



# The 'i' in Einstein

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All you Pisces born out there, you have a reason to be cheerful and also a little worried! You can boast of sharing your sun sign with the greatest physicist of all times...Mr. Albert Einstein! Also be warned you might end up having his hairstyle!

Albert Einstein was born in....blah, blah, blah! Does anyone really need to be introduced to him? A persona so famous that once upon a time a letter addressed to him (without any address) reached him safely and quite on time! Do you also know that people have preserved his brain and done studies on it? That means there has to be something definitely great about this man which makes him the famous 'Einstein'!

I do not have adequate knowledge to talk about the special physics he has done, but what makes him so majestic to me is his free, unbound imagination and that is what I call the 'i' in Einstein. It must have been really amazing for a teenager to catch hold of a wild, free horse called 'light' and ride on its back to look at an altogether different, fantastic new world. He not only imagined but also believed in the plausibility of his imagination. He had the courage to think beyond the confined horizons of the then contemporary science.

Any physics student would surely get amazed by the span of Einstein's scientific contribution. He made us get entangled in the all-continuum of the space-time wraps. He squeezed 'mass' and twin 'Cs'(the 'absolute' speed of light) through '=' to make you rich with energy... (Must have heard of ' $E=mc^2$ !'). He made it possible to capture the very cunning and highly deceptive troublemakers called photons through the 'photoelectric effect'. Not only has this, Brownian motion, statistical mechanics, laser optics... all been touched by his genius brain.

All it took Einstein to shake this world was a pen, some paper, an innovative, hard working but thoroughly complex mixture of grey and white matter and of course 'the-convention-need-not-be-true' attitude. It laid open the world of 'relativity' for him. One can always ask "why things have to be the way

they are perceived by all?" .... Let all your kites of imagination fly in that infinite sky of various possibilities!

The person who found it cumbersome to use two different soaps for bathing and shaving could awaken the world by a theory only a few, brave at heart dared to understand. Now isn't that the relativity of simplicity!

Finally to all those aspirant physicists, if some day you find yourself sailing on a boat, with, let's *see*, some 'c', and a beautiful violin in a *sea* of entangled space-time...with jumping and frolicking molecules, or some mind-boggling equations....don't give up on imaginative thinking and hard work, because, you are on the right track, my friend, you are!

