

Ada
Lovelace
The
Enchantress

of Numbers



“A new, a vast, and a powerful language is developed for the future use of analysis, in which to wield its truths so that these may become of more speedy and accurate practical application for the purposes of mankind than the means hitherto in our possession have rendered possible.”

Known as the earliest computer programmer in the world, and that too the first woman to have achieved this feat, Ada Lovelace is known for her mathematical works in collaboration with the "Father of the Computer", Charles Babbage. She was initiated into the profession by her mother, who feared that poetry would spoil the young woman's morals, just as it did for Ada's father,

Her initial works with Babbage, earned her fame and recognition, and she was inspired to venture into arenas like phrenology, human emotions, and mesmerism. Since her private life was full of confusion and heartbreak, she made up for her personal shortcomings with her astounding scientific work. Her mathematical writings were much appreciated by eminent people like

Lord Byron. Though brilliant in the field of mathematics and science, the young girl also harboured a love for poetry, and preferred to blend the seemingly unrelated subjects, in her work. She liked calling herself an "Analyst (& Metaphysician)", working on what could be termed "poetical science", often using poetry to verify her doubts in mathematics.

Michael Faraday. Despite a short life, Lovelace left her mark in the history of mathematics and computers. Read on to explore more about her life and works [here](#).

1815

December 10th Ada Augusta Byron is born to George Gordon the 6th (Lord Byron) and his wife Anne Isabella 'Annabella' Milbanke (baroness Wentworth)

1816

January 16th Lord Byron and Annabella separate.

1828

Ada designs a flying machine

1833

Ada slowly recovers from a three year bout of the measles, and is presented at court.

Meets Charles Babbage and his Difference machine.

1834

Babbage conceptualizes The Analytical Engine

1835

July 8th Ada marries William King

1836

May 12th Ada's first child, Byron, is born.

1837

September 22nd Ada's second child, Anne Isabelle, is born.

1838

June 30th William and Ada become Earl and Countess of Lovelace

1839

July 2nd Ada's third child, Ralph Gordon, is born.

1840

Babbage goes to Italy to discuss the Analytical Engine

Ada begins studying mathematics with De Morgan

1842

Ada returns after a nine-month absence to her mathematical studies L. F. Menabrea's description of the Analytical Engine is published in Switzerland

1843

Ada

Lovelace

Day

(October 11th 2016) is about sharing stories of women — whether engineers, scientists, technologists or mathematicians — who have inspired you to become who you are today. The aim is to create new role models for girls and women in these male-dominated fields by raising the profile of other women in STEM.

Ada's

Algorithm

Want to get a more indepth look into the life of this facinating woman? Based on ten years of research and filled with fascinating characters and observations of the period, not to mention numerous illustrations, Essinger tells Ada's fascinating story in unprecedented detail to absorbing and inspiring effect.