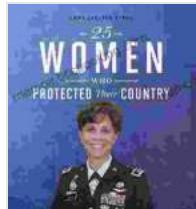


# 25 Women Who Protected Their Country: Daring Women

Throughout history, women have played a vital role in protecting their countries, often facing adversity and overcoming tremendous obstacles. From ancient warriors to modern-day soldiers, these women have demonstrated exceptional courage, determination, and selflessness. This article sheds light on the remarkable stories of 25 such women who have made significant contributions to their nations' defense and security.



## 25 Women Who Protected Their Country (Daring Women) by Aria Brooks

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### 1. Joan of Arc (1412-1431): France



Joan of Arc, a young peasant girl, rose to prominence as a military leader during the Hundred Years' War. She claimed to receive divine visions, rallied the French army, and led them to several significant victories. Despite her eventual capture and execution by the English, Joan of Arc remains a legendary figure in French history.

## **2. Nzinga of Ndongo and Matamba (1583-1663): Angola**



Queen Nzinga was a powerful ruler who resisted Portuguese colonial rule in Angola. Known for her diplomatic skills and military prowess, she led her people in a decades-long struggle for independence. Nzinga's legacy as a warrior queen and symbol of resistance continues to inspire Angolans to this day.

### **3. Boudicca (c. 60-61 AD): Britain**



Queen Boudicca led a fierce rebellion against the Roman occupation of Britain. After her husband's death, she rallied her people and led them in a bloody uprising, sacking Roman cities and massacring Roman soldiers. Though the revolt was ultimately crushed, Boudicca remains a symbol of Celtic resistance.

#### **4. Hua Mulan (c. 581-602 AD): China**



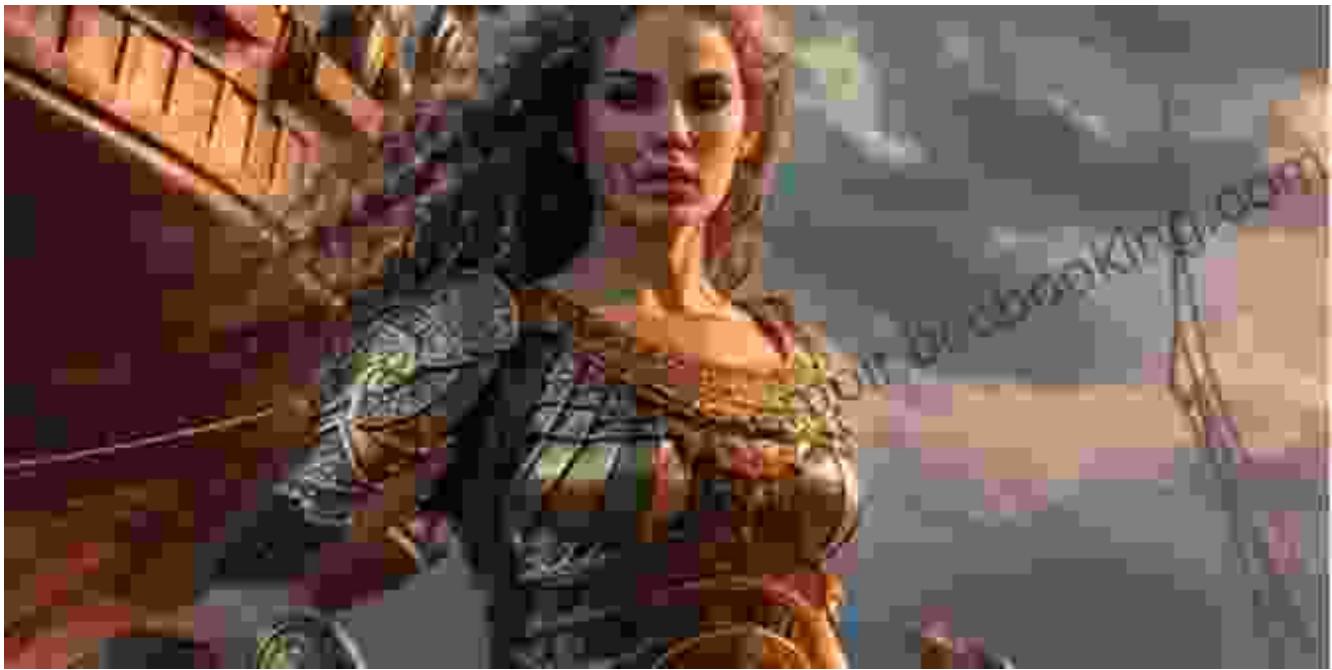
Hua Mulan is a legendary Chinese warrior who is said to have disguised herself as a man to serve in the army in place of her elderly father. Her bravery and skill on the battlefield earned her great respect and honor. Mulan's story continues to inspire Chinese people and has been immortalized in numerous films and television shows.

