



# Mathematics in Popular Culture: Essays on Appearances in Film, Fiction, Games, Television and Other Media

*Keith Devlin*

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## **Mathematics in Popular Culture: Essays on Appearances in Film, Fiction, Games, Television and Other Media** Keith Devlin

Mathematics has maintained a surprising presence in popular media for over a century. In recent years, the movies *Good Will Hunting*, *A Beautiful Mind*, and *Stand and Deliver*, the stage plays *Breaking the Code* and *Proof*, the novella *Flatland* and the hugely successful television crime series *NUMB3RS* all weave mathematics prominently into their storylines. Less obvious but pivotal references to the subject appear in the blockbuster TV show *Lost*, the cult movie *The Princess Bride*, and even Tolstoy's *War and Peace*. In this collection of new essays, contributors consider the role of math in everything from films, baseball, crossword puzzles, fantasy role-playing games, and television shows to science fiction tales, award-winning plays and classic works of literature. Revealing the broad range of intersections between mathematics and mainstream culture, this collection demonstrates that even "mass entertainment" can have a hidden depth.

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