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Radioactivity -- Elizabeth Rona: The Polonium Woman -- Ida Noddack: Proposer of Nuclear Fission -- ... And Some Other Women of the Austro-German Group -- Epilogue: The End of an Era and a New Generation -- Appendix: Dates of Selected Events in the History of Atomic Science (1895–1940) -- Contributors -- Notes -- Index

Sommario/riassunto

A Devotion to Their Science includes biographical essays on twenty-three women who worked in atomic science during the first two decades of the twentieth century, including Marie Curie, Lise Meitner, Irène Joliot-Curie, and a host of lesser-known women scientists whose life stories have never before been told. The biographies highlight the lives and work of these women, noting their contributions and the challenges they faced and overcame. Taken together the essays record their collective experiences, highlighting the support network that developed among them and the reasons women were more predominant in this field than in other sciences in the early part of this century. By recovering and recording individual and collective histories of the many eminent women in radioactivity whose work had a major impact on the scientific discoveries of the twentieth century, a more complete, gender-integrated view of the history of this fascinating field emerges.
