



# GÖDEL, ESCHER, BACH:

||||||| *an Eternal Golden Braid* |||||

DOUGLAS R. HOFSTADTER

*A metaphorical fugue on minds and machines in the spirit of Lewis Carroll*

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## Gödel, Escher, Bach: An Eternal Golden Braid



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Champion of the Pulitzer PrizeA metaphorical fugue on thoughts and machines in the spirit of Lewis CarrollDouglas Hofstadter's reserve is concerned directly with the nature of "maps" or links between formal systems. However, according to Hofstadter, the formal system that underlies all mental activity transcends the system that helps it. Gödel, Escher, Bach is a wonderful exploration of fascinating ideas in the centre of cognitive research: meaning, reduction, recursion, plus much more. If existence can grow out of the formal chemical substance substrate of the cell, if awareness can emerge out of a formal program of firing neurons, after that so too will computer systems attain human intelligence.



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Gödel, Escher, Bach: An Eclectic Geek Bible GEB is a singularity of cool ideas. A few of the topics explored: artificial cleverness, cognitive science, mathematics, development, awareness, zen, philosophy, linguistics, neuroscience, genetics, physics, music, artwork, logic, infinity, paradox, self-similarity. Mathematics about mathematics. Considering thinking. Hofstadter couches that single question within an expansive frame that offers an indelible glimpse in to the mind of a genuine thinker. Meta-everything. The writer said he was trying to help make the point that consciousness was recursive, some sort of mental fractal. Your mind will certainly believe that way when you are completed. In another, the characters jump into a book, and then jump deeper into a book that was in the publication. The writer recognizes that he's discovering things that are intrinsically interesting and fun, and provides fun with them the complete way through. He doesn't just discuss the concepts, he demonstrates them, sometimes while he's discussing them, in clever and subtle ways. While I don't think it is quite accessible to just any viewers, I really do think that it is a must examine for any academic, particularly in a mathematically rigorous field. here he plays with the concepts being discussed, and performs postmodern literary experiments. The general effect is that, upon reading it, you get the sensation that it had been about. This is simply not a dry discussion of these topics. In just one more, a programmer calmly explains the function and output of a chatbot as the chatbot calmly clarifies the function and output of the programmer. so big and huge. In short, it's brilliant. GEB combines the playful spirit of Lewis Carroll, the labyrinthine madness of Borges, the structural perfectionism of Joyce, the elegant beauty of mathematics, and the quintessential fascination of brain, all under one roof. It's become something of a cult phenomenon, and it offers its subreddit, r/GEB, and even its MIT course. Quick panic. Among the common criticisms is that the author never gets to the point and proves his thesis, and instead spends period on endlessly swirling diversions. Sadly, on the topics of AI, Hofstadter is discovering a cul-de-sac in the artwork which by no means went anywhere, that he remained trapped in lengthy after others left. The meat of the chapters is normally far more helpful, and if you enjoy whimsy you can skip back to the introductory sections once they make sense. Read the book, and judge designed for yourself! At the very least, it is essential for just about any intellectual's library. My favorite book I am proudly one of the many fanboys of the book. However, the way GEB weaves a tapestry of interrelated tips, rather than concentrating on just one, is a major part of its attraction. Furthermore, the author laments in his follow-up "I Am A Unusual Loop" that most of the readers only saw the outer layer of "a publication with a couple of weird themes and stories" and totally skipped his underlying message; Some chapters are a breeze while others -- especially the main one on TNT (Typographical Quantity Theory) -- are challenging. I cannot recommend it plenty of. The dialogues between the people that accompany each chapter and humorous but educational. I've had a duplicate of this wonderful book ever since it was published. Does the reserve succeed in its objective? Are you with me personally so far? I must have loaned it to someone, I think. He decided to take a loopy approach to a loopy idea, and I think that's very fitting. He explores it with glee, so if that's what you're here for, it's still engaging, but it's an extended slog to learn about an abandoned set of ideas when there are more even more on-point texts for all those sets of ideas. If you want a more linear approach to the same idea, you could go through I Am A Strange Loop. Inbetween chapters, he switches to a dialogue format between fantasy heroes; The publication meanders, taking its time, through an array of topics, from music theory to painting to artificial cleverness. At each step of the way, nevertheless, Hofstadter includes "meta" jokes and puzzles about the ideas in the work, which really helps to tie the book

