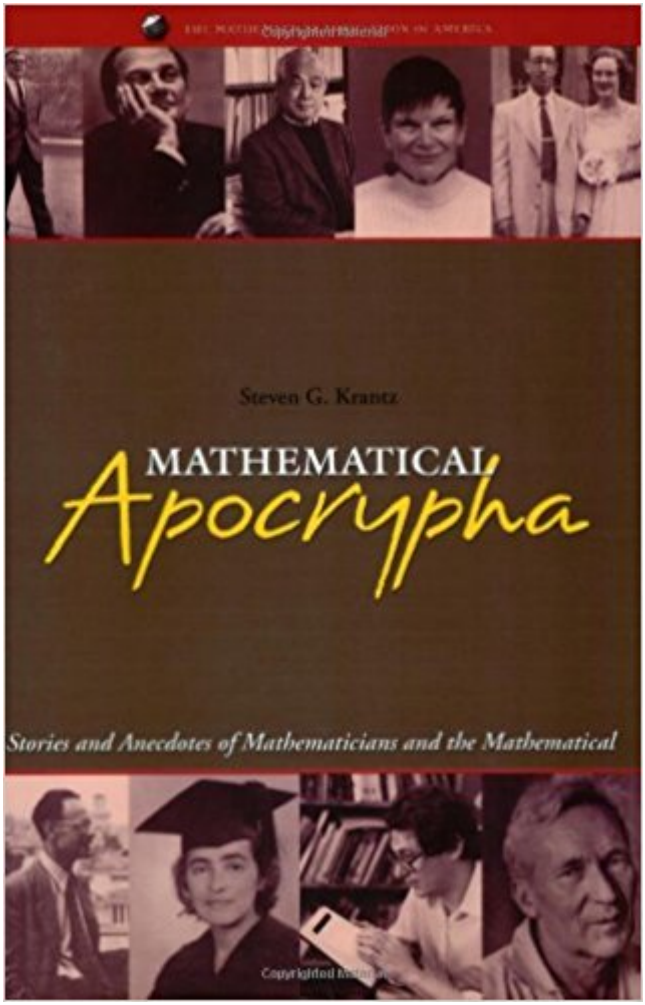
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# Mathematical Apocrypha: Stories And Anecdotes Of Mathematicians And The Mathematical (Spectrum)




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## Synopsis

This book contains a collection of tales about mathematicians and the mathematical, derived from the author's experience. It shares with the reader the nature of the mathematical enterprise, and gives a glimpse of mathematical culture. The book brings legendary names to life, and shares little known stories about names we have heard all our lives. The book is written in a brisk and engaging manner and it also includes a number of attractive photographs and illustrations.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

'... a fascinating and amusing collection of stories about mathematicians and the mathematical world ... The pace is quick and I have to admit that I read it in one sitting and then left it by the loo so that I could skim through again looking for my favourites ... I hope that a really wide audience will read it as it brings to life a world that most people cannot imagine.' The Mathematical Gazette

This is a collection of tales about mathematicians and the mathematical, derived from the author's experience. It shares the nature of the mathematical enterprise, and gives a glimpse of mathematical culture. It is written in a brisk and engaging manner and also includes a number of attractive photographs and illustrations.

Don't expect all the stories to be funny. Otherwise a good time pass and shows some insights into the mathematical minds.

In my reading of Steven Krantz’s "Mathematical Apocrypha", I encounter numerous anecdotes that endorse the view that not only do mathematicians tend to be eccentric, but they are often very funny -- sometimes intentionally so, and sometimes not.As something of an amateur mathematician-mathematical hobbyist, I find Krantz’s book a very good read -- well worth buying. My guess is that many non-mathematicians could also find in the book many stories about mathematicians and their numerous quirks that could provide for humorous storytelling and joking.As an enthusiaist of mathematical ideas and those who generate them, I find "Mathematical Apocrypha" to be the best source of mathematical anecdotes I’ve yet been blessed with encountering.

I thought this book would be about the non-mathematical lives of famous mathematicians, and I was not proven wrong. The problem is that it is a compilation of one-paragraph anecdotes of many matehmaticians’ lives, which makes for good coffee table reading and not bedtime reading. There is very little substance to any of the lifestyles of any of the characters.The accounts themselves relate to the famous and not-so-famous, but many of them are questionable as to whether they actually deserve to be in this book as they are may times simple accounts of a person’s daily life - chronicling the events that happen to many of us on a daily basis.I summary the stories are too brief and there are other (better) factual books on the real lives and histories behind mathematics and mathematicians.

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