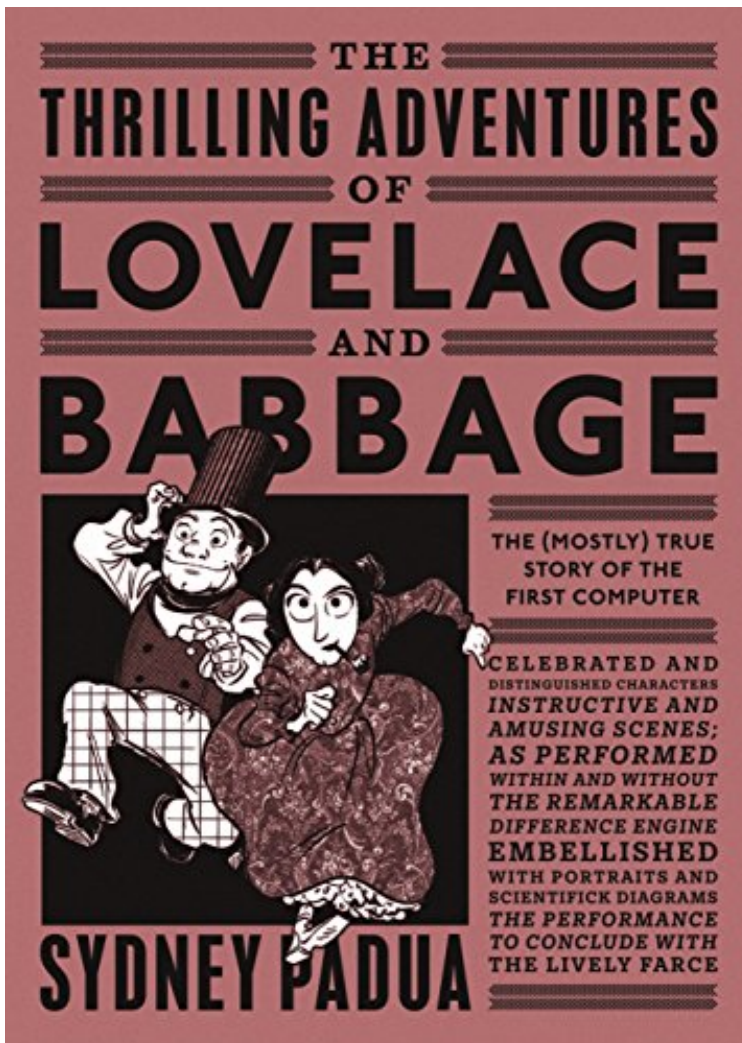


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# The Thrilling Adventures of Lovelace and Babbage: The (Mostly) True Story of the First Computer



Par Sydney Padua  
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## Description :

Prsentation de l'diteurIn The Thrilling Adventures of Lovelace and Babbage Sydney Padua transforms one of the most compelling scientific collaborations into a hilarious set of adventures The Thrilling Adventures of Lovelace and Babbage is a unique take on the unrealized invention of the computer in the 1830s by the eccentric polymath Charles Babbage and his accomplice, the daughter of Lord Byron, Ada, Countess of Lovelace. When Ada translated her friend Babbage's plans for the "Difference Engine," her lengthy footnotes contained the first appearance of the general computing theory-one hundred years before an actual computer was built. Sadly, Lovelace died of cancer a few years after publishing the paper, and Babbage

never built any of his machines. But now Sydney Padua gives us an alternate reality in which Lovelace and Babbage do build the Difference Engine, and then use it to do battle with the American banking system, the publishing industry and their own fears that their project will lose funding -- all "for the sake of both London and science". Sydney Padua is a graphic artist and animator. Her visual effects work includes both hand-drawn and computer-generated and appears in such films as *The Iron Giant*, *Clash of the Titans*, and *John Carter*. Her webcomic *The Thrilling Adventures of Lovelace and Babbage* has been featured on the BBC's *Techlab*, and in *The Economist*, *The Times*, and *Wired UK*. She is a Canadian living in London.

Revue de presse James Gleick, author of *The Information* Don't be fooled by the word comic. Sydney Padua tells a story that is tender, passionate, and true. Charles Petzold, author of *Code* and *The Annotated Turing* "So there. *The Thrilling Adventures of Lovelace and Babbage* is learned, clever, funny, and above all very silly in the best sense of the word." *Publishers Weekly* (starred review) The immensity of Padua's research and the wit and allusions of her prose are striking, saying as much about what drove her to explore the possibilities of her protagonists' relationship as about the protagonists themselves. Permeated by delightful illustrations, obsessive foot- and endnotes, and a spirit of genuine inventiveness, it's an early candidate for the year's best. Martha Cornog, *Library Journal* Padua's extravaganza is very much for the whimsical intelligentsia and will speak to those interested in computers or math who will delight in the abundant background materials. *Bookpage* Sydney Padua's impeccably researched, yet playfully imagined graphic biography is a treat for history buffs and graphic novel lovers alike. With fantastically detailed art, footnotes and diagrams, this is a whimsical graphic account like no other. Margaret Quamme, *The Columbus Dispatch* Reading *The Thrilling Adventures of Lovelace and Babbage* is like auditing a dozen high-level, inventively taught college classes simultaneously: more than a little overwhelming yet fascinating. Etelka Lehoczky, *NPR.org* Sydney Padua's new book is definitely Yowza! material. *Discover Magazine* An outlandish, enlightening tale. Nancy Szokan, *Washington Post* Informative and entertaining . . . Its a book that makes you a lot smarter as it makes you laugh. *The Takeaway* Novelist Sydney Padua has found quite a pair: the girl with the unstoppable brain; the male inventor 24 years her senior, part-poet, part-genius; this Victorian odd couple, dedicated to crime foiling and cleverness, is easily worthy of Holmes and Watson with a title to match. Maria Popova, *Brain Pickings.org* Immensely delightful and illuminating a masterwork of combinatorial genius and a poetic analog to its subject matter. *Présentation de l'auteur* In *The Thrilling Adventures of Lovelace and Babbage* Sydney Padua transforms one of the most compelling scientific collaborations into a hilarious set of adventures. *The Thrilling Adventures of Lovelace and Babbage* is a unique take on the unrealized invention of the computer in the 1830s by the eccentric polymath Charles Babbage and his accomplice, the daughter of Lord Byron, Ada, Countess of Lovelace. When Ada translated her friend Babbage's plans for the "Difference Engine," her lengthy footnotes contained the first appearance of the general computing theory one hundred years before an actual computer was built. Sadly, Lovelace died of cancer a few years after publishing the paper, and Babbage never built any of his machines. But now Sydney Padua gives us an alternate reality in which Lovelace and Babbage do build the Difference Engine, and then use it to do battle with the American banking system, the publishing industry and their own fears that their project will lose funding -- all "for the sake of both London and science". Sydney Padua is a graphic artist and animator. Her visual effects work includes both hand-drawn and computer-generated and appears in such films as *The Iron Giant*, *Clash of the Titans*, and *John Carter*. Her webcomic *The Thrilling Adventures of Lovelace and Babbage* has been featured on the BBC's *Techlab*, and in *The Economist*, *The Times*, and *Wired UK*. She is a Canadian living in London.