



A BRAIN AT WORK

A BREIF HISTORY OF MY LIFE

BY ALBERT EINSTEIN (Faux Autobiography)

I was playing alone, as I always do, when my father Hermann entered the room. He was holding something, something round. It looked like a biscuit, but it was made of metal, with a glass top. He sat down in the soft chair, and called me over. "Albert," he said, "this is a compass, I've always wanted to give it to you. You see the pin? It's always pointing to the north, no matter where you are!"

"Really father? How does it do that?" I asked.

"Well, the earth has a magnetic force, and it pulls the pin, and all the other magnets to the north!"

Questions immediately filled my head, the questions I would go on to try to figure out all my life. I was only five, but I was already asking questions that the best scientists couldn't answer (at the time).

Hello! I am Albert Einstein! People consider me the most brilliant man that ever lived! I was born in Ulm, Germany on March 14, 1879. My parents were immediately worried about me because my head was larger than my body, but they didn't know that the next years would be even more of a worry.

I was a shy child, always playing alone, barely even talking, in fact... I didn't even know how to talk until I was three! And guess what my first sentence was! "Mommy! The soup is too hot!" And when I was asked why I never talked before, I replied, "Everything has been fine until now!" My parents were overjoyed that I knew how to talk.

After I learned how to talk, I became more social, and my parents had another child. They gave birth to my sister, Maja, on November 18, 1881. When my mother asked me to play with her, and she wouldn't budge, I said, "Why, this doll won't move even when I picked her up!" We later became good friends, and that friendship lasted all our life.

But that wasn't the end of their problems, when I started going to school, I was very curious. I kept asking questions even when the teacher said, "NO QUESTIONS!" Eventually, they got tired of me and kicked me out. I wasn't sad or angry, because I thought the teachers were not creative and innovative. It was incredibly boring! So ever since that, I was home-schooled. But everyone was confused, because they thought I was mentally injured! That was incredibly scientifically inaccurate.

But a few years later, my parents moved to Italy. I stayed behind in Munich, so I had to attend high school there. And again, I got bored of

the way I was taught, memorizing things and then being tested on them. So I took a test to the Polytechnic University Of Switzerland. Wanting to quit high school. I failed the test and had to go to a high school in the little town of Aarau.

I started playing the violin when I was very young. At first, I detested having to practice for long hours, but I later found it comforting and enjoyable. And I played duets with my mother Paulina. Who played the piano and was extremely musical. I played all through my life, and it calmed me when I was angry or felt sad.

I took the test again a year later, and got in! In the university, I finally was understood. The teachers were creative, and the students were like me, creative and intelligent. There, I became friends with Milena Maric. We were great friends, and we soon fell in love. We moved to Italy, and we had our first daughter, but we put her up for adoption because we were financially unfit to have a child.

But I became extremely lucky. I got a job at the Swiss Patent Office in Bern, and was able to receive some money. Although it was not the job I wanted, which was to be a professor a university, but I was still happy so I took the job. The new job also allowed me to marry my longtime girlfriend Milena.

Shortly after our marriage, Milena became pregnant, and our son Hans Albert was born. I was so happy and proud! We lived a happy life over the course of the next year. People call this year *Annus Mirabilis*, which means year of wonders in Latin.

Annus Mirabilis, which was 1905, was a year of extreme luck. I published four papers in a very famous German physics magazine, called *Annalen Der Physik*. At that time, I was only 26! It was just 23 years since I

learned (or decided) to speak! My articles were about the special theory of relativity, and a brand new interpretation of the photoelectric effect. From which I would receive a Nobel Prize. My articles also had the first formulation of what is considered the most famous equation on earth, $E=mc^2$ (Energy equals mass times the speed of light squared), and from those articles, I gained fame all over Europe and a doctorate degree. Luck continued to 1906. When Mileva gave birth to our second son, Eduard.

