

# Spirit of the Moon

Volume 1

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## It's the BOMBE

by Midnight Snowflake

World War II wasn't just people fighting with guns and bombs - there was technology and codes behind it, too.

The Enigma was a computer that was used to encrypt German messages and plans, so the Allies couldn't break the message during World War II. The Bombe is not like the atomic bomb or a weapon. In fact, the Bombe was a complex machine used during World War II to help break the German Enigma. The Enigma was said to be unbreakable, for it had  $3 \times 10^{114}$  permutations (possible combinations). However, it was breakable, and would be broken using the Bombe.

The Bombe would go through the possible settings for each crib. A crib is a part of the message that is already known. For example, some radio stations might always start with "The weather for the day is." Because humans are not random, this made it easy sometimes to find the settings. Once the Allies decrypted messages, these messages, called Ultra, would be given to the Allied leaders. After receiving these messages, containing the Germans plans, the Allies would decide how they would act upon the Germans.

The Bombe affects our life today in many ways. Following after the Bombe, there was the first programmable computer, Colossus. This was a big advancement in technology, especially computers, and was used at the end of the war to break ciphers, too. If we had not won the war, we could be speaking German right now! Or even Japanese!!



## About Spirit of the Moon

*Spirit of the Moon* is a brand new e-zine BY and FOR girls ages 9-14. WinterDancer had the vision, and her sister Sunflower brought it to life. They would like to thank Midnight Snowflake, Lady NY, and their friends and family for supporting *Spirit of the Moon* and helping to make it a reality.

If you like *Spirit of the Moon*, please help us make it better by giving us feedback. You may either use the comment form in any of the posts on [spiritofthemoon.wordpress.com](http://spiritofthemoon.wordpress.com), or email us at [spiritofthemoonezine@gmail.com](mailto:spiritofthemoonezine@gmail.com).



# ¡Cómo Hablar Español! (How to Speak Spanish)

by Midnight Snowflake

**Imagine your family is going on a trip to Spain. Along with adapting to the time difference, you are adapting to the culture of this magnificent country. But how can you do this with out knowing its language?!**

¡Hola! El español es divertido. (Hello! Spanish is fun.) Spanish can be very simple, but if you forget accents you could be saying something very different. Here are some common phrases:

Hola = Hello  
Adiós = Bye  
¿Cómo estás tú? = How are you? (informal)  
¿Cómo está usted? = How are you? (formal)  
Bien = Good  
Mal = Bad  
Así, así = So-so  
Muy = Very (used in front of adjectives)  
¿Y tú? = And you?  
¿Cómo se llama usted? = What is your name? (formal)  
¿Cómo te llamas tú? = What is your name? (informal)  
Por favor = Please  
Gracias = Thank you  
De nada = You're welcome, or It's nothing  
Lo siento = I'm sorry  
Sí = Yes  
No = No  
¿Cuántos años tienes? = How old are you?

Tengo # años. = I'm # years old.

Numbers from 0-20:	Cero = 0
Uno = 1	Once = 11
Dos = 2	Doce = 12
Tres = 3	Trece = 13
Cuatro = 4	Catorce = 14
Cinco = 5	Quince = 15
Seis = 6	Dieciseis = 16
Siete = 7	Diecisiete = 17
Ocho = 8	Dieciocho = 18
Nueve = 9	Diecinueve = 19
Diez = 10	Veinte = 20

If you want to translate something from English to Spanish, you say "¿Cómo se dice \_\_\_\_\_ en español?" (How do you say \_\_\_\_\_ in Spanish?) Also, if want to translate something from Spanish to English you say "¿Cómo se dice \_\_\_\_\_ en inglés?" (How do you say \_\_\_\_\_ in English?)

Now that your family knows some Spanish, you can explore and enjoy the beautiful cities of Spain and its culture! Adios.

# Famous Women Quiz

by Sunflower

Match the famous women with their quotes.

## Quotes

1. I'm sick and tired of people who say that if you debate and disagree with this administration, somehow you're not patriotic. We need to stand up and say we're Americans, and we have the right to debate and disagree with any administration.
2. I would like to be known as a person who is concerned about freedom and equality and justice and prosperity for all people.
3. The formula for success is simple: practice and concentration then more practice and more concentration.
4. Many argue; not many converse.
5. I wanted to talk to the animals like Dr. Doolittle.
6. Remember always that you not only have the right to be an individual, you have an obligation to be one.
7. Life is either a daring adventure or nothing at all. Security is mostly a superstition. It does not exist in nature.
8. The most effective way to do it, is to do it.
9. Who would ever think that so much went on in the soul of a young girl?
10. I have frequently been questioned, especially by women, of how I could reconcile family life with a scientific career. Well, it has not been easy.

