Literature

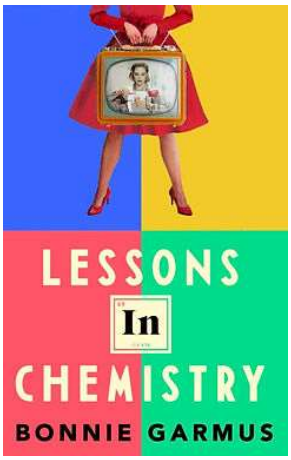
Lessons in Chemistry
Bonnie Jo Garmus

For a PDF of these slides, please email
dianedhenderson@gmail.com



US cover

1



US paperback
And UK cover



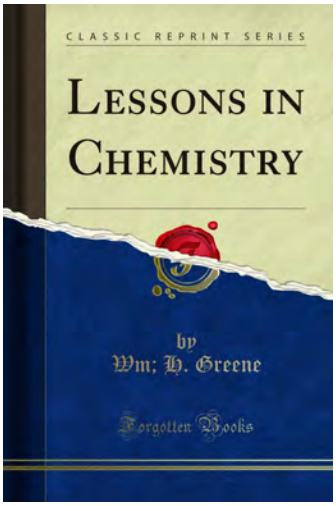
Estonian cover



German cover

2

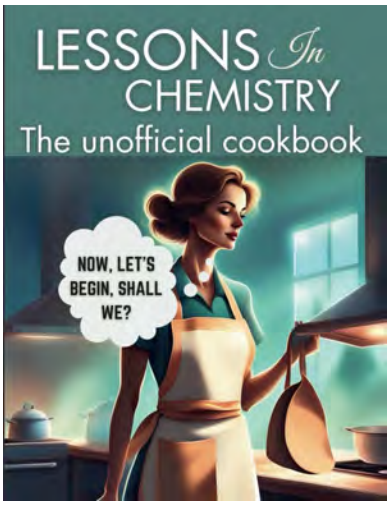
But not this one …



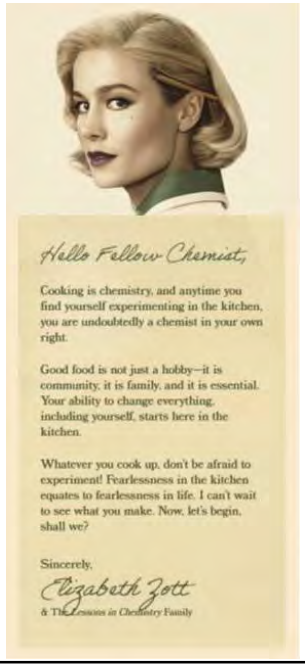
3

Or this one …

Motherhood and Molecules: Nourishing Tales from Elizabeth's Kitchen, from The "Perfect " Lasagna, Chicken Pot Pie, The Garden Galette and many more!



4



https://lessonsinchemistryrecipes.com/

Recipes

THE "PERFECT" LASAGNA
A-PIE-OGENESIS
THE GARDEN GALETTE
CHRISTMAS CHICKEN
LUNCHBOX BROWNIES
BLOCK PARTY BLACKBERRY PIE
CHICKEN POT PIE
BANANAS FOSTER FLAMBÉ
OYSTERS ZOTT

5

Recognition

- *New York Times* bestseller in June 2022 – two months after publication and it remains on NYT bestseller list
- Best Books of the Year on *New York Times*, *Washington Post*, NPR, *Oprah Daily*, *Entertainment Weekly*, *Newsweek*, *Sunay Times* (London, paywall), Barnes & Noble, Dymocks (Australia), *Good Housekeeping* (UK)
- Goodreads Choice Awards - Best Debut 2022
- Best Books 2022 - Amazon.com
- Books We Love 2022 - NPR
- British Book Awards Author of the Year 2023
- Forbes 50 over 50

6

Made Into a Series on Apple TV



- Happened astonishingly fast … first episode aired in October 2023, just under 19 months after the book was published
- 8 episodes
- Brie Larson as Elizabeth Zott