## 5. Tomyris (6th century BC): Scythia



Queen Tomyris was a legendary Scythian warrior queen who defeated the mighty Persian king Cyrus the Great in battle. Her army used cunning tactics to lure the Persians into a trap, resulting in a decisive Scythian victory. Tomyris's story is a testament to the power of female leadership in ancient times.

## **6. Artemisia I of Caria (c. 480-470 BC): Persia**



Queen Artemisia I was a skilled naval commander who fought alongside the Persians against the invading Greeks during the Battle of Salamis. Her strategic brilliance and courage earned her the respect of both her Persian allies and Greek opponents. Artemisia is regarded as one of the first known female naval commanders in history.

## 7. Hannah Snell (1723-1792): England



Hannah Snell was an English woman who disguised herself as a man named James Gray and enlisted in the Royal Marines. She fought bravely in several battles and was wounded in action. After revealing her true identity, she became a celebrated figure in Britain and was awarded a pension by the government.

## **8. Mary Katherine Goddard (1738-1816): United States**



Mary Katherine Goddard was an American publisher who printed the first official copies of the Declaration of Independence. Her printing press produced the copies that were sent to the Continental Army and distributed throughout the colonies. Goddard's contribution to the American Revolution is often overlooked, but her role was crucial in disseminating the Declaration of Independence to a wider audience.

#### **9. Nancy Ward (1738-1822): Cherokee Nation**



Nancy Ward was a Cherokee leader who worked tirelessly to promote peace and understanding between her people and the American settlers. She served as a diplomat, negotiator, and peacemaker, earning the respect of both Cherokee and American leaders. Ward's legacy as a peacemaker continues to inspire efforts for reconciliation and cooperation.

#### **10. Sarah Franklin Bache (1743-1808): United States**



Sarah Franklin Bache, the daughter of Benjamin Franklin, was a pioneer in the field of education. She established the first circulating library in America, which provided access to books for people of all ages and backgrounds. Bache's contributions to literacy and education have had a lasting impact on American society.

#### **11. Elizabeth Freeman (c. 1742-1829): United States**



Elizabeth Freeman was an enslaved African American woman who successfully sued for her freedom in a Massachusetts court. Her landmark case established the principle that slavery was illegal in the state. Freeman's courage and determination paved the way for the abolition of slavery in Massachusetts and inspired other enslaved people to fight for their freedom.

## **12. Mary Ludwig Hays McCauley (1744-1832): United States**



Mary Ludwig Hays McCauley, known as 'Molly Pitcher', is a legendary figure in American history. She assisted her husband, a Continental Army soldier, in the Battle of Monmouth by taking his place at the cannon when he was wounded. McCauley's bravery and determination earned her the respect of her fellow soldiers and solidified her place in American folklore.

### **13. Mary Seacole (1805-1881): Jamaica**



Mary Seacole was a Jamaican nurse and businesswoman who established the British Hotel in the Crimean War. Her hotel provided medical care, lodging, and other services to soldiers of all nationalities, earning her the nickname 'Mother Seacole'. Seacole's tireless work and compassion made her a beloved figure among the troops and cemented her legacy as a pioneering nurse and humanitarian.

#### **14. Nancy Pelosi (1940-present): United States**

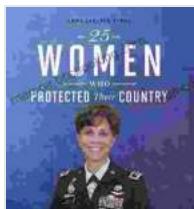


Nancy Pelosi is the first female Speaker of the United States House of Representatives. She has served as a member of Congress since 1987 and has been a vocal advocate for women's rights, healthcare reform, and environmental protection. Pelosi's leadership has broken down barriers and inspired countless women to pursue careers in politics and public service.

#### **15. Rosa Parks (1913-2005): United States**



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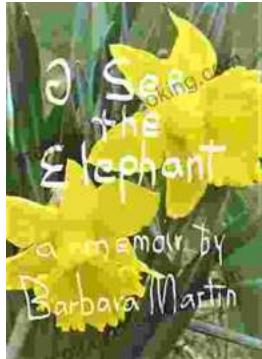
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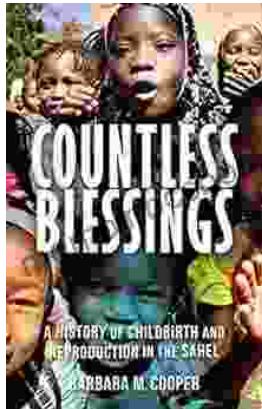
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