



June 12-26



Dear readers,

When I learned that *The Other Einstein* had been selected to be the next Big Library Read, well, I was elated to say the least. The idea that “the first ever global ebook club” of library readers would be introduced to Mileva “Mitza” Marić, the first wife of Albert Einstein and a physicist herself, and that they might discuss her singular life thrilled me. It helped fulfill the sense of duty that I feel to share Mileva’s historic, yet modern, story with as many readers as possible.

Since the moment I first learned about Mileva, I’ve felt compelled to tell her tale. While reading a children’s biography about Albert Einstein with one of my sons, I discovered that the great scientist’s first wife had been a physics student alongside him at university. Who was this relatively unknown woman, I wondered, a physicist at a time when it was illegal for girls to even attend high school in many European countries? And then, of course, I became curious about the role she might have played in his “miracle year” of 1905 when he published his most important theories. The more I researched Mileva and came to know her through her letters, I realized that her story was powerful and important in itself, and instrumental in understanding our own history and the role of women in it.

I hope that you enjoy *The Other Einstein* and that Mileva’s story sparks many spirited conversations with other Big Library Read readers. Thank you for selecting *The Other Einstein* for the Big Library Read and giving so many readers the chance to meet Mileva “Mitza” Marić.

Join the discussion on discuss.biglibraryread.com.

Happy Reading,
Marie Benedict

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