7

Brie Larson as Elizabeth Zott



8

About Garmus

- Born (1957) in Riverside, California
- Raised in Seattle
- Bachelor's degree in creative writing/aesthetic studies from UC Santa Cruz
- Copywriter and creative director who worked widely in the fields of technology, medicine, and education
- Currently lives in London with her husband





Being made aware of an upcoming deadline by her dog, 99

9

…and she's a rower



10

Her Debut Novel …

- She always knew she wanted to be a writer. She wrote her first one when she was five years old.
  …It was one page.
- Wrote another at age 12.
- She wrote half of another novel but gave up on it.
- She wrote a full novel.
  - It was 700+ pages long
  - It was rejected 98 times
  - She gave up on it
- Then came *Lessons in Chemistry*.
  - A debut novel at age 64!

11

How We Got to This Novel

- I read the novel and loved it.
- Then I saw it categorized as historical fiction.
- I told Stan he could do the history of the women's movement in the US … and told him we were using it.
- And, like Katherine Dent writing in Nerd Daily:
  "I found the book unputdownable, and not because it was a thrilling page-turner, but because I was enjoying myself so much. The novel deals with sensitive topics and the sexism Elizabeth battles never really lets up. And yet, there is humour, there is hope, and overall it is an enrapturing book to consume within a day."

12

And There's the Response to It…

- It's remarkable to hear from readers and realize fifteen-year-old boys and ninety-two-year-old women are enjoying the same book. • Bonnie Garmus
- "This novel has the perfect molecular structure: a charming protagonist, humor, a lovable dog, and feminist bonafides." • Book of the Month
- "Every now and again, a first novel appears in a flurry of hype and big-name TV deals, and before the end of the first chapter you do a little air-punch because for once it's all completely justified. Lessons in Chemistry …is that rare beast; a polished, funny, thought-provoking story, wearing its research lightly but confidently, and with sentences so stylishly turned it's hard to believe it's a debut. • *The Guardian*

13

And It Is Historical Fiction

- Defined as a genre of literature, film, etc., comprising narratives that take place in the past and are characterized chiefly by an imaginative reconstruction of historical events and people.
- Transports readers to another time and place, requiring a balance of research and creativity, and while it often includes real people and events, the genre offers a fiction writer many opportunities to tell a wholly unique story.

14

Key Elements of Historical Fiction

- Setting
- Plot
- Characters
- Dialogue
- Conflicts
- Written contemporarily about events that happened 50+ years ago

15

Garmus on Her Research

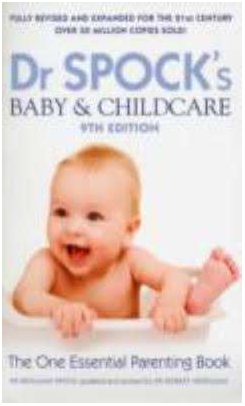
- "I bought a chemistry textbook off of eBay because I needed to write old science. It's very hard to Google accurate old science, especially old chemistry, because chemistry is always evolving. I also used "The Children's Golden Book of Experiments." They took it off the market, in the early [19]60s, because kids were blowing themselves up. The experiments are pretty dramatic, and I know that better than anyone because I started a few major fires in my flat. And then I had [the novel] checked by two PhD women chemists."
- "It gave me a lot of respect for the science of chemistry and how much you can teach yourself. But it also made me realize what scientists mean when they say chemistry is a central science, because it does impact every other science. And it is the laws of chemistry, in my opinion, basically rule the earth."

16

It Is Feminist Literature

- Feminist literature is fiction or nonfiction which supports the feminist goals of defining, establishing, and defending equal political, economic, and social rights for women.
- "Here are a few words I loathe in conjunction with fiction written by women: Sassy. Feisty. Madcap. These supposedly complimentary adjectives have a way of canceling out the very qualities they're meant to describe: Opinionated. Funny. Intelligent. This last one is not to be confused with its patronizing cousin, Clever. Don't even get me started on Gutsy, Spunky and Frisky — the unfortunate spawn of Relatable. With that out of the way, let's talk about *Lessons in Chemistry*."
  - Elizabeth Egan, *The New York Times*

17



"A man writes a book about things of which he has absolutely no firsthand knowledge—childbirth and its aftermath, I mean—and yet: boom. Bestseller. My suspicion? His wife wrote the whole thing, then put his name on it. A man's name gives it more authority, don't you think?" "No," Elizabeth said. "Agreed."



