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"In this fascinating study of antiquity, Thomas Finn explores the role of ritual and conversion in Judaism, Christianity, Greco-Roman Paganism, and the

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philosophical schools. Finn makes history come alive both by carefully delineating the historical, cultural, and social factors at work in conversion and by drawing on the stories and firsthand accounts of conversion in ancient times."--BOOK JACKET. Title Summary field provided by Blackwell North America, Inc. All Rights

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Reserved

The early Christian Gnosis did not spring up in isolation, but drew upon earlier sources. In this book, many of these sources are revealed for the first time. Special emphasis is placed on the Hellenistic doctrine of the "Solar Logos" and the early Christian symbolism which

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depicted Christ as the Spiritual Sun, the illumination source of order, harmony, and spiritual insight. Based on 15 years of research, this is a unique book which throws a penetrating light on the secret traditions of early Christianity. It clearly demonstrates that number is at the heart of being. Jesus Christ, Sun of God,

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illustrates how the Christian symbolism of the Spiritual Sun is derived from numerical symbolism of the "ancient divinities."

One of the most important mathematical theorems is named after Pythagoras of Samos, but this semi-mythical Greek sage has more to offer than formulas. He is said

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to have discovered the numerical nature of the basic consonances and transposed the musical proportions to the cosmos, postulating a "harmony of the spheres." He may have coined the words "cosmos" and "philosophy." He is also believed to have taught the doctrine of transmigration of souls and therefore to have advised a

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vegetarian diet. Ancient legends have Pythagoras conversing with dogs, bears, and bulls. A distinctly Pythagorean way of life, including detailed ritual regulations, was observed by his disciples, who were organized as a secret society. Later, Pythagorean and Platonic teachings became fused. In this Platonized form,

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Pythagoreanism has remained influential through medieval Christianity and the Renaissance down to the present.

Christoph Riedweg's book is an engaging introduction to the fundamental contributions of Pythagoras to the establishment of European culture. To penetrate the intricate maze of lore and

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ascertain what history can tell us about the philosopher, Riedweg not only examines the written record but also considers Pythagoras within the cultural, intellectual, and spiritual context of his times. The result is a vivid overview of the life and teachings of a crucial Greek thinker and his most important followers.

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Human civilization recognizes that there is a boundary between the past and the present, a boundary that delineates the time when society began to emerge out of the diaphanous clouds of mythology and recognize that people lived in a world in which nature and thought, and not the impulsive, retributive acts of the gods,

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determined the course of the world's direction. It's no surprise that this dividing line between tale and truth first emerged with the Greeks, those lovers of logic, experiment, and argument, as they first gained traction on the slippery slope of human curiosity. Pythagoras, an Ionian Greek, is perhaps the first person to

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describe himself as a philosopher, a lover of wisdom or, as he defined it, one who attempts to know. Because of his influence on the philosopher Plato, Pythagoras is recognized as a crucial building block in the evolution of Western thought. His contributions to the fields of mathematics, philosophy, music and the sciences are

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acknowledged as influences which have endured long after his time of influence in the sixth century BCE. In the world of the intellect, the Greeks were heavy hitters and many names have traveled through the centuries, continuing to teach and enlighten us about the universe on a grand scale and our humble selves, on a much

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less grand, but no less significant, level. Philosophy taught human beings that the unexamined life was not worth living. His colleagues in philosophy turned self-examination into an art and a science, delving deep into human motivation, purpose, and existence. The Greeks ignited a fire of learning in the Ancient

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World. They were not the only civilization to bestow their intellect upon posterity, but it's a mark of their legacy that centuries after their time of glory, they are still regarded as a high water mark of human achievement. Why, exactly, they were so renowned as the brainiacs of the globe can be attributed to a variety of things, but

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what is certain is that even when mightier powers such as Rome conquered them, the Romans prized their learning, spreading it throughout their own mighty empire. The seeds of Greek learning were planted in fields far from Athens and eventually would spread across the Mediterranean Sea to become the foundation of Western

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culture as we know it.

