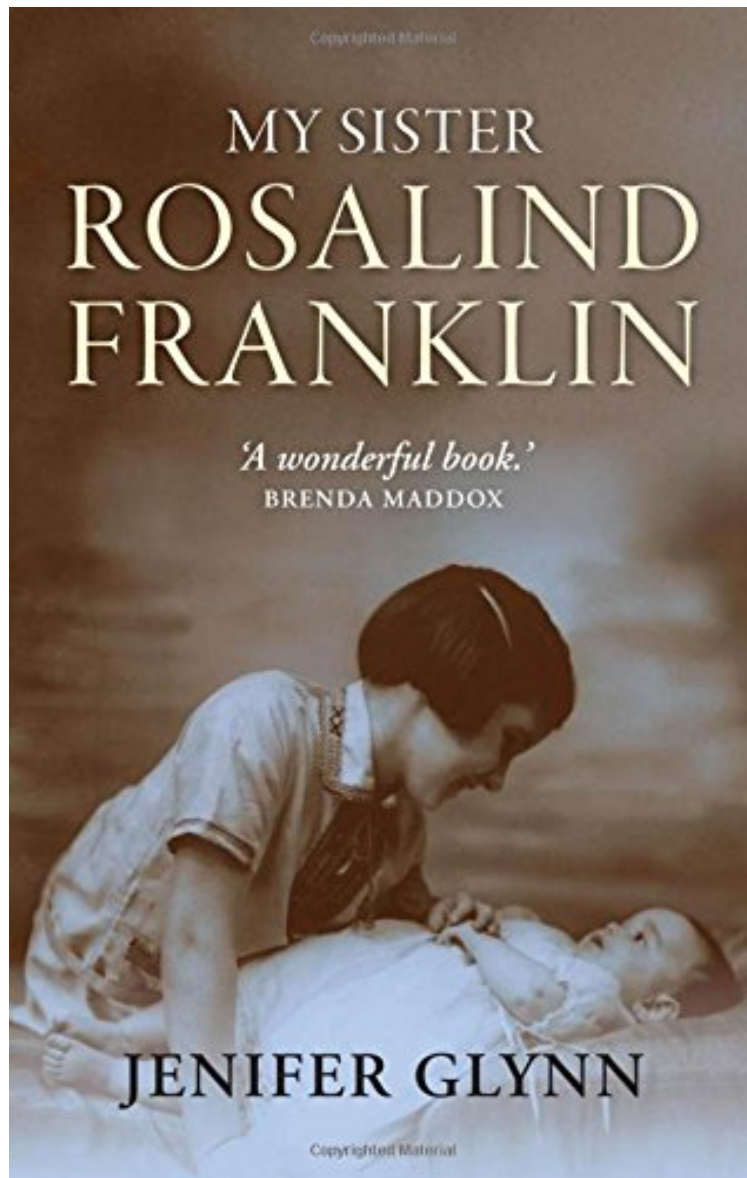


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## My Sister Rosalind Franklin: A Family Memoir

Jenifer Glynn

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#681988 in Books Oxford University Press USA 2012-04-30Original language:EnglishPDF # 1 5.70 x .90 x 8.60l, .80 #File Name: 0199699623160 pagesOxford University Press USA | File size: 15.Mb

**Jenifer Glynn : My Sister Rosalind Franklin: A Family Memoir** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised My Sister Rosalind Franklin: A Family Memoir:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. A very sweet book, written from the perspective of Rosalind Franklin's baby sister.By Rescue AmericaThis is a very sweet biography of a great scientistIn addition a window into Rosalind Franklin's childhood and the challenges of her all-too-brief but impactful career, this brief book gives

glimpses of life in post-war Paris, bits about London and Cambridge before, during and after the war, and even a glimpse of 1950s America. If you are thinking of reading Watson's *The Double Helix*, it would be valuable to read this book first, as Watson, who would not have discovered the structure of DNA without first essentially stealing Franklin's data (something Franklin never knew), presents her as a caricature in his book. For those interested in a technical description, specifically focused on her work that led to the discovery of the structure of DNA, I strongly recommend also reading the 1968 article in *Nature* by Aaron Klug (*Rosalind Franklin and the Discovery of the Structure of DNA*)--- as Klug points out (and Crick agrees) Franklin was on the cusp of discovering the structure of DNA (i.e. without any role for Watson and Crick)---In dramatic contrast, WC never would have discovered the structure without their (at the time unrevealed) peek at Franklin's work. This short book also describes Franklin's work on carbon, which predated her structural work on DNA, as she grew to become an independent and respected scientist, and her work to determine the structure of the historically important (for researchers) tobacco mosaic virus, which received crucial funding thanks to scientists at the University of California at Berkeley's Virus laboratory, when men in the UK failed to provide support for her to complete this work.

5 of 5 people found the following review helpful.  
Family memories  
By Jerry G. Walls  
Each semester I typically assign my AP students (mostly nursing) a couple of writing assignments, and one almost always is on Rosalind Franklin. The references they dig up are generally about the determination of DNA structure and the struggles with coworkers, and are either coldly factual or highly biased based on the Sayre book. Jenifer Glynn's book opens a different perspective on Franklin as a living person that I suspect many of my students will enjoy and appreciate. The book does not dwell overmuch on DNA or the feminist politics of other books but seems to present a much more balanced story of a real person who died much too young. As Franklin's younger sister, Glynn is in a position to give new (to me anyway) information on Franklin in her school years and also in the tormented years while working with Wilkins, as well as insights on how Franklin would probably not approve of how she is now being idealized as a feminist icon. Not a large book or a very scientific one (it's clear from the beginning that the science of DNA and viruses will not be the main topic), but a very good read that makes Franklin more real than anything else I've read.

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. although its nice to know about her education and growing up in ...  
By rimma tikhonov  
I learned about Rosalind Franklin from her family's point of view. It says more about her relationship with family. It was saying about Mr. Watson's unfair behavior toward Ms. Franklin and about her hard job for six years on DNA researches, and yes, she wasn't upset with him. She was so generous and forgiving person. In previous books about Ms. Franklin was more specific information, which I do appreciate very much, although its nice to know about her education and growing up in such incredible family.

Rosalind Franklin is famous in the history of science for her contribution to the discovery of the structure of DNA, the start of the greatest biological revolution of the twentieth century. Much has been written about the importance of her part, and about how her work was affected by her position as a woman scientist. Above all she was a distinguished scientist, not only in her work on DNA, but also in her earlier work on coals and carbons and in her later work on viruses. In this family memoir her sister, the writer and historian Jenifer Glynn, paints a full picture of Rosalind's life. Looking at Rosalind's background; her early education, her time as a science student at Cambridge, and her relations with her family, to her life as an adult and her time in Paris and at King's, Glynn shows how much her sister achieved and how she was influenced by the social and intellectual climate of the period she worked in.

"Jenifer Glynn has written a wonderful book - essential reading for all who are interested in Rosalind or the DNA story." --Brenda Maddox, author of *Rosalind Franklin: The Dark Lady of DNA*  
About the Author  
Jenifer Glynn read History at Cambridge and is the author of several books, including *Prince of Publishers* (1986), about the Victorian publisher George Smith, and *The Pioneering Garretts: breaking the barriers for women* (2008).