- "And I'm not having any of those moments you're supposed to have—you know, the moments—" "I don't—" "The blissful moments—" "Women's magazine rot," Sloane interrupted. "You need to steer clear of that stuff. It's complete fiction."

19

She Created a Spotify Playlist for the Book

1. Fly Me To The Moon
2. L-O-V-E - 2000 Remaster
3. Volare
4. Wipe Out
5. On the Sunny Side of the Street
6. Bye Bye Love
7. Stand by Me
8. If I Had a Hammer
9. Accentuate the Positive
10. Green Onions
11. The Periodic Table Song
12. Mack the Knife
13. Please Mr. Postman
14. Hit the Road Jack
15. Beyond the Sea

18

Questions People Ask on Google

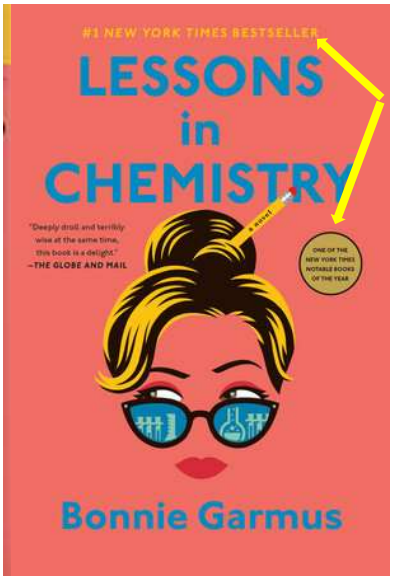
- Is *Lessons in Chemistry* a clean book?
- What is the quick review of *Lessons in Chemistry*?
- Is *Lessons in Chemistry* true?
- Why is *Lessons in Chemistry* controversial?
- Is *Lessons in Chemistry* anti Catholic?
- Why *is Lessons in Chemistry* so popular?
- How old should you be to read *Lessons in Chemistry*?
- Is *Lessons in Chemistry* a feminist book?
- Is *Lessons in Chemistry* about an autistic woman?
- How many times did *Lessons in Chemistry* get rejected?
- Who reads *Lessons in Chemistry*?

