

## ***Silent Sky***

### **Character List**

#### **Henrietta Leavitt**

Raised in Wisconsin, the daughter of a minister, and hired as a Harvard College Observatory "computer," Henrietta is a non-traditional early 1900s woman. She aspires to work as an astronomer. She is passionate about her work and feels compelled to find answers to her questions about the universe. (Historical figure)

#### **Margaret Leavitt**

Henrietta's younger sister and a gifted musician. She stays at home and is a traditional early 1900s woman. She marries and has a child. She is concerned about Henrietta's ambition, as it goes against the traditional norms for women at the time; however, she is supportive of her sister and celebrates her accomplishments. (Fictional character. The historical Henrietta Leavitt had six siblings.)

#### **Peter Shaw**

An astronomy fellow at Harvard. In contrast to Henrietta, he is not passionate about astronomy, although he enjoys the work. He wanted to be an actor. He falls in love with Henrietta. (Fictional character)

#### **Williamina Fleming**

A former housekeeper for Dr. Pickering, head of the Harvard College Observatory, she was hired because Dr. Pickering felt she would do better than the men he had working for him. She is smart and quick-witted. (Historical figure)

#### **Annie Jump Cannon**

Henrietta's co-worker, she has made important scientific discoveries of her own and is a suffragette. (Historical figure)