

Random stuff:

A Very Brady Renovation

<https://people.com/home/brady-bunch-cast-reunites-kick-off-hgtv-renovation-home/>

- Previous story about Lance Bass trying to buy the Brady Bunch house, but the deal fell through when a corporate buyer outbid him.
- That corporate buyer turned out to be Discovery communications, the parent owner of HGTV.
- So HGTV has announced there will be a new series called A Very Brady Renovation
- “The six original cast members were joined by Property Brothers stars [Jonathan and Drew Scott](#), Good Bones’ Mina Starsiak and Karen E Laine, Flea Market Flip’s [Lara Spencer](#), Restored by the Fords siblings [Leanne and Steve Ford](#) and Hidden Potential’s Jasmine Roth as part of the celebration.”
- The new series will debut in 2019, will feature celebrity guests, the famous house which was the facade for the original show will be restored to the original 1970s style both inside and outside.
- “What’s so exciting about this project is that we are creating one of the most iconic homes from many of our viewers’ childhoods,” Loren Ruch, senior vice president, HGTV programming and partnerships, said in a statement. “It will be the first time in history that the house from all of our memories will be created in a real brick and mortar location. It is certain to be a trip down memory lane.”
- HGTV [purchased the home](#) for \$3.5 million in August, outbidding many who were eyeing the property, including a “heartbroken” [Lance Bass](#). Had Bass had the winning bid, he has said, he would have renovated the inside to match the set.
- “Although Bass was absent from Thursday’s festivities, he has plans to [help produce](#) HGTV’s new show.”

NY family thinks bones under home are long-missing father

https://www.brownsvilleherald.com/news/strange_news/family-thinks-bones-under-home-are-missing-father/article_926c2431-18a4-55e0-9c3d-f78b84e96e5c.html

- “A New York family says they’ve found human bones beneath their basement, and they believe the remains” are of their missing father, who disappeared over 50 years ago.
- “Steven Carroll, 61, and his brother Michael Carroll, 57, said their family had tried just about everything to find out what happened to their father, George Carroll, who disappeared in 1961.”
- “The missing man’s wife, Dorothy Carroll, who died in 1998, had only told her children that “he went out and just never came back,” Michael Carroll told [Newsday](#) .”
- “Michael Carroll had bought the house, located in the village of Lake Grove, from his mother in the 1980s. He started excavating a few years ago, in hopes of solving the mystery, but stopped, fearing structural damage.”

- “A sister summoned paranormal investigators, who said there was an “energy” in the home, he said. Other people, including a psychic, felt that George Carroll was somewhere in the basement.
- Ground-penetrating radar indicated there was something about 5 feet below the surface.
- Michael Carroll's adult sons started their own digging a few months ago. They say they found the bones on Tuesday night.
- Investigators will use dental records, if available, and DNA testing in an effort to confirm whether the bones are George Carroll's. That could take months, Suffolk County Chief of Detectives Gerard Gigante said on Thursday. Police don't think Carroll was ever reported missing, but they're scouring old records.
- The family may never know how he died, said Steven Carroll, but “...if it is George Carroll, we can now give him a proper burial.”

Badass Moms: Mary Wollstonecraft

Overview:

- Born April 27, 1759 in London, England
- She was a writer, philosopher, and advocate of women’s rights
- She novels, treatises, a travel narrative, a history of the French Revolution, a conduct book, and a children’s book
- She is best known for A Vindication of the Right of Woman published in 1792. In this book, she argues that women are not naturally inferior to men, “but appear to be only because they lack education”
- She suggested that both “men and women should be treated as rational beings and imagines a social order founded on reason.”
- Mother of Fanny Imlay and Mary Godwin (also known as Mary Shelley, author of Frankenstein)

Early life:

- She was the 2nd child of 7 of Elizabeth Dixon and Edward John Wollstonecraft”
- The family had a comfortable income while she was growing up but then her father “squandered it on speculative projects.”
- The family became financially unstable and they had to move around a lot
- At one point, their financial situation was so bad that her father made her turn over money that would have been her inheritance at her maturity.
- Her father was also very abusive and would beat her mother during drunken rages.

- When Mary was a teenager, she would lay outside her mother's bedroom door to protect her
- She was also very protective and maternal to her 2 sisters, Eliza and Everina.

