

# Women Who Shook History!

**Happy Women's History Month!** In case you are unaware, the majority of the staff here at **AGTM** is of the female gender, so we would like to take a moment to honor just a small fraction of the Women that kicked ass throughout History!

This is a two-part list. Today we will be honoring historical figures and next week will be honoring historical fiction ladies!

Please enjoy...

*Cleopatra 69 BC – 30 BC*



Cleopatra was the last active pharaoh of **Ancient Egypt**. Not only did she rule Egypt solo for a period time, but she also had strong influence in both the Greek and Roman empires. Her beauty and love affair with **Mark Antony** has been depicted throughout western culture, from **William Shakespeare's** play **Antony and Cleopatra** to the famous portrayal of her by **Elizabeth Taylor**. Cleopatra has truly stood the test of time and was a force to be reckoned with.

*Elizabeth I of England 1533-1506*



The daughter of the infamous **Henry VIII** and second wife **Anne Boleyn**, Elizabeth I was the last monarch of the **Tudor** dynasty. After her mother's famous beheading, Elizabeth was declared illegitimate, but she was the successor to her half-sister Mary to become Queen to keep the Tudor line going. Most famously known as "The Virgin Queen", Elizabeth never married or produced any heirs. It is rumored that during her first meeting with Parliament, Elizabeth pointed to her coronation ring and told the Lords that that was her wedding ring. Elizabeth was completely devoted to her country. Elizabeth's reign is famously known as the Elizabethan era where the "English Drama" developed thanks to playwright, **William Shakespeare**. The Tudor dynasty and Elizabeth I is still a popular time in history and is constantly still popping up in films, books, and TV shows.

#### *Emmeline Pankhurst 1858-1928*



Emmeline was the leader of the **British Suffragette** movement, which main goal was to help women gain the right to vote. Emmeline did not fear taking it to the street. The group was known for smashing windows and even assaulting police officers. Pankhurst and her daughters were even arrested and would stage hunger strikes while imprisoned. Emmeline passed away just weeks before the passing of **Representation of the People Act of 1928** that granted all women over the age of 21 the right to vote.

#### *Marie Curie 1867-1934*



Marie Curie might just be the first female geek in history (this is an official statement made by me!). She was a physicist and chemist in the late 1800 – early 1900s. Famously known as the first woman to win the **Nobel Prize**, the only woman to win in two different fields of study and the only person to win for multiple sciences. Also, to add to the list of firsts, Curie was the first woman to become a professor at **University of Paris**. Her most famous achievements in science are the discovery of elements **polonium** and **radium** and her theory of **radioactivity**. Curie passed away in 1934 due to exposure to radiation believed to be from the mobile X-Ray units she created during WWI.

*Margaret Sanger 1879-1966*



Margaret Sanger was the founder of **American Birth Control League**, which later became **Planned Parenthood Federation of America**. Sanger was a birth control activist and sex educator who believed that women had the right to be able to determine when they wanted to bear children. In 1916, Sanger was arrested for opening the first birth control clinic in the United States. Just 5 years later she opened two

more clinics staffed by all-female doctors and the clinic in Harlem was entirely staffed by African-Americans. Sanger passed away in 1966. It is amazing to think that women are still till this day fighting for the right to chose what happens to their bodies. Thank you Margaret Sanger for fighting for the women's right to choose.

Well, I hope you enjoyed my little history lesson. Make sure to thank the strong women in your life this month and to honor the women that changed, shaped, and paved the way in history!

Tags:

Lady Kaitlin Marie Bernadette Calabrò of House Ravenclaw, First of Her Name; Mother of Recaps, Breaker of News, Khaleesi of Wonder Wharf, Queen of Geekdom, and Empress of Anglophiles, is the Managing Editor of AGtM. By day she is the Marketing Manager of the Philadelphia Film Society, by night she is a serious relationship with her Netflix account. Kait is a proud Temple Owl! And is currently in a celebrity feud with both Samuel L. Jackson and Zachary Levi, unbeknownst to them. She spends her evenings watching the skies waiting for Thor to fly down and take her back to Asgard!

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