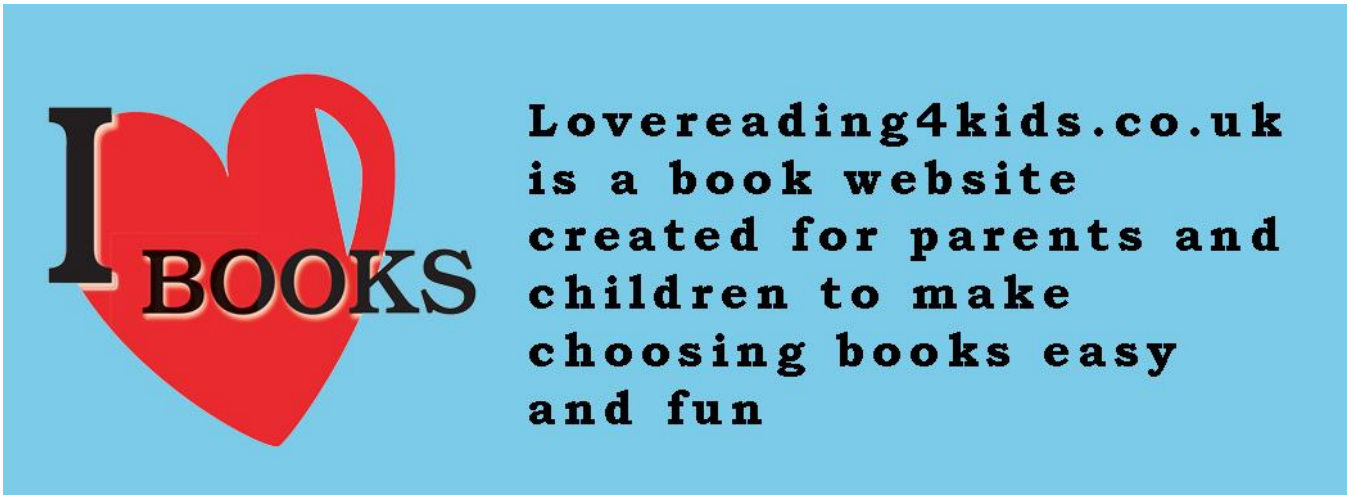


Opening extract from

Fantastically Great Women Who Changed the World

Written by

Kate Pankhurst

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Prepare for a fantastically amazing journey with ...



How did they become so fantastically amazing and great?!

The women in this book didn't set out to be thought of as 'great'. They achieved extraordinary things simply by following their hearts, talents and dreams. They didn't listen when people said they couldn't do something. They dared to be different. And some of them couldn't resist a crazy adventure, or three.

Jane Austen

Who wrote these wonderful books?

Shhhh! When her first book was published, British writer Jane Austen couldn't tell anyone she was the author! In 1811 people thought it wasn't right for a woman to have a job, no matter how talented they were.

The books Jane wrote were SO heartbreaking, romantic and thrilling that they are still enjoyed two hundred years later. They are some of the best stories ever created.

Meet some of Jane's heroines, heroes and villains ...

A witty heroine who speaks her mind even though a proper 'lady' was not supposed to have an opinion.

Mr Darcy is such a BORE!

Elizabeth Bennet and Mr Darcy
PRIDE and PREJUDICE

Why won't you marry me?!

Dashingly handsome, and wealthy. Changes his snooty ways to win Elizabeth Bennet's heart.

Decides to help her friends and family find the right husband, but discovers she has a lot to learn about life and love.

How romantic!

Emma Woodhouse
EMMA

A vain and nasty upper class man, who thinks being beautiful is more important than being a nice person.

How UGLY!

Sir Walter Elliot
PERSUASION

Who does she think she is?

Mrs Norris
MANSFIELD PARK

A beastly woman in a bonnet who is really horrible to her niece, Fanny Price, who comes from a poor family.

Catherine Morland
NORTHANGER ABBEY

GASP!

Struggles to learn that real life doesn't work out like the dramatic novels she loves to read.

In secret letters to her sister, Jane writes of having her own heart broken, just like the heroines she wrote about, by a man called Tom Lefroy. The two weren't allowed to marry because Jane's family was not rich.

With no husband, Jane had to rely on her family for money, until her books became popular!

SHE SWAM HER OWN STROKE!

