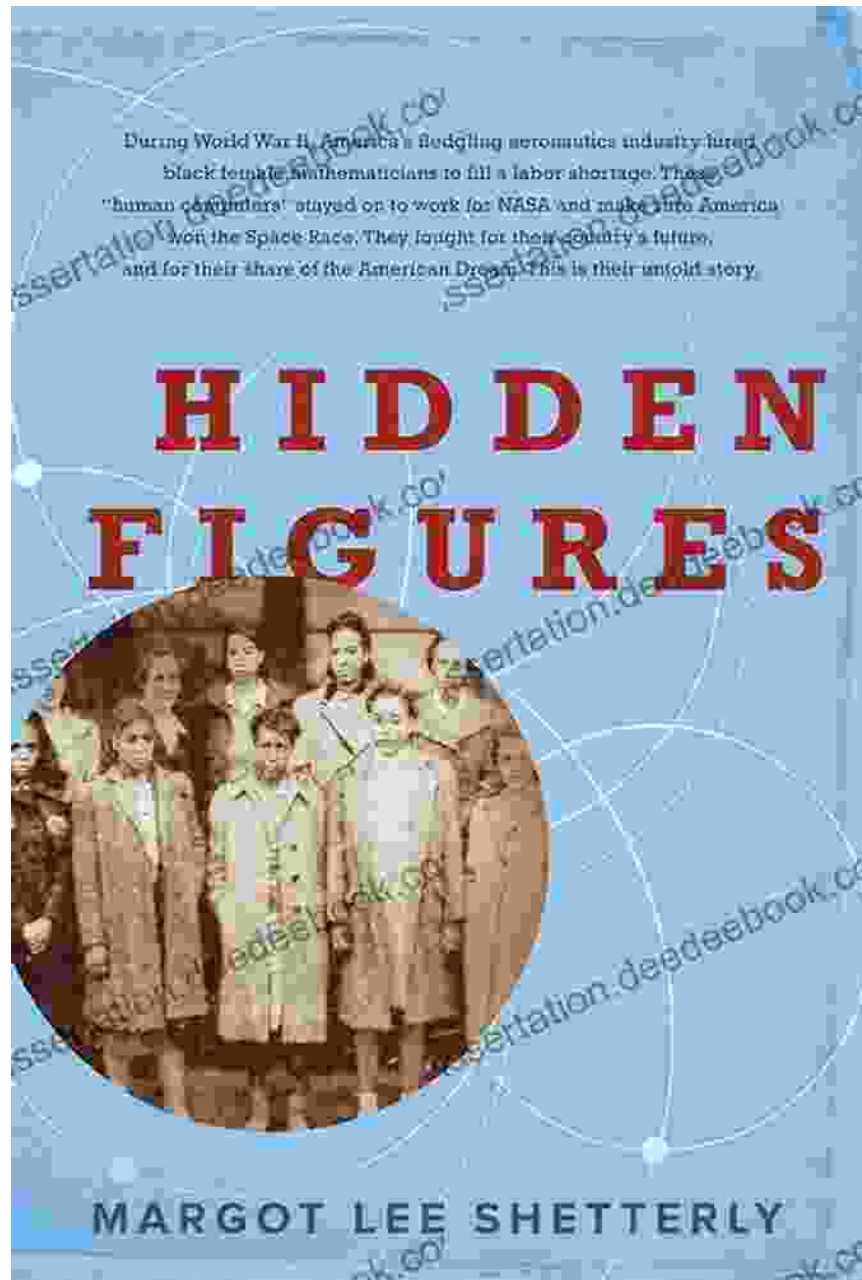


Margot, the Mastermind: Hidden Figure Behind the Moon Landing



Few know the name Margot Lee Shetterly, but her groundbreaking book, "Hidden Figures," uncovered the untold story of a group of brilliant black women who played a pivotal role in NASA's historic moon landing in 1969.



Margot and the Moon Landing by Abigail Steel

★★★★☆ 4.9 out of 5

Language : English

File size : 31395 KB

Print length : 40 pages

Lending : Enabled

Screen Reader: Supported



Margot's Journey to Uncovering the Hidden Figures

Margot Shetterly's fascination with the space race began as a child when her parents took her to see the Space Shuttle Challenger launch in 1986. Years later, while working as a science journalist, she stumbled upon a book that mentioned a group of black women who had worked as "human computers" at NASA's Langley Research Center.

Intrigued, Shetterly began to delve into the archives, tracking down obscure reports and interviewing the women themselves. As she pieced together their stories, she realized that they had not only contributed to the space race but had also overcome immense discrimination and segregation.

The Hidden Figures of NASA

The women Shetterly discovered, known as the "Hidden Figures," were a diverse group of mathematicians, engineers, and scientists. Among them were:

* **Katherine Johnson:** A gifted mathematician who calculated the trajectories for the Apollo 11 moon landing. * **Dorothy Vaughan:** A brilliant supervisor who became the first African American woman to lead a division

at NASA. * **Mary Jackson:** An aerospace engineer who broke down barriers in male-dominated engineering fields. * **Christine Darden:** A mathematician who developed computer systems used in the Apollo missions.

These women faced constant challenges due to their race and gender. They were often paid less than their white male counterparts and were denied promotions and opportunities for advancement. Yet, they persisted and excelled, making groundbreaking contributions to the success of the moon landing.

The Impact of "Hidden Figures"

Shetterly's book, published in 2016, became an instant bestseller and was later adapted into an acclaimed film in 2017. The book and movie brought the Hidden Figures' story to a global audience, inspiring countless people around the world.

Beyond its historical significance, "Hidden Figures" has had a profound impact on STEM education and diversity initiatives. It has encouraged young people from all backgrounds to pursue careers in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics. The book has also highlighted the importance of recognizing and valuing the contributions of women and minorities in scientific fields.

Margot's Legacy

Margot Shetterly's work has been instrumental in shedding light on the often-overlooked contributions of the Hidden Figures. Her research has helped to rewrite history and ensure that these extraordinary women receive the recognition they deserve.

Through her book and her ongoing advocacy, Shetterly has inspired a new generation of scientists and engineers. Her legacy will continue to inspire future generations to break down barriers and achieve their full potential.

Margot Shetterly's tireless efforts have unearthed the inspiring story of the Hidden Figures, a group of brilliant women who left an indelible mark on human history. By bringing their contributions to light, Shetterly has not only enriched our understanding of the past but has also empowered future generations to dream big and shatter stereotypes.



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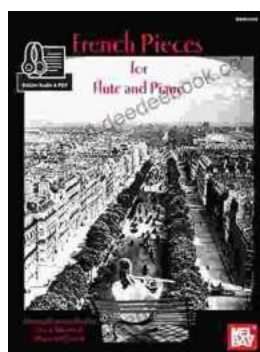
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