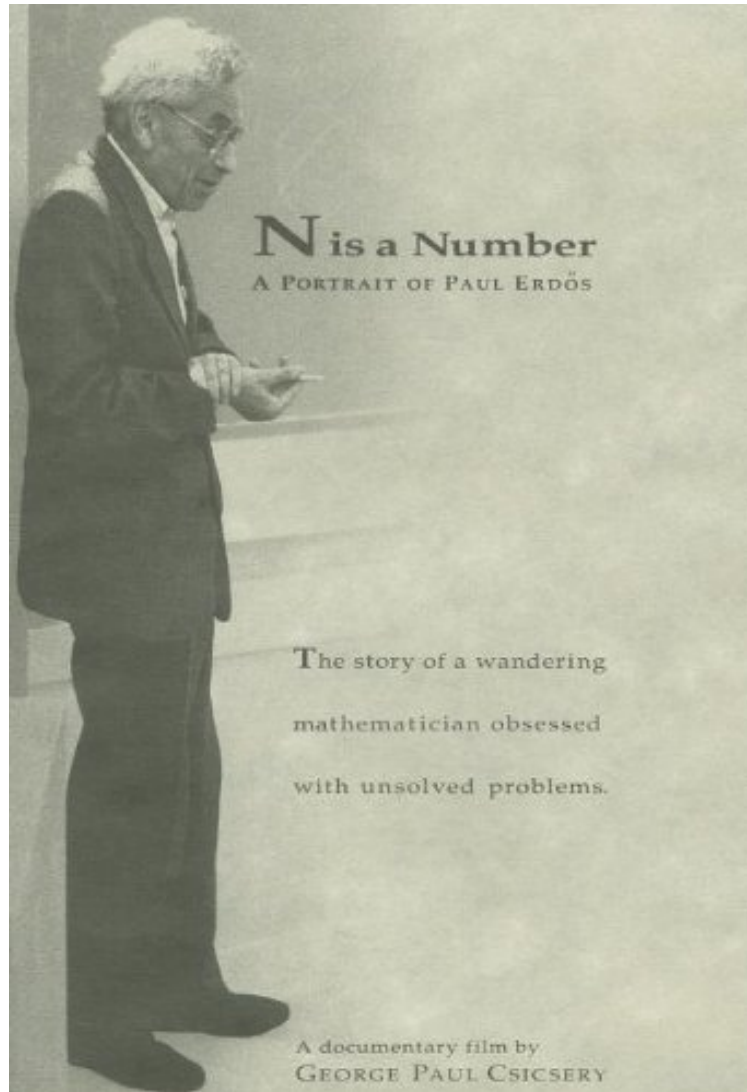


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N is A Number: A Portrait of Paul Erds (DVD)

George Csicsery

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George Csicsery : N is A Number: A Portrait of Paul Erds (DVD) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised N is A Number: A Portrait of Paul Erds (DVD):

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Wanted: a old beat up copy of N is a NumberBy CarolThis is a fascinating book about Paul Erdos. He is the Einstein of modern mathematics and very eccentric. He is my personal favorite math god.This book is about him, it is not about his mathematics. One would need a PhD in mathematics to understand and appreciate his awesome and prolific work. If anyone out there has used copy of his book in any condition, I would like to buy it. carol3y at yahoo dot comEnjoy reading it if you can find a copy!!13 of 13 people found the following review helpful. Note that this is simply a 9 page film synopsisBy Harry OhlsenI purchased this,

thinking it was a biography of Paul Erdos. It's actually a nine page synopsis of a film of the same name. I've since asked for a refund.

A man with no home and no job, Paul Erds was the most prolific mathematician who ever lived. Born in Hungary in 1913, Erds wrote and co-authored over 1,500 papers and pioneered several fields in theoretical mathematics. At the age of 83 he still spent most of his time on the road, going from math meeting to math meeting, continually working on problems. He died on September 20, 1996 while attending such a meeting in Warsaw, Poland. The film opens at Cambridge University's 1991 honorary doctorate ceremony, where Erds received an award he says he would gladly trade for a "nice new proof." For Erds, the meaning of life is "to prove and conjecture." To pursue this life of wandering and pure scholarship, Erds relied on a network of other renowned mathematicians-all of whom regarded him as an international treasure. As the film progresses it becomes clear that mathematicians around the world had more than a professional stake in caring for Erds. In different ways, each of the many prominent mathematicians in the film expresses dedication to and love for Erds.

"This film is a wonderful eulogy to this gifted and amazing man. It will encourage, inspire and enthuse all who have an interest in mathematics, and fascinate those who have not. It is a great resource, and should be required viewing for all university mathematics staff and students." -The Australian Mathematical Society Gazette, January 2006