19

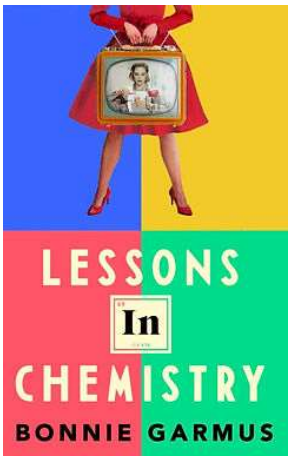
…and the Literature

Lessons in Chemistry
Bonnie Jo Garmus

For a PDF of these slides, please email
dianedhenderson@gmail.com



US cover



US paperback
And UK cover



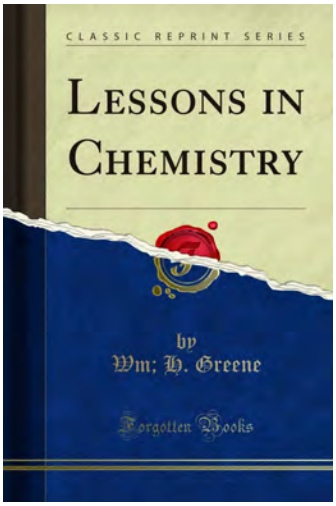
German cover

Estonian cover



German cover

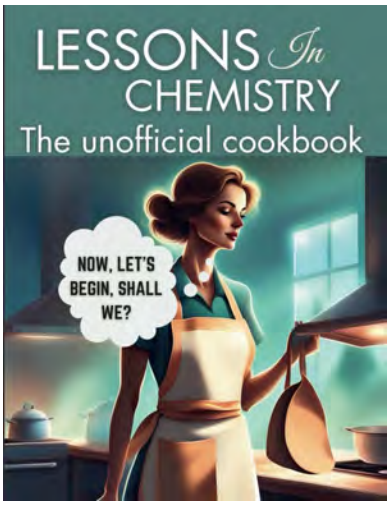
But not this one …

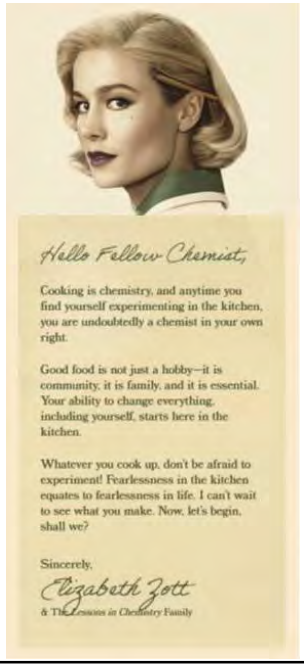


3

Or this one …

Motherhood and Molecules: Nourishing Tales from Elizabeth's Kitchen, from The "Perfect " Lasagna, Chicken Pot Pie, The Garden Galette and many more!





Hello Fellow Chemist,

Cooking is chemistry, and anytime you find yourself experimenting in the kitchen, you are undoubtedly a chemist in your own right.

Good food is not just a hobby—it is community, it is family, and it is essential. Your ability to change everything, including yourself, starts here in the kitchen.

Whatever you cook up, don't be afraid to experiment! Fearlessness in the kitchen equates to fearlessness in life. I can't wait to see what you make. Now, let's begin, shall we?

Sincerely,
Elizabeth Zott
& The *Lessons in Chemistry* Family

https://lessonsinchemistryrecipes.com/

Recipes

THE "PERFECT" LASAGNA
A-PIE-OGENESIS
THE GARDEN GALETTE
CHRISTMAS CHICKEN
LUNCHBOX BROWNIES
BLOCK PARTY BLACKBERRY PIE
CHICKEN POT PIE
BANANAS FOSTER FLAMBÉ
OYSTERS ZOTT

Recognition

- *New York Times* bestseller in June 2022 – two months after publication and it remains on NYT bestseller list
- Best Books of the Year on *New York Times*, *Washington Post*, NPR, *Oprah Daily*, *Entertainment Weekly*, *Newsweek*, *Sunay Times* (London, paywall), Barnes & Noble, Dymocks (Australia), *Good Housekeeping* (UK)
- Goodreads Choice Awards - Best Debut 2022
- Best Books 2022 - Amazon.com
- Books We Love 2022 - NPR
- British Book Awards Author of the Year 2023
- Forbes 50 over 50

Made Into a Series on Apple TV



- Happened astonishingly fast … first episode aired in October 2023, just under 19 months after the book was published
- 8 episodes
- Brie Larson as Elizabeth Zott

Brie Larson as Elizabeth Zott



About Garmus

- Born (1957) in Riverside, California
- Raised in Seattle
- Bachelor's degree in creative writing/aesthetic studies from UC Santa Cruz
- Copywriter and creative director who worked widely in the fields of technology, medicine, and education
- Currently lives in London with her husband





Being made aware of an upcoming deadline by her dog, 99

…and she's a rower



Her Debut Novel …

- She always knew she wanted to be a writer. She wrote her first one when she was five years old.
  …It was one page.
- Wrote another at age 12.
- She wrote half of another novel but gave up on it.
- She wrote a full novel.
  - It was 700+ pages long
  - It was rejected 98 times
  - She gave up on it
- Then came *Lessons in Chemistry*.
  - A debut novel at age 64!

How We Got to This Novel

- I read the novel and loved it.
- Then I saw it categorized as historical fiction.
- I told Stan he could do the history of the women's movement in the US … and told him we were using it.
- And, like Katherine Dent writing in Nerd Daily:
  "I found the book unputdownable, and not because it was a thrilling page-turner, but because I was enjoying myself so much. The novel deals with sensitive topics and the sexism Elizabeth battles never really lets up. And yet, there is humour, there is hope, and overall it is an enrapturing book to consume within a day."

