



What is One Book One Community?

This is the 17th year the Sarasota County library system has participated in the "One Book, One Community" program, which started in 1996 in Seattle to help foster the expression of ideas within the community through the shared love of reading. One Book engages participants in reading and thoughtful conversation by sponsoring a community-wide reading experience, and hosting programs to explore the themes of the featured book. The volunteer Book Selection Committee typically spends many weeks reading and reviewing books.

Kate Moore introduces readers to real women who lived in New Jersey and in Illinois, separated by 800 miles but united in their determination to stand up for themselves – and workers everywhere.

The Radium Girls tells the story of American women who were poisoned by their work and courageously fought for justice. Their case transformed workers' rights in the U.S., resulting in legislation to ensure safe working conditions.

Sadly, The Radium Girls' tale is all too relevant today. May they rest in peace.

READ THE BOOK, JOIN THE DISCUSSION, SHARE THE STORY.

To learn more, go to scgov.net/onebook

FIND ▶ YOURSELF
AT THE **LIBRARY**



Sarasota County prohibits discrimination in all services, programs or activities.
View the complete policy at www.scgov.net (keywords ADA).

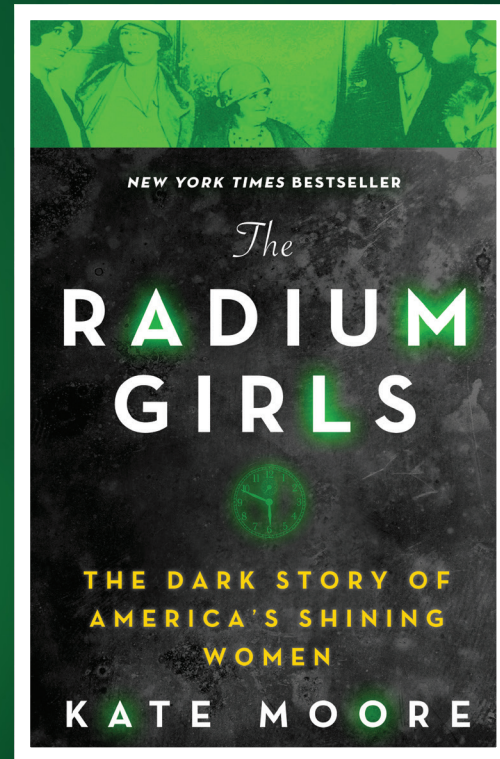
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Sarasota County Public Libraries

1660 Ringling Blvd.
Sarasota, Florida 34236
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Kate Moore and

The RADIUM GIRLS

The Dark Story of America's Shining Women



About the author



Credit Duncan Moore

KATE MOORE is the award-winning New York Times and USA Today bestselling author of *The Radium Girls*.

A British writer based in London, she has published numerous Sunday Times bestsellers, writing across various genres including history, biography, true crime, and humor.

She began her career in publishing after graduating from the University of Warwick. An

in-house editor at various publishing houses for more than a decade, she most recently worked as an editorial director of Penguin Random House, and now works full-time as an author, ghostwriter and book editor. She has written more than 15 books that have been translated into more than 12 languages.

They paid with their lives. Their final fight was for justice.



MEMORIAL STATUE TO THE RADIIUM GIRLS

in Ottawa. The statue recognizes "... the tremendous perseverance, dedication and sense of justice the radium girls exhibited in their fight."

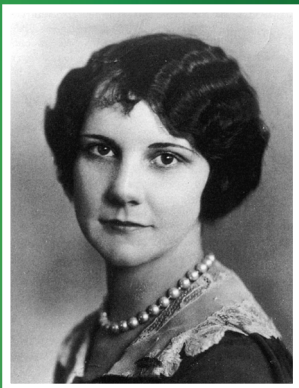
Kate Moore first discovered the story of the radium girls when she directed the play *These Shining Lives* by Melanie Marnich, which dramatized the experiences of the Ottawa dial-painters. In 2015, this production received critical acclaim in London theaters. While conducting research for the play, she realized there was no book that focused on the women and told their story in their own words. Feeling passionately that the women deserved such a book, she decided to write it.

Moore's research took her from Newark and Orange, New Jersey, to New York and Washington, D.C., and to Chicago and Ottawa, Illinois. She walked in the women's footsteps and met their families, visited their homes and graves, stood in their shoes at the sites of the dial-painting studios, and remembered the radium girls. She hopes, through her book, that you will do the same.

Moore explains, "That's why I wrote the book: to give them a voice, to make the story about them, and not simply about their place in history. I wanted to bring to life the individual women and make them real: not just anonymous 'radium girls', but real women with personalities, passions and loved ones."



KATHERINE SCHAU was born March 10, 1902. She began work at the radium factory in Newark, New Jersey in 1917 at the age of 14. She longed to be a writer and published an excerpt of her memoir. Sadly, after her death her family was said to have burned the complete manuscript.



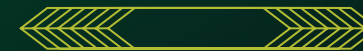
GRACE FRYER was born March 14, 1899. Grace was highly intelligent and extremely capable, and became the driving force behind the five New Jersey girls who filed suit against the United States Radium Corporation in 1927.



THE DIAL PAINTERS at a company social. Including Ella Eckert (second from left), Mollie Maggia (third from right), and Sarah Maillefer (second from right). Image courtesy of CHR, National Archives at Chicago.

THE DIAL PAINTING STUDIO

in Orange, New Jersey. Image courtesy of CHR, National Archives at Chicago.



THE BEDSIDE HEARING

at the Donohue home. Charlotte sits behind Grossman, next to Pearl. Sourced from *Chicago Daily Times* courtesy of Sun-Times Media.

