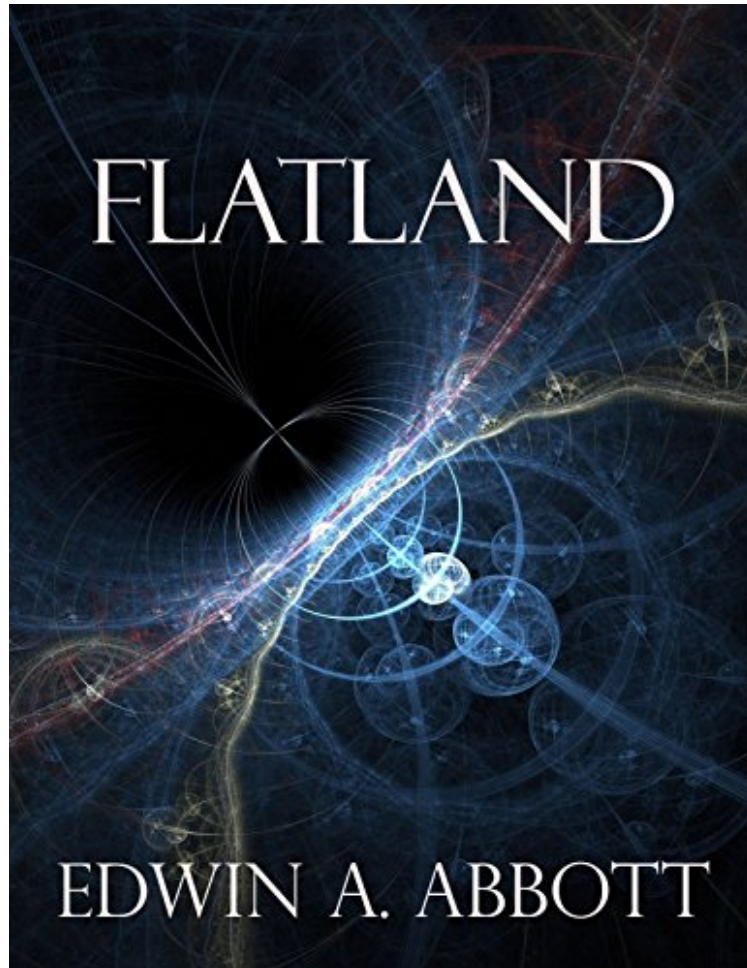


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Flatland

Edwin A. Abbott

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Edwin A. Abbott : Flatland before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Flatland:

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Paradigm Shift in terms of geometryBy Utkan UluçayThis is an interesting book. Dated 1884, woven with strange and negative perception for women but anyway definetely interesting. Every character is happy in his "limited" universe. They do not want to hear anything about other possible things. When they have been exposed such explanations they got angry! Every character lives in his universe "a dimension missing". In Lineland every character can see a point which has zero dimension in a universe of one dimension which is lenght. Every character is capable to deduct missing dimension by thinking, dreaming,... In Lineland every character is aware of the others length which they have never seen...It is similar in Flatland, there are squares, triangles, circles,... but all they can see is a flat line and they need to touch eachother to check the shape. A square tried to enlighten a line but failed. They hated each other. A sphere tried to enlighten a square, first he pissed off and then sphere pushed him to other dimension.... That is a shock. The shift has happened by force! Square