Adult life:

- She left home in 1778 and got a job as a lady companion but did not get along with the woman she was caring for. She wrote on this experience in *Thoughts on the Education of Daughters*
- Returned home in 1780 to care for her dying mother
- In order to make a living, she set up a school with her sisters
- In 1785 left the school to care for her friend, Fanny Blood, who died and was the inspiration for *Mary: A Fiction*, her first novel. The school later failed.
- After Blood's death, She became a governess for the Kingsborough family though she didn't get along with their mother, the children were the inspiration for her only children's book "*Original Stories from Real Life*" in 1788
- She became frustrated by the "limited career options open to respectable yet poor women", which she describes in "*Thoughts on the Education of Daughters*", in "*Unfortunate Situation of Females, Fashionably Educated, and Left Without a Fortune*". She then left her governess position and decided to embark on a career as an author.
- This was a bold move because few women could support themselves by writing at this time. She described herself to her sister as trying to become "the first of a new genus".
- She moved to London and with the help of a publisher, Joseph Johnson, she found a place to work and live to support herself.
- She translated texts from French and German into English, wrote reviews, primarily of novels, for the publisher's periodical - the *Analytical Review*.
- During this time, she met various people such as Thomas Paine and William Godwin (her later husband). The first time Godwin and Wollstonecraft met, they were disappointed in each other. While Thomas Paine was giving a talk, Wollstonecraft was disagreeing with him on "nearly every subject".
- While in London, she pursued a relationship with an artist Henry Fuseli, but he was already married, but she was "enraptured by his genius" and proposed a platonic living arrangement with him and his wife, but his was "appalled" and broke the relationship off with her.
- When that ended, she decided to travel to France to escape the humiliation of the situation and then joined the revolutionary events that she wrote about in "*Vindication of the Rights of Men*", which was a response to Edmund Burke's critique of the French Revolution. This work made her famous overnight.

- Wollstonecraft called the French Revolution “a glorious chance to obtain more virtue and happiness than hitherto blessed our globe”
- She snapped back at Burke again when he praised Queen Marie Antoinette as a symbol of the refined elegance of the ancient regime who was surrounded by “furies from hell, in the abused shape of the vilest of women” during the royal family’s march from Versailles to Paris by a group of angry housewives. Wollstonecraft’s response was “probably you mean women who gained a livelihood by selling vegetables or fish, who never had any advantages of education”
- She as compared to Joseph Priestley and Thomas Paine during this time and then wrote A Vindication of the Rights of Woman, which would become her most famous and influential work
- After writing the Rights of Woman, “Wollstonecraft was determined to put her ideas to the test, and in the stimulating intellectual atmosphere of the [French revolution](#) she attempted her most experimental romantic attachment yet: she met and fell passionately in love with [Gilbert Imlay](#), an American adventurer.”
- She decided to put her own ideas into practice by sleeping with Imlay despite not being married, “which was not something that was considered acceptable behavior from a "respectable" British woman at the time.” Not sure if she was interested in marriage or not, but he certainly was not about getting married, and she appears to have fallen in love with an idealized portrait of the man.
- “While she had rejected the sexual component of relationships in the Rights of Woman, Imlay awakened her passions and her interest in sex”
- During the French revolution, to protect Wollstonecraft, Imlay registered her as his wife in 1793, even though they were not legally married. After declaring war on Britain, France was blockaded by the Royal Navy, which caused shortages that worsened the problem of inflation.
- Imlay engaged in blockade-running, chartering ships to bring in food and soap from America into France, which explained why both he and Wollstonecraft were not arrested during the Reign of Terror, where people were arrested and executed on a daily basis.
- She became under suspicion as “someone from a nation that was at war with France and who was known to be a friend of leading Girondins, as the Reign of Terror began in France, “which led Imlay to make a false statement to the U.S. embassy in Paris that he had married her, automatically making her into an American citizen, in order to protect her from arrest”
- Wollstonecraft soon became pregnant by Imlay, and on 14 May 1794 she gave birth to her first child, [Fanny](#), naming her after her closest friend.

