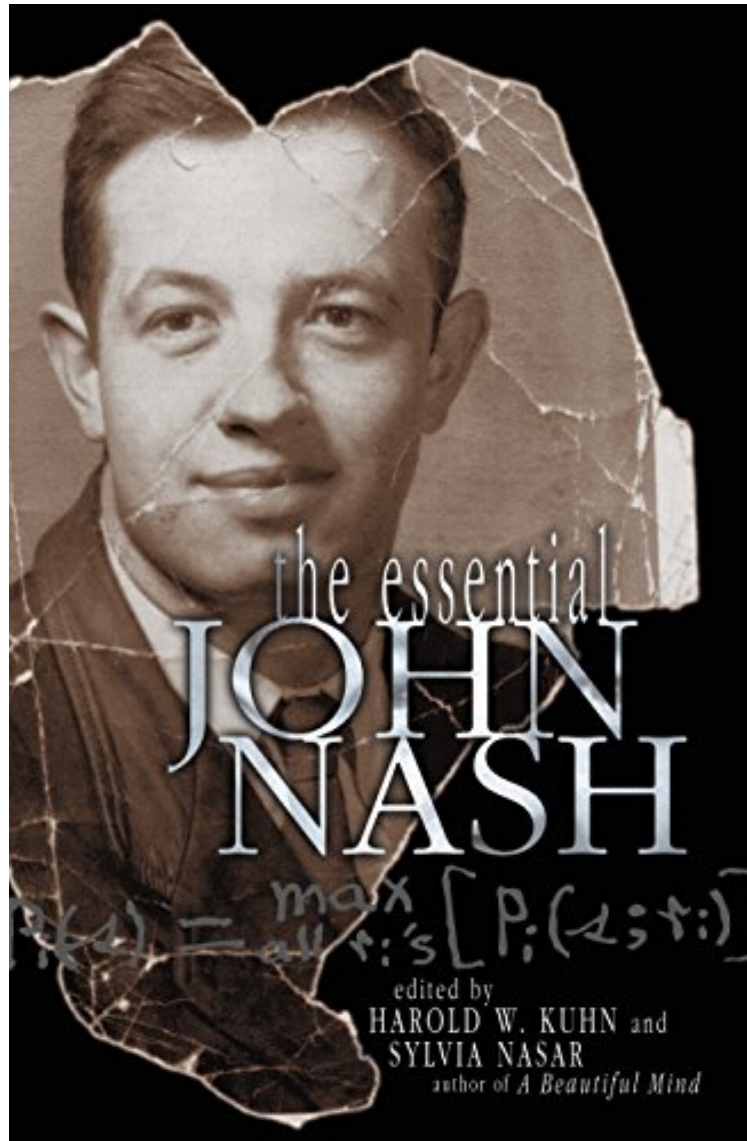


[Free pdf] The Essential John Nash

The Essential John Nash

John Nash

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John Nash : The Essential John Nash before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Essential John Nash:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Not quite what I was expecting...By BlainI watched "A Beautiful Mind" on HBO and was curious about John Nash. I had never heard of him. I ordered this book based on some interesting reviews. I just scanned it and it looks a lot dryer than I had anticipated. If you are a mathematician it looks like it would be great. This book really details the theories with all the calculations. My fault I guess.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five StarsBy Arsalan ShokoohA great book about one of greatest mathematicians

of the last and current centuries.²⁶ of 30 people found the following review helpful. A Most Welcome Mathematical Banquet By PHILIP A. STAHLI can't begin to express how deeply satisfying it was to peruse these papers by John Nash. You almost felt you were right there at his side, as he penned them. There is even something in the book for non-mathematical types: Sylvia Nasar's Introduction and the autobiographical essay (Chapter Two). But for me the greatest interest resided in the remaining chapters: 4-11. Of these, I particularly enjoyed reading the original presentation of Nash's Thesis on 'Non-Cooperative Games' (Chapter 6), and was fascinated not only with the air-tight logic of his proofs, but the use of hand written-in symbols. Of course, Chapter 7 is just the re-hashing of Ch. 6, but in proper typeset form, rather than Nash's original script. But - give me the former any day! Reading the original form and format almost made me feel like Nash's Thesis supervisor, including the same excitement of a new discovery! Chapter 8 'Two person Cooperative Games' nicely extends the mathematical basis to cover this species of interaction. (And in many ways, people will find the cooperative game model easier to understand than the non-cooperative). Chapter 9 is important because it delves into the issue of parallel control, and logical functions such as used in high speed digital computers. This chapter was of much interest to me since particular aspects of parallel control figured in my own model of consciousness - recently presented in Chapter Five of my book, 'The Atheist's Handbook to Modern Materialism'. Astute readers who read both books will quickly see the analog between the Schematic of Logical Unit Function (p. 122) and my own Figure 5-13 ('Development of Neural Assemblies', p. 156). I enjoyed Chapter 10, 'Real Algebraic Manifolds' because of my ongoing interest in Algebraic Topology, and especially homology and homotopy theory. In his chapter, Nash presents a cornucopia of methods for representation, which I am still playing with for different manifolds. Chapter 11, 'The Imbedding Problem for Riemannian Manifolds', is a delight for anyone familiar with Einstein's General Relativity, or even differential geometry. When you read through this chapter, you also will understand why Nash is still very interested (and involved) in research to do with general relativity and cosmology. Particularly fun for me was his section on 'Smoothing of Tensors' (p. 163) and 'Derivative Size Concept for Tensors' (p. 164). Chapter 12, 'Continuity of Solutions of Parabolic and Elliptic Equations' is like 'dessert' for anyone who is intensely interested (as I am) in modular functions, which themselves are related intimately to elliptic equations. In short, I think this book has something for both mathematicians and non-math types alike. Obviously, the former are likely to get more out of it, so the question the latter group must ask is whether the purchase is worth satiating their curiosity about Nash. I know how I would answer, even if I couldn't tell a derivative from a differential. However, this book can be read on all kinds of levels, and that's the beauty of it.

