

Publishing History

Scribner's hardcover, 1991
U.K. hardcover, Scribner's, 1991
Washington Square Press paperback, 1992
U.K. paperback, Abacus, 1992
Indian edition, Rupa, 1992
German edition, Vieweg Verlag, 1993
Cassette book, National Library for the Blind, 1993
Japanese edition, Kousakusha, 1994
Korean edition, Science Books, 2000
Chinese edition, Philosopher's Stone Series, 2002
Italian edition, Rizzoli, 2003
Thai edition, Matichon, 2007
Audio edition, Blackstone Audio, 2007

Book-of-the-Month Club selection
Quality Paperback Book Club selection
National Book Critics Circle Award finalist, 1992
Los Angeles Times Book Prize finalist, 1991
Library Journal, Best Sci-Tech Books of 1991
New York Public Library, Book to Remember, 1991
New York Times Book Review, Notable Books of the Year, 1991
Film option held by Matt Brown/Edward R. Pressman

«Ένα έξοχο πορτρέτο... μια σπάνια λογοτεχνική εμπειρία. Η ιστορία του Ραμανουτζάν

μοιάζει με εξωτικό παραμύθι. Ένα μοναδικό ανάγνωσμα».

Los Angeles Times Book Review

«Συγκλονιστική βιογραφία... το μαγικό και συνάμα τραγικό παραμύθι του ασχημόπαπου.

Δεν υπάρχει κάτι πιο ρομαντικό στην ιστορία των μαθηματικών».

The New York Times

Το βιβλίο του Kanigel μάς διηγείται όχι μόνον τα έργα και τις ημέρες ενός μοναδικού μαθηματικού «φαινομένου», αλλά και μέρος της ιστορίας των πολιτισμών στους οποίους ο Ραμανουτζάν γεννήθηκε και ανδρώθηκε (Ινδία), έζησε και εργάστηκε ως επιστήμονας (Αγγλία). Οι αναγνώστες του θα ευεργετηθούν πολλαπλώς από τη μελέτη του.

Γιώργος Λ. Ευαγγελόπουλος

ΕΛΕΥΘΕΡΟΣ ΤΥΠΟΣ 14/12/ 2008

"This is a fine example of a work of popularising mathematics, and deserves a wide readership." -- New Scientist

A "fascinating biography...Kanigel has written an exciting and thoughtful book." -- The Independent

"This is a grand read, enthralling in every paragraph...the sort of book that makes you realise what a marvellous thing it is to be human." -- Huddersfield Daily Examiner

"A noteworthy performance." -- Times Literary Supplement

"This is the first comprehensive biography [of Ramanujan] and is likely to remain the canonical reference book for all aspects of his brief life for many years to come...[I] can recommend it wholeheartedly to both mathematicians and to general readers." -- The Mathematical Gazette

"Poignant and absorbing." -- Irish Independent

"A moving and astonishing biography." -- Publishers Weekly

"A brilliantly realized biography...Kanigel's particular interest in how primitive superstition, India's bureaucratic mind-set, English spiritual asceticism, and a Western war combined to destroy the miracle of Ramanujan's genius adds deeper dimensions to the already fascinating story of a difficult but astoundingly fruitful cross-cultural collaboration." -- Kirkus [starred review]

"It is a magic, tragic ugly-duckling fable that Robert Kanigel tells...A remarkable story." -- New York Times

"A story at least as compelling as Brian Epstein's discovery of the Beatles...Kanigel paints an exquisite portrait...[His] richly detailed roadmap to strange, wondrous, foreign cultures -- not just British and Indian but also the culture of higher mathematics -- makes for the rarest of literary experiences, a compendium of challenging philosophical ideas that is actually a compelling read." -- Los Angeles Times

"One of the finest, best documented biographies ever published about a modern mathematician." -- Martin Gardner, Raleigh News and Observer

"The most luminous expression ever of two three-dimensional lives along both personal and professional axes. As a presentation of genius interacting with genius, I've seen nothing to compare with it." -- Hugh Kenner, Byte

"A superbly crafted biography...[Kanigel's] exceptional triumph is in the telling of this wonderful human story." -- Science

"Even a complete innumerate can enjoy Mr. Kanigel's richly detailed book...Kanigel demonstrates considerable psychological acumen in his portrait of the two central figures...A thoroughly captivating book." -- New York Times Book Review

"An extraordinary compelling biography, richly textured with social, psychological, personal, and mathematical details...A warm, romantic tale that would be beyond the scope of imagination were it not, after all, true. [Other] reviewers justly praise this book as one of the best scientific biographies ever written." -- American Mathematical Monthly

"Perspicacious, informed, imaginative, [The Man Who Knew Infinity] is to my mind the best mathematical biography I have ever read...[It]is not just a brilliant biography of Ramanujan, the genius born in a hovel. Nor is it a 'life and works,' part one Life, part two Works. It is a sensitive and intimate portrait of Ramanujan, the human being, who lived for mathematics....You do not need to have any sympathy at all with mathematics to read The Man Who Knew Infinity with pleasure; but by the time you have finished it, some of Ramanujan's love of his subject will probably have rubbed off on you, and you will have begun to appreciate the hypnotic fascination that it exerts upon those who make it their life's work." -- New York Review of Books