11. One isn't necessarily born with courage, but one is born with potential. Without courage, we cannot practice any other virtue with consistency. We can't be kind, true, merciful, generous, or honest.

12. I had crossed the line. I was free; but there was no one to welcome me to the land of freedom. I was a stranger in a strange land.

## Famous Women

- A. Louisa May Alcott
- B. Maya Angelou
- C. Hillary Clinton
- D. Marie Curie
- E. Amelia Earhart
- F. Anne Frank
- G. Jane Goodall
- H. Helen Keller
- I. Rosa Parks
- J. Eleanor Roosevelt
- K. Harriet Tubman
- L. Babe Didrikson Zaharias

Answers on page 7.

"An optimist is the human personification of spring."

- Susan J. Bissonette



# Designing the Future

by Sunflower

## Have you ever wanted to design a city of the future? In the Future City Engineering Challenge, I got to do just that!

Each team consists of three 7<sup>th</sup> or 8<sup>th</sup> grade students, a teacher, and an engineer mentor. All the students on my team were homeschooled, and my mom was the teacher. We met once a week.

Our first task was to design a city on SimCity with at least 50,000 people, and at least 150 years in the future. I wasn't very good at SimCity. Neither was "Lark." Fortunately, "Jefferson" could at least keep a city going for more than 10 years! The city we submitted was actually a practice city that "Jefferson" had started that "Lark" and I liked, so we kept working with it. We named it Perfectus Amicus Opidum ("Perfect Friendly City" in Latin), and decided that it was located near Anchorage, Alaska.

We also had to write an essay on how our city incorporated this year's topic, "affordable green housing for those who would otherwise be homeless." We decided on seven quarter-pyramid-shaped high rises placed throughout the city. I suggested that the apartments should have movable walls, allowing each family to design the layout of their home to suit their own needs. On the first floor of each high rise we put businesses that are meant to be used by everyone in the neighborhood, to better integrate those who live in the high rise with the community.

We also had to write a short narrative describing our city as a whole. Two days before it was due, we looked at some narratives that won awards in previous years. They were having *way* more fun with it than we were! We had some work to do! "Lark" and I sat down and created a history for our city (it was founded by a cabbage-lover), and an extremely original public school system.

Once the simulation, essay, and narrative were submitted, we started thinking about the model and oral report. Unfortunately, this was around Christmas time, so we didn't start really working until about week before the competition!

It was a *lot* of work. "Lark" came to my house for up to six hours each day, and I kept working after she left. "Jefferson" was in Florida up until two days before the competition (not his choice!), so we didn't practice the oral report at all until he got back.

The night before the competition, my mom and I had the house to ourselves. I remember sitting on the kitchen floor, gluing down the last pieces on the model until 10:00.

*Continued page 6*

# The Cell Phone Debate

Do you have a cell phone? If you do, you probably like it. If you don't have a cell phone, do you want one? Do you think that all girls should have cell phones, or do you wish that cell phones didn't exist? There are good arguments for both sides. Here, the Dreamers share their thoughts on the issue.

## Lady NY

I think that girls should have cell phones. They're good for emergencies, calling, and (my favorite) texting. My cell helps me stay in contact with friends and family. All girls should have a cell during a crisis (ex: fire, dangerous person, natural disaster) to stay safe. A cell phone could even save your life one day. Cell phones are fun, safe, and are just awesome in general.

## WinterDancer

I think cell phones can be good and bad. Here's one scenario: Say you're at soccer practice and your mom is supposed to pick you up. Then your mom gets in a car accident. You and your mom both have a cell phone, so your mom calls you and you go home with Casey's mom.

In this scenario, cell phones look bright and happy. But not everyone has a cell phone, so it can be hurtful to others when their friends are texting or calling up other friends. It can make it hard to hang out with your friend.

Here's another scenario: Casey calls you up and invites you to her house. Casey does not have a cell phone. Your mom tells you to bring your cell phone with you so you can call her when you need to go home. When you get to Casey's house another friend calls you and Casey feels left out because you're not really hanging out with her anymore.

So that does not mean that you can't have a cell phone! Just remember to be respectful of others.

“Winning has always meant much to me, but winning friends has meant the most.”

- Babe Didrikson Zaharias

## Midnight Snowflake

I believe teens should have cell phones. Often teens are going out with friends, without adults. If they have a cell phone, teens can call their parents if they need to. Also, cell phones are a great way to stay in contact with long distance friends. It's an easy way to have a conversation through texting or calling. And, if you have internet on your phone, then you can get your email, check weather, or go on any site you need to go on.

## Sunflower

I don't think that girls should have cell phones unless they need one to be safe. Many girls I know who have cell phones often do not pay attention to anything else, even when they are with friends. It can be boring to hear girls talk about their cell phones all day! It also makes me sad when girls miss out on great experiences because they are focused on games or texting. On the other hand, girls who go places without their parents often need cell phones so that they and their parents can feel safe.