collectively until the disparate concepts are weaved together at the end beneath the auspices of Gödel's incompleteness theorems. In the introduction to the edition, Hofstadter laments that therefore few readers were able to pick out his accurate thesis in the work. His explanation is that the reserve is approximately "how cognition and thinking emerge from well-hidden neurological mechanisms." Nevertheless, don't expect a dried out, direct method of that issue. Mathematics about thinking. my favorite book i look for myself recommending this book so frequently that i often feel like i'm preaching Great book minor imperfections on the book's appearance you don't have to miss it! Hofstadter's small "doorstopper" covers such diverse topics as philosophy, pc languages, classical music, art, mental mapping, and Zen poetry, and wraps them up right into a group of alternating essays and tales about fantasy character types. The main players will be the Tortoise and Achilles, who spend the majority of the reserve discussing (and introducing) the themes covered comprehensive by the essay chapters in between. For example, one of his dialogues makes sense examine both forwards and backwards.. I went searching for my copy the other day and may not find my duplicate! something? Something regarding an artist, a composer and a mathematician, all linked together in a unusual loopy sort of way. Look for a different edition...In the grand type of reductionism, where we in theory reduce consciousness to cognitive science to neuroscience to biology to chemistry to physics to math to metamath, GEB positions itself at the wraparound point at unsigned infinity, where in fact the opposite ends of the spectrum satisfy. Read it.In a nutshell, no self-included system is foolproof, or paradox-proof. So glad to have another duplicate. All he can perform is spiral the topic and view it out of every conceivable direction. Works on a number of levels.. the actual publication is far more complex, much like a fractal can appear simple but is really subtly intricate. This book completely changed my life when I read it in senior high school. The connections the author makes between art, music, mathematics, and formal systems isn't only clever, but profound. An excellent and classic work.It really is an utter gem, a classic, and a enjoyment to read. Yet, taken as a whole, the book can be a cohesive treatise on the marvels of nature and life itself. Years later, right here I am, still in a related field, and yet always coming back to GEB as the foundation of my intellectual journey. disappointing print quality I loved this content of the reserve when I browse it when it originally came out, but this edition is poorly printed, it appears like the webpages were reproduced from an unhealthy photographic process instead of typeset. Especially disappointing since it was purchased as a gift for my girl. It can be complicated as hell, but slowly the tips presented in the publication seep in, and you get a - slightly - better knowledge of the styles in the book. A misunderstood classic This is NOT a casual read. practcally its it's a book for cause you to love the knowlodge Five Stars beautious. I discover the author's love of life in these delightful. After that re-examine it. Still on my shelf, as the utmost amazing book I've ever read. This book changed my entire life. No summary of what it really is about can perform it justice. Five Stars The author is such an intellect. that the whole of any given program, such as for example mathematics (or human self-identification), can behave totally logically and regularly within itself but also allow bizarre concepts that both stick to the rules and break them simultaneously. a+ Amazing book, can not be summarized I read this publication in the 80's. and if you enjoy whimsy you can skip back to the introductory sections .I say "a misunderstood vintage" because most people who try to describe the publication (myself included) can only do thus in the broadest terms;. In this text, Hofstadter writes about many topics he doesn't understand properly. About those he writes superficially and with incorrect pop-understandings of days gone by. About the topics of mathematics and

computation, he at least understands the topics he writes about, but puts a lot of effort into being smart and using strange non-sensical analogies. If you wish to understand, it will pay to skip at night introductory sections to topics which are anti-helpful to comprehension. the task of connecting brain to math is normally insanely speculative territory. But I don't blame him; Also, Douglas Hofstadter has a wonderful love of life and he manages the improbable work of linking three extraordinarily, uniquely innovative icons of Western lifestyle. On the mathematics of recursion, it's essentially on the amount of money, and a more engaging text message than most any you might find, but still here it's pointlessly obtuse.



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