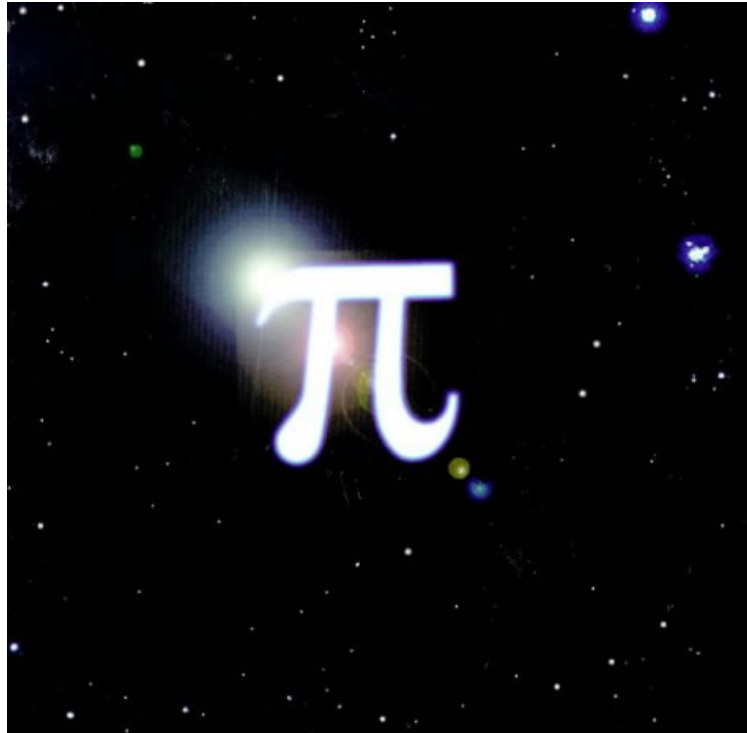


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Joy Of Pi (Penguin Press Science)

David Blatner

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David Blatner : Joy Of Pi (Penguin Press Science) before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Joy Of Pi (Penguin Press Science):

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Fun and Informative By VikkiBones I found out about this book through the Pi(the movie) website. I've had an interest in numerology and mathematics all my life and this coffee book definitely tickles my fancy in both departments. It's entertaining and intelligent. Be forewarned though, it's ripe with purely fun facts and basic history. For those true math nuts, it may be lacking in a few areas. If you're interested in a light read simply to gain and few interesting facts from and have a neat conversation piece, then this is what you're looking for. If you're looking for a more in-depth study then this might not be for you. Another thing to keep in mind is that it's not very recently published, as in, the facts are out of date and would obviously be lacking more recent insight. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Very interesting (I can't really say enjoyable) and with some ... By Naftali Kadmon Very interesting (I can't really say enjoyable) and with some details quite surprising. But overall it is somewhat "overstretching" the subject. The (typo)graphic form is rather original, for example, printing the first one thousand digits of pi after the decimal! but somewhat confusing. 6 of 8 people found the following review helpful. Good for Amusement By Tatsuo Tabata This little book tells us in a cheerful manner about the history and snippets of the number pi, the ratio of a circle's circumference to its diameter. Many facts and factoids about pi are collected here. There are some equations, but those who don't like equations can appreciate them like beautiful illustrations. In the section "Memorizing Pi" the author gives mnemonic devices in different languages. The description of one in Japanese includes errors. In fact, there is a better one in Japanese, which goes: "San-i-shi (314) i-ko-ku (159) ni (2) mu-ko (65).

San-go (35) ya-ku (89) na-ku (79) . . ." down to the 1000th digit in a version. These Japanese words mean: "An obstetrician goes to a foreign country. After childbirth, without misfortune . . ." The present reviewer told the author about the errors and the better mnemonic, so that he will possibly take them into account in the revised edition. Aside from the above minor defects, however, the present edition is quite a good read for amusement.

For 4000 years we have struggled with pi - the ratio of a circle's circumference to its diameter. This book tells the story of pi, from Archimedes to da Vinci, and from Newton to the Chudnovsky brothers, who are calculating pi to billions of places with a homemade supercomputer.

About the Author David Blatner is the author of *The Joy of p*, as well as eight books on topics such as digital imaging and virtual reality. More than 500,000 copies of his books are in print in twelve languages. He has spent hundreds of hours flying between Asia, Europe, and North America. He and his wife and son live in Seattle, Washington.