

Euclid Elements Archimedes Works Apollonius Conic Sections Nicomachus

Arithmetic Great Books Of The Western World Vol 11

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scientists and other keen observers of the natural world sometimes make or write a statement pertaining to scientific activity that is destined to

live on beyond the brief period of time for which it was intended this book serves as a collection of these statements from great philosophers and thought influencers of science past and present it allows the reader quickly to find relevant quotations or citations organized thematically and indexed alphabetically by author this work makes readily available an unprecedented collection of approximately 18 000 quotations related to a broad range of scientific topics

in recent decades there has been extensive research on greek mathematics that has considerably enlarged the scope of this area of inquiry traditionally greek mathematics has referred to the axiomatic work of archimedes apollonius and others in the first three centuries bce however there is a wide body of mathematical work that appeared in the eastern mediterranean during the time it was under greek influence from approximately 400 bce to 600 ce which remains under explored in the existing scholarship this sourcebook provides an updated look at greek mathematics bringing together classic greek texts with material from lesser known authors as well as newly uncovered texts that have been omitted in previous scholarship the book adopts a broad scope in defining mathematical practice and as such includes fields such as music optics and architecture it includes important sources written in languages other than greek in the eastern mediterranean area during the period from 400 bce to 600 ce which show some influence from greek culture it also includes passages that highlight the important role mathematics played in philosophy pedagogy and popular culture the book is organized topically chapters include arithmetic plane geometry astronomy and philosophy literature and education within each chapter the translated texts are organized chronologically the book weaves together ancient commentary on classic greek works with the works themselves to show how the understanding of mathematical ideas changed over the centuries

in august 1859 bernhard riemann a little known 32 year old mathematician presented a paper to the berlin academy titled on the number of prime numbers less than a given quantity in the middle of that paper riemann made an incidental remark \square a guess a hypothesis what he tossed out to the assembled mathematicians that day has proven to be almost cruelly compelling to countless scholars in the ensuing years today after 150 years of careful research and exhaustive study the question remains is the hypothesis true or false riemann s basic inquiry the primary topic of his paper concerned a straightforward but nevertheless important matter of arithmetic \square defining a precise formula to track and identify the occurrence of prime numbers but it is that incidental remark \square the riemann hypothesis \square that is the truly astonishing legacy of his 1859 paper because riemann was able to see beyond the pattern of the primes to discern traces of something mysterious and mathematically elegant shrouded in the shadows \square subtle variations in the distribution of those prime numbers brilliant for its clarity astounding for its potential consequences the hypothesis took on enormous importance in mathematics indeed the successful solution to this

puzzle would herald a revolution in prime number theory proving or disproving it became the greatest challenge of the age it has become clear that the riemann hypothesis whose resolution seems to hang tantalizingly just beyond our grasp holds the key to a variety of scientific and mathematical investigations the making and breaking of modern codes which depend on the properties of the prime numbers have roots in the hypothesis in a series of extraordinary developments during the 1970s it emerged that even the physics of the atomic nucleus is connected in ways not yet fully understood to this strange conundrum hunting down the solution to the riemann hypothesis has become an obsession for many [2] the veritable great white whale of mathematical research yet despite determined efforts by generations of mathematicians the riemann hypothesis defies resolution alternating passages of extraordinarily lucid mathematical exposition with chapters of elegantly composed biography and history prime obsession is a fascinating and fluent account of an epic mathematical mystery that continues to challenge and excite the world posited a century and a half ago the riemann hypothesis is an intellectual feast for the cognoscenti and the curious alike not just a story of numbers and calculations prime obsession is the engrossing tale of a relentless hunt for an elusive proof [3] and those who have been consumed by it

introduces an intriguing selection of proofs disputes and unsolved mysteries ranging from the age of greek geometry to the frontier of infinite series

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