A few years later, I moved to Prague. Where I became a full-time professor in an university after I working for many years in the patent office and having part time jobs. But I decided to move back to Zurich to teach in my alma mater, the Polytechnic University! I taught there for 2 years when I was invited to be the director of the prestigious Kaiser Wilhelm Institute in Berlin. But Mileva and the children wouldn't come along, and we would never live together as a family again.

Living alone in Berlin, I had many ups and downs. I completed my general theory of relativity. And I achieved worldwide fame when the Royal Society of London and a solar eclipse proved my predictions, and I won the Nobel Prize a few years later, but Mileva and I got divorced and I immediately remarried my cousin Elsa. You might think it is slightly strange, but I loved Elsa, I fell in love with her when she nurtured me to full health after a severe illness in 1917.

While all that happened, I regained my German citizenship, but I had no idea what I signed up for. When the Nazis came to Germany, I was almost killed because I was a Jew! Wait, you must be confused! Let me give you some background information! At that time, the Chancellor of Austria, Adolf Hitler took over Germany and became an absolute dictator. The Germans were desperate to have more power after they lost World

War I, so they followed Hitler. Unfortunately, Hitler blamed the Jews for everything he didn't like. And started the holocaust, in which Hitler imprisoned and slaughtered more than 6 million Jews. But luckily Elsa and I were in the USA when we were notified that our cottage was burned down, and a bounty was put on my head. So, we decided to stay in the USA. Along with many other Jewish scientists. In the USA, I became one of the first four people working at the Institute Of Advanced Study in Princeton. My colleagues became my best friends.

I stayed there happily along with Elsa when disaster struck. she died of sudden illness. I was devastated. I felt as though my world was being torn apart. But I went back to work when I found out of scientific discoveries in Europe with atoms and knew atomic bombs would be constructed soon. I was a pacifist, but I had to abandon pacifism because World War II had gone out of hand, and all dreams of pacifism were not possible. I agreed to send a letter to President Franklin D. Roosevelt when I was asked, recommending to start construction of an atomic bomb. Under my urging, President Roosevelt did create an atomic bomb, but I had no relation to the project, nor did I have knowledge of it.

I always believed in zionism. Which was to establish a nation in which Jews were protected and free. I knew that if we had our own nation, the Jews wouldn't have to fear being slaughtered. And would live happy lives like everyone else. Israel became that nation, and I was going to deliver a speech for it's 7th anniversary, because I died in 2 months before it. That night, I felt pains and was sent to hospital. The doctor told me to have surgery but I decided that I didn't want it. I said "If my life is to end, it shall end. I do not want to prolong it artificially." I worked to the last minutes of my life, and I died peacefully early the next day.

I was grieved for throughout the world when I died in April 16, 1955, and people honor me until the present day for my contribution to the sciences. My studies have proved that science is truly amazing. And every day, a child is influenced by me.

I think I am a Mover and Shaker because I inspired a new generation of scientist and changed knowledge and the status quo of relativity and gravity. My discoveries have led to numerous investigations still going on now! And I am considered the most brilliant man that ever lived, and I am the most influential scientist on the Top 20 Most Influential People In History. (According to wired.com)

I was inspired by Galileo Galilei, who was an astronomer in Italy in the renaissance period. And people consider me extremely humble and polite. I was also very humorous, often sticking out my tongue in pictures, and I am extremely known for my wild hair. I am the inspiration for many very famous scientists.

Well, that is my life story. I hope you have a newly developed interest in the sciences after reading my story, because you too, could achieve greatness, and contribute to the sciences and knowledge.

Author's Note

By Felix Wong (Fifth Grade Student)

This was a faux autobiography, it was not written by Mr. Einstein. I chose to write about Mr. Einstein because his scientific discoveries always amazed me, and I wanted to learn more about him. I never knew he had political views that were very interesting to read about. I used inference to infer many of the feelings of Mr. Einstein due to limited knowledge of his life. Mr. Einstein received American citizenship, and he divorced Mileva Maric before he won his Nobel Prize. I used many sources, including Encyclopedia Britannica, schmoop.com and a few books. They were all very simple sources.

Bibliography

(All Sites Accessed In February 2014)

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