

The Rose Line

A CHRONOLOGY OF ERASURE

The path traced by every woman who chose knowledge over safety

MYTHOLOGICAL ORIGINS *The Architecture of Blame*

Eve Blamed for the Fall; her choice of knowledge recast as humanity's curse
Genesis

Lilith Erased from Genesis for refusing submission; demonized as the first disobedient woman
Rabbinic tradition

Pandora Created as punishment; curiosity reframed as catastrophe
Greek mythology

Medusa Rape victim transformed into monster; her wound made evidence of her danger
Greek mythology

Inanna Goddess of heaven, earth, and wisdom—her power fragmented and diminished across later pantheons
Sumerian

ANCIENT WORLD *When Knowledge Became Dangerous*

Sappho Only fragments survive; her work systematically destroyed
c. 630–570 BCE

Aspasia Philosopher and rhetorician; credited as Socrates' teacher yet dismissed as mere courtesan
c. 470–400 BCE

Hypatia of Alexandria Mathematician and philosopher; torn apart by a Christian mob for her learning
c. 350–415 CE

MEDIEVAL PERIOD *The Theft of Expertise*

Trotula of Salerno <i>12th century</i>	Physician whose medical texts were attributed to male authors for centuries
The Magistra <i>13th century</i>	Anonymous geometry teacher in Paris; her proof erased and reappeared under a man's name
Hildegard of Bingen <i>1098–1179</i>	Composer, mystic, scientist—her authority diminished to 'mere' vision

WITCH HUNTS *Knowledge as Heresy*

Margaretha Hörner <i>1628</i>	Midwife burned for heresy; mortality rates rose after her death
Tens of thousands unnamed <i>1450–1750</i>	~80% women; healers, herbalists, midwives—their knowledge destroyed with their bodies

RENAISSANCE & EARLY MODERN *Erased from the Canon*

Artemisia Gentileschi <i>1593–1656</i>	Painter whose works were credited to her father and male mentors
Plautilla Bricci <i>1616–1705</i>	First woman architect in Europe; credit given to her brother
Sor Juana Inés de la Cruz <i>1648–1695</i>	Scholar forced to abandon intellectual work; silenced by the Church

Anne Hutchinson 1591–1643	Exiled for theological teaching; called 'a woman of haughty and fierce carriage'
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18TH–19TH CENTURY *Silenced Sisters*

Maria Anna 'Nannerl' Mozart 1751–1829	Wolfgang's equally talented sister; gender ended her performing career
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Fanny Mendelssohn 1805–1847	Compositions published under her brother Felix's name
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Charlotte Perkins Gilman 1860–1935	Diagnosed with 'hysteria' for intellectual ambition; wrote <i>The Yellow Wallpaper</i> as testimony
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MEDICAL EXPLORATION *Bodies as Raw Material*

Anarcha, Lucy, Betsey 1840s	Enslaved women experimented on without anesthesia by J. Marion Sims
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Henrietta Lacks 1920–1951	HeLa cells taken without consent; her family uncompensated for decades
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20TH CENTURY SCIENCE *The Matilda Effect*

Rosalind Franklin 1920–1958	Photo 51 stolen; DNA discovery credited to Watson and Crick
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Jocelyn Bell Burnell <i>b. 1943</i>	Discovered pulsars; Nobel Prize awarded to her male supervisor
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Lise Meitner Discovered nuclear fission; Nobel Prize given to Otto Hahn alone
1878–1968

Harvard Observatory Computers Williamina Fleming, Annie Jump Cannon, Henrietta Leavitt—classified as 'computers,' not scientists
1880s–1920s

NASA MATHEMATICIANS *Hidden Figures*

Katherine Johnson Calculated Apollo 11 trajectory; nearly invisible until 2016
1918–2020

Dorothy Vaughan First Black supervisor at NACA/NASA; story untold for decades
1910–2008

Mary Jackson NASA's first Black female engineer; recognized posthumously
1921–2005

CONTEMPORARY *The Pattern Persists*

Digital Erasure Women removed from NASA website, January 2025; Wikipedia gender gap; AI training bias
2020s

The Rose Line continues Every woman who chooses knowledge over safety, truth over approval
Present

The pattern repeats. The pattern persists. The pattern can be broken.