enlightened more than expected hence he queried sphere about the fourth dimension. This time sphere pissed off. We belong to our universes and provided a force majeure we are capable to adopt ourselves to a new paradigm. Unfortunately this is not a voluntary process. I suggest Thomas Kuhn for those readers who are interested in "paradigm shift". 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Flatland takes you on a journey into dimensions. By innovative risk. A challenging read at first, but one that you recognize you are enjoying as you progress, and you rapidly finish wishing it went for longer. Flatland takes you on a journey into dimensions, exploring how we see the world with our "single" focus, yet there is nothing singular about the dimensions. We are all the dot, the line, the square, the cube, and the 4th dimension... Within the story there is also a message on equality, which from my reading of the author, appears to not be a focus area. However, it is there to read. The judgement, the rationalisation, and the setting of expectations of women. You would think that we would have come further since the 1880s, but alas it seems from an equality perspective we have a long way to go, where we judge the person less for how they look. A short book worth reading, and persist through it, because you leave all the better. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. A "point of view" worth exploring. By David Lefavor. Make sure you get the illustrated version. Without them the book makes no sense. I somehow lost my paper copy of this and am glad that there is a Kindle version - actually several versions. Some of them lack the illustrations. The story itself requires considerable visualization, even with the illustrations. The acts of envisioning a two-dimensional world by a three-dimensional being such as myself resulted in some very satisfying intellectual gymnastics. Highly recommended and the book invites multiple re-reads.

Flatland: A Romance of Many Dimensions is an 1884 satirical novella by the English schoolmaster Edwin Abbott Abbott. Written pseudonymously as "A Square", the book used the fictional two-dimensional world of Flatland to comment on the hierarchy of Victorian culture, but the novella's more enduring contribution is its examination of dimensions. This masterpiece of science (and mathematical) fiction is a delightfully unique and highly entertaining satire that has charmed readers for more than 100 years. The work of English clergyman, educator and Shakespearean scholar Edwin A. Abbott (1838-1926), it describes the journeys of A. Square, a mathematician and resident of the two-dimensional Flatland, where women-thin, straight lines-are the lowliest of shapes, and where men may have any number of sides, depending on their social status. Through strange occurrences that bring him into contact with a host of geometric forms, Square has adventures in Spaceland (three dimensions), Lineland (one dimension) and Pointland (no dimensions) and ultimately entertains thoughts of visiting a land of four dimensions—a revolutionary idea for which he is returned to his two-dimensional world. Charming illustrations by the author, Flatland is not only fascinating reading, it is still a first-rate fictional introduction to the concept of the multiple dimensions of space. Several films have been made from the story, including the feature film Flatland (2007). Other efforts have been short or experimental films, including one narrated by Dudley Moore and the short films Flatland: The Movie (2007) and Flatland 2: Sphereland (2012).

.com Flatland is one of the very few novels about math and philosophy that can appeal to almost any layperson. Published in 1880, this short fantasy takes us to a completely flat world of two physical dimensions where all the inhabitants are geometric shapes, and who think the planar world of length and width that they know is all there is. But one inhabitant discovers the existence of a third physical dimension, enabling him to finally grasp the concept of a fourth dimension. Watching our Flatland narrator, we begin to get an idea of the limitations of our own assumptions about reality, and we start to learn how to think about the confusing problem of higher dimensions. The book is also quite a funny satire on society and class distinctions of Victorian England. "This pre-Einstein geometrical fantasy is one of the best things of its kind that has ever been written, for it is more than an ingeniously sustained fantasy: it is a social satire, with wit as sharp as the sub-lustrous end of a Flatland woman; it is an easy philosophical introduction to the fourth dimension; and it is a rebuke to everyone who holds that there is no reality beyond what is perceptible by human senses." --Saturday "Flatland is one of the very few novels about math and philosophy that can appeal to almost any layperson . . . The book is also quite a funny satire on society and class distinctions of Victorian England." --.com, editorial review One of the most imaginative, delightful and, yes, touching works of mathematics, this slender 1884 book purports to be the memoir of A. Square, a citizen of an entirely two-dimensional world. (The Washington Post Book World) Flatland has remained of interest for over a century precisely because of its ability to engage its readers on so many different planes in so many different dimensions. (Victorian Studies) This reprint of Abbott's Flatland adventures contains an Introduction by Thomas Banchoff which is worth reading on its own. So if you don't have yet this book at home, go ahead and buy this edition. (Zentralblatt MATH)