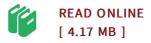




Once Upon a Number: The Hidden Mathematical Logic of Stories

By John Allen Paulos

Basic Books. Paperback. Book Condition: New. Paperback. 224 pages. Dimensions: 7.9in. x 5.0in. x 0.6in. What two things could be more different than numbers and stories Numbers are abstract, certain, and eternal, but to most of us somewhat dry and bloodless. Good stories are full of life: they engage our emotions and have subtlety and nuance, but they lack rigor and the truths they tell are elusive and subject to debate. As ways of understanding the world around us, numbers and stories seem almost completely incompatible. Once Upon a Number shows that stories and numbers arent as different as you might imagine, and in fact they have surprising and fascinating connections. The concepts of logic and probability both grew out of intuitive ideas about how certain situations would play out. Now, logicians are inventing ways to deal with real world situations by mathematical meansby acknowledging, for instance, that items that are mathematically interchangeable may not be interchangeable in a story. And complexity theory looks at both number strings and narrative strings in remarkably similar terms. Throughout, renowned author John Paulos mixes numbers and narratives in his own delightful style. Along with lucid accounts of cuttingedge information theory we get hilarious anecdotes...



Reviews

This book may be really worth a read through, and a lot better than other. It is really basic but excitement inside the 50 % in the pdf. I realized this pdf from my dad and i encouraged this publication to learn.

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The book is straightforward in study better to comprehend. It is really simplistic but unexpected situations in the fifty percent of the ebook. Its been written in an exceptionally simple way which is simply after i finished reading through this ebook in which basically altered me, affect the way i really believe.

-- Letha Corwin