When John Nash won the Nobel prize in economics in 1994, many people were surprised to learn that he was alive and well. Since then, Sylvia Nasar's celebrated biography *A Beautiful Mind*, the basis of a new major motion picture, has revealed the man. The *Essential John Nash* reveals his work--in his own words. This book presents, for the first time, the full range of Nash's diverse contributions not only to game theory, for which he received the Nobel, but to pure mathematics--from Riemannian geometry and partial differential equations--in which he commands even greater acclaim among academics. Included are nine of Nash's most influential papers, most of them written over the decade beginning in 1949. From 1959 until his astonishing remission three decades later, the man behind the concepts "Nash equilibrium" and "Nash bargaining"--concepts that today pervade not only economics but nuclear strategy and contract talks in major league sports--had lived in the shadow of a condition diagnosed as paranoid schizophrenia. In the introduction to this book, Nasar recounts how Nash had, by the age of thirty, gone from being a wunderkind at Princeton and a rising mathematical star at MIT to the depths of mental illness. In his preface, Harold Kuhn offers personal insights on his longtime friend and colleague; and in introductions to several of Nash's papers, he provides scholarly context. In an afterword, Nash describes his current work, and he discusses an error in one of his papers. A photo essay chronicles Nash's career from his student days in Princeton to the present. Also included are Nash's Nobel citation and autobiography. The *Essential John Nash* makes it plain why one of Nash's colleagues termed his style of intellectual inquiry as "like lightning striking." All those inspired by Nash's dazzling ideas will welcome this unprecedented opportunity to trace these ideas back to the exceptional mind they came from.

"If you want to see a sugary Hollywood depiction of John Nash's life, go to the cinema. Afterwards, if you are curious about his insights, pick up a new book that explains his work and reprints his most famous papers. It is just as amazing as his personal story."--Chris Giles, *Financial Times* "One of the most beautifully designed economics books I have ever seen and at a low price. . . . Why are we so intrigued by the story of John Nash? We are curious to understand a person who proves theorems we are unable to fathom. We imagine the voices from another world he has heard. We ask where he was for 30 years during which he walked among us but wasn't here. We are frightened and we are attracted by this combination of 'crazy' and 'genius', an invitation for visiting the edge of our own minds."--Ariel Rubinstein, *The Times Higher Education Supplement* "Any mathematician who read *A Beautiful Mind* . . . had to be looking for the appendices--the ones explaining what Nash actually did to earn his formidable reputation within the mathematical community. Well, here they are, in a beautifully produced volume. . . . Kuhn, Nasar, and the other contributors have performed a most welcome service by collaborating to bring together the pieces missing from *A*

Beautiful Mind. . . . The mathematical community is eternally in their debt."--SIAM News "The book is written in a pleasant and informal style, addressed to a large audience."--P.T. Moranu, Mathematica From the Inside Flap "John Nash's creative work in game theory has of course had the most profound influence on both its mathematics and its practical applications in economics. It is very good to see his work in this area joined with his other mathematical contributions in a single volume, to give a more rounded perspective."--Kenneth J. Arrow, 1972 Nobel Laureate in Economics "These papers are among the most important original contributions to mathematics of the twentieth century. They have been extremely influential and their influence continues to grow."--Joseph J. Kohn, Princeton University "John Nash has attracted enormous popular interest over the past few years. In many ways, the notion of equilibrium in game theory that bears his name is the central concept in game theory, which has led to a revolution in the field of economics. This book, by bringing together Nash's work in game theory and in mathematics, will allow readers to appreciate the scope of his work."--David M. Kreps, Stanford Business School From the Back Cover "John Nash's creative work in game theory has of course had the most profound influence on both its mathematics and its practical applications in economics. It is very good to see his work in this area joined with his other mathematical contributions in a single volume, to give a more rounded perspective."--Kenneth J. Arrow, 1972 Nobel Laureate in Economics "These papers are among the most important original contributions to mathematics of the twentieth century. They have been extremely influential and their influence continues to grow."--Joseph J. Kohn, Princeton University "John Nash has attracted enormous popular interest over the past few years. In many ways, the notion of equilibrium in game theory that bears his name is the central concept in game theory, which has led to a revolution in the field of economics. This book, by bringing together Nash's work in game theory and in mathematics, will allow readers to appreciate the scope of his work."--David M. Kreps, Stanford Business School