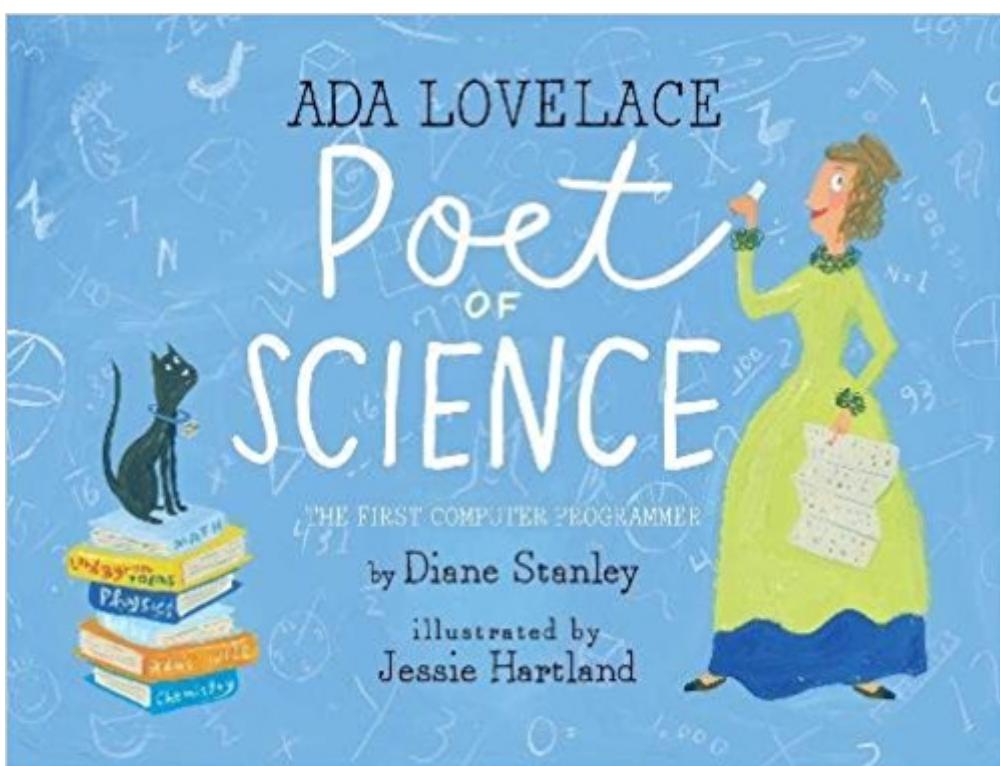


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# Ada Lovelace, Poet Of Science: The First Computer Programmer



## Synopsis

ALA NOTABLE BOOK AMELIA BLOOMER TOP TEN BOOK *Ada Lovelace* by Diane Stanley has been delighting and informing readers with her biographies for years, and here, her considerable talents are once again on display. Hartland's charmingly busy art, reminiscent of Maira Kalman's work, is full of wit. • Booklist (starred review) From nonfiction stars Diane Stanley and Jessie Hartland comes a beautifully illustrated biography of Ada Lovelace, who is known as the first computer programmer. Two hundred years ago, a daughter was born to the famous poet, Lord Byron, and his mathematical wife, Annabella. Like her father, Ada had a vivid imagination and a creative gift for connecting ideas in original ways. Like her mother, she had a passion for science, math, and machines. It was a very good combination. Ada hoped that one day she could do something important with her creative and nimble mind. A hundred years before the dawn of the digital age, Ada Lovelace envisioned the computer-driven world we know today. And in demonstrating how the machine would be coded, she wrote the first computer program. She would go down in history as Ada Lovelace, the first computer programmer. Diane Stanley's lyrical writing and Jessie Hartland's vibrant illustrations capture the spirit of Ada Lovelace and bring her fascinating story vividly to life.

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: 810 (What's this?)

Hardcover: 40 pages

Publisher: Simon & Schuster/Paula Wiseman Books (October 4, 2016)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1481452495

ISBN-13: 978-1481452496

Product Dimensions: 12 x 0.5 x 9 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.2 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 stars 13 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #19,969 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #9 in Books > Children's Books > Science, Nature & How It Works > Inventions & Inventors #24 in Books > Children's Books > Biographies > Science & Technology #61 in Books > Children's Books > Computers & Technology

Age Range: 4 - 8 years

Grade Level: Preschool - 3

## Customer Reviews

Gr 3-5 •Beginning with "Long, long ago," this title is a colorful, storylike take on Ada Lovelace and her ingenuity. The text frames young Lovelace as a curious though lonely child straddling a stern mother and absent father. ("Ada's parents were as different as chalk and cheese.") The narrative follows Lovelace's life from childhood through adulthood. Highlights include an influential visit to a factory, Lovelace's chance meeting and friendship with Charles Babbage, and her meticulous, step-by-step detail of how to code the numbers of the Bernoulli. The illustrations, done in gouache, are wildly imaginative and portray Lovelace as full of undulating energy and creativity. The ending spread shows Lovelace flying over a futurelike cityscape with billboards littered with contemporary technology references (the Apple logo). The text briefly touches upon such topics as the Industrial Revolution, though students will likely crave more information on the time period. **VERDICT** Great for read-alouds and lesson plans on coding. •Shannan Hicks, J.S. Clark Elementary School Library, LA

Stanley has been delighting and informing readers with her biographies for years, and here, her considerable talents are once again on display. . . . Hartland's charmingly busy art, reminiscent of Maira Kalman's work, is full of wit•calculations sweep across pages•and meshes well with Stanley's inviting text. This is a solid addition to STEM studies, yes, but, also a great choice for any biography lovers. (Booklist, STARRED REVIEW)Complementing the clear prose, Hartland's whimsical gouache pictures portray white figures with coral lips and in period dress. Gestural brushstrokes loosely evoke landscapes and interiors, yet scores of objects•from book titles and period toys to an omnipresent cat•provide plentiful visual interest. Pithy narrative plus charming pictures equals an admiring, admirable portrait of a STEM pioneer. (Kirkus Reviews)Stanley delivers a breezy but insightful overview of the curiosity and determination that drove Ada Lovelace (1815-1852) to pursue her intellectual passions, tracing her childhood dreams of flight, her friendship and working relationship with Charles Babbage, and her pioneering programming work in service of promoting Babbage's Analytical Machine. Hartland keeps the mood light in loopy gouache cartoons that humorously portray Lovelace as the creative and intelligent product of parents "as different as chalk and cheese"; in facing family portraits, the "rational, respectable, and strict" Lady Byron stares uncomfortably at her husband, Lord Byron, who looks rakish in multiple senses of the word. An author's note and timeline conclude a thoroughly engaging look at a trailblazing mathematical mind. (Publishers Weekly

August 15, 2016)

I thought I knew about this lady, but I learned so much more from reading this fascinating book. And the illustrations are the best part - Jessie Hartland's sly humor shines through the heavy petticoats and mathematical concepts.

Fascinating book- and inspiring too. So many interesting details about this amazing female scientist. My daughter especially loves that she grew up without a dad too :)

I named my daughter after Ada Lovelace. I own several children's books about her. This is my favorite :)

Delightful book! Informative and inspiring. Perfect for my inquisitive six-year-old granddaughter -- who happens to be named Ada.

This book is delightful and suitable for children. It could contain a little more information about her which is why I give it 4 stars.

Lovely present for our granddaughter.

Great book for young girls. Very interesting and even includes a timeline in the back of the book.

Enchanting art and story!

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