Do you have an opinion? Join the debate in the comments at

<http://spiritofthemoon.wordpress.com/2010/03/19/first-issue-of-spirit-of-the-moon/>. Please note that you do not need to give your email for your comment to be published.



## Poetry

### Proud to be a Girl

by WinterDancer

Standing strong on the  
brink of a stream.  
On the top of a mountain.  
Proud to be Intelligent  
and caring.  
Proud to be strong and  
loving.  
Proud to radical and  
dreaming.  
Proud to be creative and  
dancing.  
Proud to be playing and  
helping.  
Proud to be me,  
Proud to be me...  
**Proud to be a Girl.**

## Designing the Future (cont.)

At the competition, we found out that the 1<sup>st</sup> place team would be going to Nationals. This is something that I had been hoping for, so I was very happy!

Our first judges of the day looked at engineering design. Their score would not be counted in our overall total, but they were the first judges, so we were very nervous! They seemed to be impressed, which calmed us down a bit.

We talked to many different judges throughout the day. They asked a lot of questions that we had prepared answers to, but they also asked about things we hadn't thought about. Thankfully, "Jefferson" is good at making things up on the spot so by the time the day was over we had a good water system, and many, many different plans for what we would do if there was a disaster, like an earthquake or large snowstorm.

One of the most nerve-wracking parts of the day was the oral report. No one except our families and the judges were allowed in the room. We did well, with just a few small mistakes. The judge's questions came from their manual, which meant that they didn't ask about the interesting stuff.

After a few more sets of judges, we thought we were done. We ate a bit, took a walk, and looked at other teams' models. Then more judges came. And not only were they judges, but they were the *model* judges, which meant that our performance would affect our final score! We were not prepared just then, so we could have done a much better job.

We were surprised to win the Disaster Readiness award! This was one of the places where "Jefferson" had completely saved us, so he kept the award. We also placed 2<sup>nd</sup> overall. I was a little mad that we didn't get to go to Nationals, but at the same time, I was relieved that we didn't have to go on!

Because we won Disaster Readiness, we were invited to bring our model to a meeting at the Engineers Club. This is a gorgeous building that was built as a house for the son of the founder of the B&O Railroad. "Lark" and "Jefferson" got there late, so I was the only one answering questions. After the social hour, we had dinner. Then Nancy Grasmick, the CEO for all of Maryland public schools, spoke. It was a really interesting and fun evening!

Although the entire project was a lot of work, I would definitely do it again if I could! I learned a lot about how cities work, as well as some other things, like how to cut 1/2" foam core (with a sharp knife, wax, a straight edge, and an adult).

So basically, it was a LOT OF FUN!!!

# Meet the Dreamers!

The Dreamers are the authors of *Spirit of the Moon*. Read what their favorite things and most wanted superpowers are! More answers are at <http://spiritofthemoon.wordpress.com/meet-the-dreamers/>.

## Lady NY

Favorite artist/band: Lady Gaga

Favorite animal: Turtle

Favorite book: "This Book Isn't Fat, it's Fabulous"

Most embarrassing thing that's ever happened to you: My hat got stuck to my head in front of my crush

If you could have one superpower, it would be: Flying

Something else interesting about you: I play 5 instruments

## Midnight Snowflake

Favorite song: *Speechless* by Lady Gaga and *From the Inside* by Linkin Park

Favorite animals: Dogs, guinea pigs, and chinchillas

Most embarrassing thing that's ever happened to you: I went into the wrong car while I was texting

The one thing that annoys you the most: People ignoring texts and being mocked

Favorite sport to do: Figure skating and ice hockey

If you could have one superpower, it would be: Time travel, because it has always seemed so cool

## Sunflower

Favorite artist/band: Coldplay, Fall Out Boy, Owl City, The Beatles... etc.

Favorite color: Red. Or purple. Or blue or green or orange. I like all colors!

If you could only eat one food the rest of your life, it would be: Rice!

The one thing that annoys you the most: People not being precise.

If you could be really, really good at one thing, it would be: Singing

Something else interesting about you: I was born in Canada, and have dual citizenship with the USA and Canada.

## WinterDancer

Favorite artist: Whatever artist has a song I am currently obsessed with

Favorite school subject: Movie making

Favorite animal: Cat

Favorite book: Whatever book I really get into

Favorite foods: Pizza, mushrooms, watermelon, pie...

Favorite extracurricular activity: Gymnastics

**Famous Women Quiz answers:** 1 C; 2 I; 3 L; 4 A; 5 G; 6 J; 7 H; 8 E; 9 F; 10 D; 11 B; 12 K

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"Nothing is impossible, the word itself says 'I'm possible!'"

-Audrey Hepburn