

ERIC HUANG

Oh No They  
**DIDN'T**



Malala Yousafzai

# REMARKABLE WOMEN

FASCINATING  
FACTS YOU NEVER  
KNEW ABOUT THESE  
AMAZING WOMEN!



Amelia Earhart



Beyoncé



Emmeline Pankhurst

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words &  
pictures

# INTRODUCTION

Remarkable women have been at the forefront of history. They've changed the world and are leading the way to our future. Long ago, legendary women were worshipped as gods and honoured as heroes.

More recently, trailblazing women forged new paths for all to follow, tearing down obstacles along the way. Many women were the geniuses behind technological breakthroughs and imaginative inventions that greatly improved our lives. They're the superstars we listen to and watch on screens of all sizes, the leaders who inspire us and the bosses breaking through the glass ceiling.

How much do you really know about the remarkable women who've shaped our world? Of course, every one of them knew what they wanted to do from an early age. They always had a clear path. They're consistently confident and reliably strong. **And all of them easily persevered in the face of discrimination. . . didn't they?**

OH NO THEY DIDN'T!

**TURN THE PAGE** to read about the lives and accomplishments of **over 50 women.**

Meet world leaders and activists, athletes and musicians, scientists and business executives, and many more.



Biochemist



Activist



Artist

**FOLLOW THE DIVERSITY OF PATHS THAT LED TO THEIR SUCCESSES** – which often weren't straight lines, but rather meandering and totally unexpected!



# LEGENDS

## UNIVERSAL MOTHERS

The legends and lore of bygone civilizations are full of epic tales, magic and gods. Our ancient ancestors always gave the highest honours to male gods. . . didn't they?

OH NO THEY DIDN'T!

The Egyptian goddess **Isis** was queen of the universe. She was one of the most important gods – not just in Egypt, but throughout the ancient Mediterranean. There was no greater sorcerer than Isis, who was a healer and had power over death itself! As the divine mother of the Egyptian kings (known as pharaohs), it was to Isis that people turned for protection.



Yaas queen!

There are powerful goddesses in other cultures, too.

Oshun, a water goddess of the Yoruba people in West Africa, is one of the divine beings who created the world and cared for human beings! Amaterasu is from Japan. Like Isis, she's the mother of kings. People worshipped Amaterasu because she was royalty. . . didn't they?



OH NO THEY DIDN'T

**Amaterasu** is a sun goddess. Without her, there would be no warmth or light for growing food.



**Did you know** that Amaterasu has two younger brothers? Tsukuyomi is the moon god and Susanoo is a trickster god of storms. Tsukuyomi behaved so badly at a banquet once that his older sister hasn't spoken to him since – that's why the moon and sun don't share the sky. Susanoo also behaved badly, leaving a poop on his sister's throne! Amaterasu was so offended that she shut herself in a cave, plunging the world into darkness. It was only after Susanoo was kicked out of Heaven that Amaterasu brought the sun back.

# FEARLESS FIGHTERS

Ancient cultures only worshipped female gods as mother figures. . . didn't they?

OH NO THEY DIDN'T!

She's the real Lion King.

Many goddesses were formidable warriors. **Ishtar**, also known as Inanna, was honoured as the queen of heaven by the ancient peoples of Mesopotamia. She's often shown dressed in battle-ready armour with lions at her side as symbols of power.

Ishtar was an important divinity who controlled the harvest, rain and thunder.



Ishtar

Another goddess associated with war was Freyja, worshipped by the Norse people, who we sometimes call Vikings. She's famous because she ruled Asgard, the land of the gods, as the wife of the god Odin. . . didn't she?



OH NO SHE DIDN'T!

Odin was one of the main Norse gods. His wife was Frigg, a goddess similar to **Freyja**. Freyja, however, wasn't just an immortal sidekick. Love and beauty were her domain, and so were war and battle. Freyja chose which worthy warriors would live in her enchanted land, Folkvangr, after they were killed in battle.



Cat-apulting through the clouds!

**Did you know** that Freyja rode a chariot pulled by flying cats? What a purr-fect way to travel! Sometimes Freyja is called Queen of the Valkyries, an all-female company of armoured soldiers who rode winged horses. It was their job to select the bravest of fallen warriors and lead them to a magical hall of the gods called Valhalla.

**Athena** was an Ancient Greek goddess of war, fighting alongside chosen warriors with supreme skill. One of her symbols was the owl, a bird as wise as she was.



**Did you know** that Athena was also the goddess of crafts? She was the ultimate divinity – incredibly strong as well as super-smart!