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Essay #3

English 1121-6428

Emily Roebling

In Brooklyn, Emily Roebling is considered to be one of the greatest and bravest women of all time. Emily Warren Roebling lived a long fruitful life from the years 1843 until 1903. She was the wife of [Washington Roebling](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Washington_Roebling), who was also known as the Chief Engineer during the construction of the [Brooklyn Bridge](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Brooklyn_Bridge). The Brooklyn Bridge is located in [New York City](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/New_York_City), standing at a main span of almost 1,600 feet (490m). It is also considered as one of the oldest suspension bridges in the U.S, being completed in 1883. That is almost 150 years old! The process of the bridge was very complicated, because everyone became sick and died during the making of it. It was until the third try until Emily Roebling was finally able to take her place as the main constructor of the massive bridge.

Emily's husband, Washington Roebling was the one that decided to take on his father's legacy. He began constructing the bridge a little before he developed [caisson disease](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Decompression_sickness). Unfortunately, into the making of the Brooklyn Bridge he died from the disease. Washington Roebling (May 26, 1837 – July 21, 1926), studied in engineering and was really well known for starting the Brooklyn Bridge that his father, John A. Roebling had designed. John A. Roebling was also well known for designing others such as suspension bridges in Texas, Ohio and many other different countries all over the world. Caisson disease, or otherwise known as the decompression sickness is basically a condition where bubbles arise inside the body while on depressurization. His wife Emily was his companion, his love, his nurse, and a friend that was by his side until he died.

Emily was born into Sylvanus and Phoebe Warren at [Cold Spring, New York](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cold_Spring,_New_York) on September 23, 1843. She was also the second youngest of twelve children. Emily was a very strong woman; she was really determined and helpful. After the creation of the Brooklyn Bridge, she took a part of the Relief Organization during the Spanish American War. Traveling, and spending time with her family, she was a very vital part of her family's life until she peacefully died on February 28th.

Washington's father was the founder of the bridge, and constructing the Brooklyn Bride while his daughter in-law and Washington went out to study. After a long trip, Emily and Washington were greeted with a turn of fate after coming back home; Washington's father died of [tetanus](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tetanus). Tetanus is a contamination of the body which wounds and cuts open the skin. After the passing of Washington's father, he immediately took charge of the Brooklyn Bridge's construction. While he was into the project, Washington also developed [caisson disease](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Decompression_sickness) which has affected him very badly. At this point, Emily finally decided to step into the construction of the making of the bridge. She is considered the “first woman field engineer” and was a very reliable spectator to the completion of the Brooklyn Bridge.

Officially opened on May 24, 1983 the Brooklyn Bridge was being used by thousands of people that attended the ceremony. On average, at least 1,800 cars, 140,000 people, and 21 elephants crossed that bridge the first day. The area was so overcrowded that there were even rumors that the "stampede" of people would've caused the bridge to collapse. At least 5 people were crushed in the process. At the time, the Bridge was quite costly. Not only it was worth 13 billion to create, 20 people died during the making of it. People bungee jumped off of the highest point of the bridge, and threw anniversary celebrations every year where many people from around the world came to join and see.

In March 1st, 1994 a man named Rashid Baz began opening fire on a van which carried the people that took part of a Jewish movement. Baz was infamously known for his road rages and shoot-outs in many different areas and was wanted from all over the places. After finally capturing him, he was sentenced to jail for 141 years. This Bridge is basically a fossil that preserved all of the good moments, and also the bad. Standing tall decades after construction, the Brooklyn Bridge is an all-time vital part of our history. Its creation was life changing to tourists, employees and people who lived in Brooklyn. It is the heart of Brooklyn. Without it, everything would be much complicated.

During the making of the Brooklyn Bride, Emily developed a knowledge of the [strengths of many building materials](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Strength_of_materials), [stress analysis](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Stress_analysis) and [cable construction](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wire_rope)s. The process of the making of the Brooklyn Bridge created a huge impact on not only physically and mentally, but emotionally as well. She was on an emotional rollercoaster going through the death of her loving and strong husband. At the same time however, the building, constructing and designing of the bridge has expanded her knowledge of its creations. She gained fame from all over the world because of her incredible deeds as a women. She was looked upon and almost idolized by many different type of women; being claimed as a strong and smart woman that didn't need another man to assist her in such a difficult task.

It's very incredible for women to know such things, mainly because most women did not study in the field of engineering. At the time, many women that actually had the chance to study at her time studied nursing. Most of the other women took on simple jobs at home; feeding the children and tending the home as her husband went out to work. Emily Roebling took over many of a chief engineer's duties, including day-to-day supervision and project management.

Until this very day, the Brooklyn Bridge holds a very memorable synopsis that's dedicated to the memory of Emily, her husband, and her father-in-law. The making of the bridge was a timeline for Roebling's family and their family before that. Although this was a long and hard process for Emily, her husband Washington, and his father before him, the spectacular creation was all worth the while. Decades have passed and even hundreds of years and it is still standing tall until this very day.

The bridge is now celebrated every fifth year and is admired upon everyone that walks and drives on it. Emily is also proudly considered to be one of the bravest, greatest woman in the history of Brooklyn that has ever stood up to take on one of these incredible creations.

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