- She continued to write avidly, even through her pregnancy and “the burdens of being a new mother alone in a foreign country, but also the growing tumult of the French Revolution.”
- “Imlay, unhappy with the domestic-minded and maternal Wollstonecraft, eventually left her. He promised that he would return to Le Havre where she went to give birth to her child, but his delays in writing to her and his long absences convinced Wollstonecraft that he had found another woman.”
- “Her letters to him are full of needy expostulations, explained by most critics as the expressions of a deeply depressed woman but by some as a result of her circumstances—alone with an infant in the middle of a revolution.”
- After the French Revolution ended, Imlay departed for London and promised to return soon. The winter of 1794–95 was the coldest winter in Europe for over a century, which reduced Wollstonecraft and her daughter Fanny down to desperate circumstances. The river Seine froze that winter, which made it impossible for ships to bring food and coal to Paris, leading to widespread starvation and deaths from the cold in that city.
- Mary continued to write to Imlay, asking him to return to France at once, declaring she still had faith in the revolution and did not wish to return to Britain.
- In 1793, the British government began a crackdown on radicals, suspending civil liberties, imposing drastic censorship, and trying for treason all suspected of sympathy with the revolution, which led Mary to fear she would be imprisoned if she returned home to Britain.
- After she left France on 7 April 1795, she continued to refer to herself as “Mrs Imlay”, even to her sisters, in order to provide legitimacy to her daughter Fanny.
- Mary did eventually return to London in April 1795, but she was only seeking Imlay at the time, and he rejected her.
- “In May 1795 she attempted to commit suicide, probably with [laudanum](#), but Imlay saved her life (although it is unclear how).”
- She embarked upon some business negotiations for Imlay in Scandinavia trying to recoup some of his losses, as a last attempt at trying to win him back. Wollstonecraft undertook this hazardous trip with only her young daughter and a maid. She recounted her travels and thoughts in letters to Imlay, many of which were eventually published as [Letters Written During a Short Residence in Sweden, Norway, and Denmark](#) in 1796.
- When she returned to England and came to the full realization that her relationship with Imlay was over, she attempted suicide for the second time, leaving a note for Imlay:

“Let my wrongs sleep with me! Soon, very soon, shall I be at peace. When you receive this, my burning head will be cold ... I shall plunge into the Thames where there is the least chance of my being snatched from the death I seek. God bless you! May you never know by experience what you have made me endure. Should your sensibility ever awake, remorse will find its way to your heart; and, in the midst of business and sensual pleasure, I shall appear before you, the victim of your deviation from rectitude.”
- She then went out on a rainy night and “to make her clothes heavy with water, she walked up and down about half an hour” before jumping into the [River Thames](#), but a

stranger saw her jump and rescued her. She considered her suicide attempt deeply rational, writing after her rescue,

“I have only to lament, that, when the bitterness of death was past, I was inhumanly brought back to life and misery. But a fixed determination is not to be baffled by disappointment; nor will I allow that to be a frantic attempt, which was one of the calmest acts of reason. In this respect, I am only accountable to myself. Did I care for what is termed reputation, it is by other circumstances that I should be dishonoured.”

- She slowly went back to her literary life, becoming involved with [Joseph Johnson's](#) literary circle again, in particular with [Mary Hays](#), [Elizabeth Inchbald](#), and [Sarah Siddons](#) through [William Godwin](#).
- From here, Godwin and Wollstonecraft's unique courtship began slowly, but it eventually became a passionate love affair.
- Godwin had read her Letters Written in Sweden, Norway, and Denmark and later wrote that "If ever there was a book calculated to make a man in love with its author, this appears to me to be the book. She speaks of her sorrows, in a way that fills us with melancholy, and dissolves us in tenderness, at the same time that she displays a genius which commands all our admiration."
- Once Mary became pregnant, they decided to marry so that their child would be legitimate. Their marriage revealed the fact that she was never married to Imlay, and as a result she and Godwin lost many friends.
- Godwin received further criticism because he had advocated the abolition of marriage in his philosophical treatise [Political Justice](#).
- After their marriage on 29 March 1797, they moved to 29 The Polygon, [Somers Town](#). Godwin rented an apartment 20 doors away at 17 Evesham Buildings in Chalton Street as a study, so that they could both still retain their independence; they often communicated by letter. By all accounts, theirs was a happy and stable, though brief, relationship
- On 30 August 1797, Wollstonecraft gave birth to her second daughter, [Mary](#). Although the delivery seemed to go well initially, the [placenta](#) broke apart during the birth and became infected; [puerperal \(childbed\) fever](#) was a common and often fatal occurrence in the eighteenth century. After several days of agony, Wollstonecraft died of [septicaemia](#) on 10 September.
- Godwin was devastated and he wrote to his friend [Thomas Holcroft](#), "I firmly believe there does not exist her equal in the world. I know from experience we were formed to make each other happy. I have not the least expectation that I can now ever know happiness again
- In January 1798, Godwin published his [Memoirs of the Author of A Vindication of the Rights of Woman](#). Although Godwin felt that he was portraying his wife with love, compassion, and sincerity, many readers were shocked that he would reveal Wollstonecraft's illegitimate children, love affairs, and suicide attempts. The [Romantic](#) poet [Robert Southey](#) accused him of "the want of all feeling in stripping his dead wife naked"

- It has been noted that Mary Wollstonecraft influenced several women writers, including Jane Austen, Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Elizabeth Barrett Browning, Lucretia Mott, and many other women writers still to this day.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mary_Wollstonecraft#Legacy

<https://www.britannica.com/biography/Mary-Wollstonecraft>