GERTRUDE EDERLE

ESSENTIAL CHANNEL SWIMMER KIT:

A TWO PIECE SWIMSUIT:
Rather than wear a heavy woollen swimsuit, Trudy made herself one of the first two piece bathing suits from underwear. (Men swam the Channel naked!)

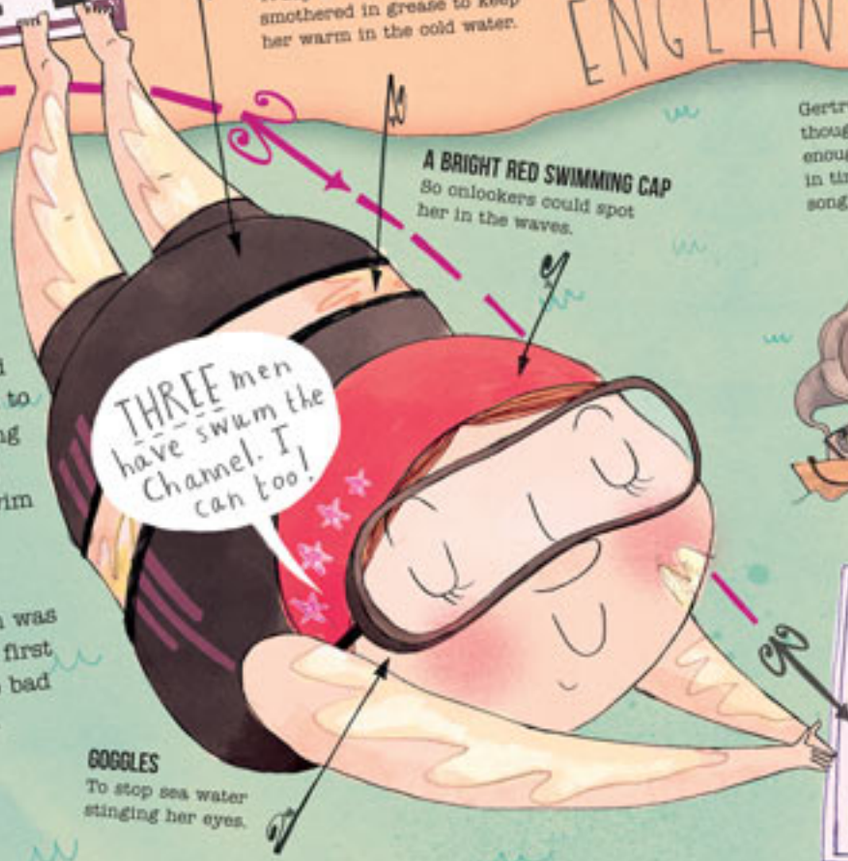
GREASE!
Trudy's whole body was smothered in grease to keep her warm in the cold water.

A BRIGHT RED SWIMMING CAP
So onlookers could spot her in the waves.

GOGGLES
To stop sea water stinging her eyes.

In the 1920s, teenage Olympic medal-winning swimming sensation Gertrude Ederle from New York, USA, wanted to prove that a woman could complete a swimming challenge said to be as **DIFFICULT** and **DANGEROUS** as climbing Mount Everest. Gertrude (or Trudy) wanted to be the first woman to swim across the freezing waters of the **ENGLISH CHANNEL**.

People wondered if Gertrude's plan was a length too far, especially as her first attempt in 1925 had failed due to bad weather. But she didn't give up ...



ENGLAND

In August 1926, aged nineteen, Trudy waded into the sea in France, called 'cheerio' and set off on her second attempt to swim the English Channel.

Gertrude ate sugar cubes (even though people said that wasn't enough food) and kept her stroke in time by listening to her favourite song on a gramophone. It was called ...



She fought strong currents (ignoring people telling her she must give up).



Gertrude used her strongest stroke – American Crawl (even though everyone said breaststroke was better).

FOLLOW THE ARROWS TO TRACK GERTRUDE'S JOURNEY!

CAP GRIZ-NEZ

FRANCE

Finally after swimming for **14 HOURS AND 31 MINUTES** – around **35 MILES** – she reached the English coast. Gertrude had swum it her way and set a new record time, **TWO HOURS FASTER** than any of the men who had previously completed the swim!



KINGSDOWN BEACH



Back in New York Trudy made a splash! Crowds flocked to celebrate her enormous achievement.