



The Dead Prussian

Podcast No 2

On Marie Von Clausewitz

January 2016

Episode Topic:

On Marie Von Clausewitz

Host: Mick Cook ([@Mick_Cook](#))

Guest: Vanya Eftimova Bellinger ([@vanyaef](#))

Length: 38 minutes

Episode Outline:

Introduction to the Topic and Guest. (0:58 min)

Mick introduces the topic, Marie von Clausewitz, as well as the episode's guest, Vanya Eftimova Bellinger. Vanya gives an insight into her own background and what motivated her to write a book about Marie Von Clausewitz.

Section One - What role did Marie Von Clausewitz take in publishing On War? (9:29 min)

Mick asks Vanya to elaborate on Marie's role in publishing Carl's work, On War. Vanya highlights how Carl discussed his work with Marie and how she was the most suitable person to collate and publish his work.

Section Two - What were Clausewitz's views on women? (16:32 min)

Mick asks Vanya to elaborate on Carl's views on women and their role in politics and intellectual pursuits in 19th century Prussia. An interesting point drawn out by Vanya is that Marie was not as rare as expected in 19th century Europe. Vanya also discusses how Carl's notes and manuscripts avoided masculine language when discussing war.

Section Three - Marie was reportedly an intellectual in her own right, as well as an amateur artist, did Carl support her in these endeavours? (22:34 min)

Mick asks about other areas that Marie was active in, such as politics and art. Carl's approach to his wife's intellect provides a glimpse at the strong bond between the two. Vanya highlights how Marie not only was a historian in her own right but that she provided detailed reports to Carl and his superiors.

Section Four - Were Marie and Carl a couple in love or married out of political convenience for Carl? (29:51 min)

Mick reveals his romantic side and asks about the reasons behind Carl and Marie's marriage. It was undoubtedly politically beneficial for Carl but it seems it was also built on a deep respect and love for one another. Vanya points out that theirs was a passionate relationship and Marie was the more saucy of the two.

Section Five - What was the most interesting fact you discovered about Marie and Carl? (31:27 min)

Mick asks Vanya about the most interesting fact she discovered while researching her book. The surprising part is what Vanya found it to be so interesting.

Section Six - Finish this Sentence "War is..." (33:46 min)

Mick asks each guest on our show to complete the sentence "War is ...". Impart of our quest to define war. Vanya provides a perfectly Clausewitzian answer that Carl would have been proud of.

Section Seven - Finish this Sentence "War is..." (35:36 min)

Mick wraps up the episode and Amanda gives a hint things to come in Episode 3.

References

[Bellinger, V.E. \(2015\) Marie Von Clausewitz: The Woman behind the Making of On War London: Oxford Univeristy Press](#)

[Howard, M. and Paret, P. Ed. \(1984\). Carl Von Clausewitz On War. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press.](#)

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