

NIELS
BOHR

*The Man, His Science, and the
World They Changed*

RUTH MOORE

Author of *Man, Time, and Fossils; The Coil of Life; Etc.*

*A biography of the man whose scientific work
and influence did the most to bring the age
of the atom into being...a man of profound
humanity who almost altered the course
of history during World War II*

This first biography of the great physicist is not only a scientific and political thriller; it is also a history of our times and a fine layman's introduction to nuclear physics.

Ruth Moore, author of *Man, Time, and Fossils*, *The Earth We Live On*, and *The Coil of Life*, has established herself as one of the best science writers in America, and this book is her crowning achievement. It not only tells the exciting story of Bohr's career but also sets forth the fundamental ideas of modern physics without dependence on mathematical formulas.

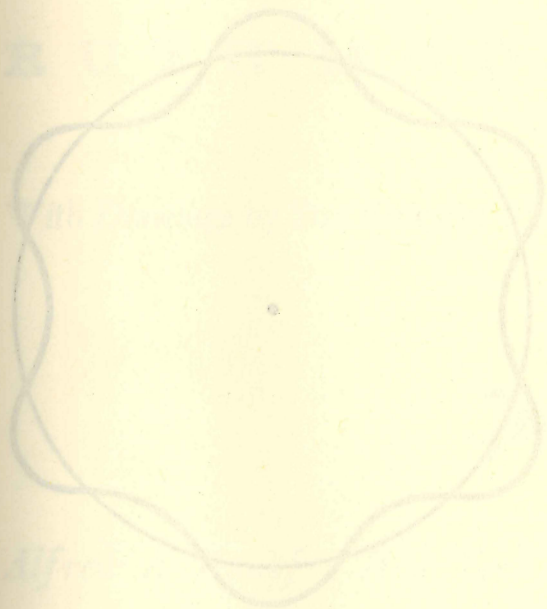
Danish-born Niels Bohr altered the course of history by describing the structure of the atom in 1913, for which he won the Nobel Prize in 1922. After the startling advances of physical theory in the 1920's, the practical application of Bohr's work, joined to that of Max Planck and Albert Einstein, led to the splitting of the atom in 1938 as war threatened. Aware of the political and military implications from the start, Bohr got most of the key scientists out of Germany and Italy in time. He also persuaded Einstein to write the famous letter to Roosevelt that induced him to gamble on the atom bomb and also to corner most of the uranium and all of the heavy water then available, without which the gamble would have failed.

Bohr was at Princeton at this time, and he won the confidence of many influential

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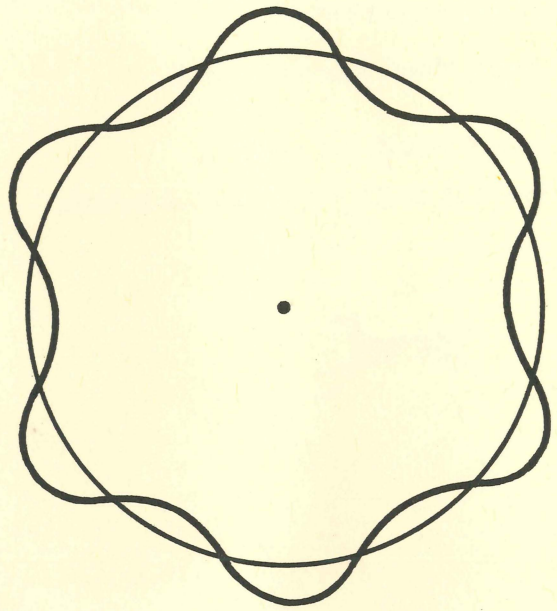
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*The Man, His Science, & the
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R U T H M O O R E

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THIS IS A BORZOI BOOK

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American statesmen as well as scientists. But he felt morally obligated to return to Denmark, where he worked heroically against the Nazis. British and American authorities feared for his life and several times urged him to leave; he did so under hair-raising circumstances and only at the last moment, just as the Nazis were about to arrest him.

Thereafter Bohr traveled back and forth between Roosevelt and Churchill and played the leading scientific role in the dramatic crisis of atomic policy in 1944 and 1945. Other participants in this fateful struggle included James B. Conant, Justice Felix Frankfurter, General George C. Marshall, Henry L. Stimson, and Vannevar Bush. Bohr died in his beloved Denmark in 1962. Ruth Moore tells this tremendous story with a verve and narrative drive that finely portray Bohr and the people around him—Oppenheimer, Einstein, Frisch, Fermi, Heisenberg, Meitner, and many others.



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New York*

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RUTH MOORE

was born in St. Louis, Missouri, and received her A.B. and A.M. degrees from Washington University there. She is the first woman to be elected to the board of trustees of Washington University since it was founded in 1853. She has worked as a reporter on the St. Louis *Star-Times*, as Washington correspondent for the *Chicago Sun*, and as assistant editor of the *Kiplinger Magazine*. She is now again in Chicago, on the *Sun-Times*, where science feature stories are one of her specialties.

A deep concern about housing, public welfare, and the many continuing problems relative to urban renewal has made her a specialist on these questions. In May 1960 she received the first individual award given by the American Association of Planning Officials for her 1959 series on urban renewal in seven major cities.

Author of such valuable books as *Man, Time, and Fossils: The Story of Evolution* (1953), *Charles Darwin: A Great Life in Brief* (1955), *The Earth We Live On: The Story of Geological Discovery* (1956), and *The Coil of Life: The Story of the Great Discoveries in the Life Sciences* (1961), Miss Moore has in *Niels Bohr: The Man, His Science, and the World They Changed* achieved another tour de force of science reporting. To write it she visited Denmark twice and enlisted the aid and advice of many physicists here and in Europe.

Photo: Harold Strauss