And There's the Response to It…

- It's remarkable to hear from readers and realize fifteen-year-old boys and ninety-two-year-old women are enjoying the same book. • Bonnie Garmus
- "This novel has the perfect molecular structure: a charming protagonist, humor, a lovable dog, and feminist bonafides." • Book of the Month
- "Every now and again, a first novel appears in a flurry of hype and big-name TV deals, and before the end of the first chapter you do a little air-punch because for once it's all completely justified. Lessons in Chemistry …is that rare beast; a polished, funny, thought-provoking story, wearing its research lightly but confidently, and with sentences so stylishly turned it's hard to believe it's a debut. • *The Guardian*

And It Is Historical Fiction

- Defined as a genre of literature, film, etc., comprising narratives that take place in the past and are characterized chiefly by an imaginative reconstruction of historical events and people.
- Transports readers to another time and place, requiring a balance of research and creativity, and while it often includes real people and events, the genre offers a fiction writer many opportunities to tell a wholly unique story.

Key Elements of Historical Fiction

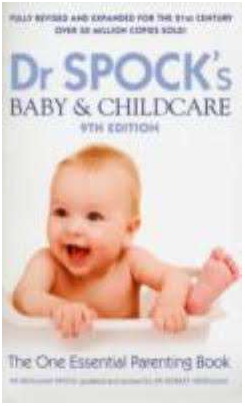
- Setting
- Plot
- Characters
- Dialogue
- Conflicts
- Written contemporarily about events that happened 50+ years ago

Garmus on Her Research

- "I bought a chemistry textbook off of eBay because I needed to write old science. It's very hard to Google accurate old science, especially old chemistry, because chemistry is always evolving. I also used "The Children's Golden Book of Experiments." They took it off the market, in the early [19]60s, because kids were blowing themselves up. The experiments are pretty dramatic, and I know that better than anyone because I started a few major fires in my flat. And then I had [the novel] checked by two PhD women chemists."
- "It gave me a lot of respect for the science of chemistry and how much you can teach yourself. But it also made me realize what scientists mean when they say chemistry is a central science, because it does impact every other science. And it is the laws of chemistry, in my opinion, basically rule the earth."

It Is Feminist Literature

- Feminist literature is fiction or nonfiction which supports the feminist goals of defining, establishing, and defending equal political, economic, and social rights for women.
- "Here are a few words I loathe in conjunction with fiction written by women: Sassy. Feisty. Madcap. These supposedly complimentary adjectives have a way of canceling out the very qualities they're meant to describe: Opinionated. Funny. Intelligent. This last one is not to be confused with its patronizing cousin, Clever. Don't even get me started on Gutsy, Spunky and Frisky — the unfortunate spawn of Relatable. With that out of the way, let's talk about *Lessons in Chemistry*."
  - Elizabeth Egan, *The New York Times*



"A man writes a book about things of which he has absolutely no firsthand knowledge—childbirth and its aftermath, I mean—and yet: boom. Bestseller. My suspicion? His wife wrote the whole thing, then put his name on it. A man's name gives it more authority, don't you think?" "No," Elizabeth said. "Agreed."



- "And I'm not having any of those moments you're supposed to have—you know, the moments—" "I don't—" "The blissful moments—" "Women's magazine rot," Sloane interrupted. "You need to steer clear of that stuff. It's complete fiction."

She Created a Spotify Playlist for the Book

1. Fly Me To The Moon
2. L-O-V-E - 2000 Remaster
3. Volare
4. Wipe Out
5. On the Sunny Side of the Street
6. Bye Bye Love
7. Stand by Me
8. If I Had a Hammer
9. Accentuate the Positive
10. Green Onions
11. The Periodic Table Song
12. Mack the Knife
13. Please Mr. Postman
14. Hit the Road Jack
15. Beyond the Sea

Questions People Ask on Google

- Is *Lessons in Chemistry* a clean book?
- What is the quick review of *Lessons in Chemistry*?
- Is *Lessons in Chemistry* true?
- Why is *Lessons in Chemistry* controversial?
- Is *Lessons in Chemistry* anti Catholic?
- Why *is Lessons in Chemistry* so popular?
- How old should you be to read *Lessons in Chemistry*?
- Is *Lessons in Chemistry* a feminist book?
- Is *Lessons in Chemistry* about an autistic woman?
- How many times did *Lessons in Chemistry* get rejected?
- Who reads *Lessons in Chemistry*?