With Introduction and Commentary

Pythagoras Revived

*Mathematics and Philosophy in Late
Antiquity*

*A Complete Collection of the Works of
Surviving Works of Pythagoreans for the
Lack of which Pythagoreanism Has Till*

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*Now Remained Unrecognized as the
Source of Greek Thought*

Plotinus Or the Simplicity of Vision

The Legacy of Pythagoras

*Right Triangles, Sums of Squares, and
Arithmetic*

**For this first English
edition of his distinguished**

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*study of Pythagoreanism,
Weisheit und Wissenschaft:
Studien zu Pythagoras,
Philolaos, und Platon,
Walter Burkert has carefully
revised text and notes,
taking account of additional
literature on the subject*

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which appeared between 1962 and 1969. By a thorough critical sifting of all the available evidence, the author lays a new foundation for the understanding of ancient Pythagoreanism and in particular of the

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*relationship within it of
"lore" and "science." He
shows that in the twilight
zone when the Greeks were
discovering the rational
interpretation of the world
and quantitative natural
science, Pythagoras*

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*represented not the origin
of the new, but the survival
or revival of ancient, pre-
scientific lore or wisdom,
based on superhuman
authority and expressed in
ritual obligation.*

The first clear and faithful

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*guide to the timeless,
practical teachings of the
Stoic philosopher Seneca.
Stoicism, the most
influential philosophy of
the Roman Empire, offers
refreshingly modern ways to
strengthen our inner*

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character in the face of an unpredictable world. Widely recognized as the most talented and humane writer of the Stoic tradition, Seneca teaches us to live with freedom and purpose. His most enduring work, over

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a hundred "Letters from a Stoic" written to a close friend, explains how to handle adversity; overcome grief, anxiety, and anger; transform setbacks into opportunities for growth; and recognize the true

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*nature of friendship. In
Breakfast with Seneca,
philosopher David Fideler
mines Seneca's classic works
in a series of focused
chapters, clearly explaining
Seneca's ideas without
oversimplifying them. Best*

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*enjoyed as a daily ritual,
like an energizing cup of
coffee, Seneca's wisdom
provides us with a steady
stream of time-tested advice
about the human
condition—which, as it turns
out, hasn't changed much*

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*over the past two thousand
years.*

*The enthralling story of
Pythagoras and the
Pythagoreans, whose insights
transformed the ancient
world and still inspire the
realms of science,*

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mathematics, philosophy, and the arts. "Pythagoras's influence on the ideas, and therefore on the destiny, of the human race was probably greater than that of any single man before or after him," wrote Arthur Koestler.

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Though most people know of him only for the famous Pythagorean Theorem ($a^2 + b^2 = c^2$), in fact the pillars of our scientific tradition—belief that the universe is rational, that there is unity to all things, and

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*that numbers and mathematics
are a powerful guide to
truth about nature and the
cosmos—hark back to the
convictions of this
legendary sixth-century B.C.
scholar. Born around 570
B.C. on the cultured Aegean*

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island of Samos, Pythagoras (according to ancient tales) studied with the sage Thales nearby at Miletus, and with priests and scribes in Egypt and Babylon. Eventually he founded his own school at Croton in southern Italy,

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where he and his followers began to unravel the surprising deep truths concealed behind such ordinary tasks as tuning a lyre. While considering why some string lengths produced beautiful sounds and others

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*discordant ones, they
uncovered the ratios of
musical harmony, and
recognized that hidden
behind the confusion and
complexity of nature are
patterns and orderly
relationships. They had*

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*surprised the Creator at his
drafting board and had
glimpsed the mind of God!
Some of them later would
also find something darker
in numbers and nature:
irrationality, a revelation
so unsettling and subversive*

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*that it may have contributed
to the destruction of their
brotherhood.*

*It took ten years of
laborious planning and
exhaustive negotiations to
create the mammoth Penn
Central Railroad, the*

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largest railroad in United States history. When the leviathan was finally born of a merger between the Pennsylvania and New York Central Railroads on February 1, 1968, the event was hailed as a great day

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for railroading. But the baby giant survived only 367 days. The crash of the Penn Central set a new record, this time for the largest bankruptcy the United States had ever seen. "The Wreck of the Penn Central" provides a

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*close-up view of the events
that brought the Big Train
to bankruptcy court--over-
regulation, subsidized
competition, big labor
featherbedding, greed,
corporate back-stabbing,
stunning incompetence, and,*

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yes, even a little sex.

Divine Harmony

*A Pythagorean Introduction
to Number Theory*

*Ritual and Conversion in
Antiquity*

*The Mathematics of Egypt,
Mesopotamia, China, India,*

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and Islam

*Acousmatic Sound in Theory
and Practice*

*How an Ancient Brotherhood
Cracked the Code of the
Universe and Lit the Path
from Antiquity to Oute
Absolute Music*

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Ancient Egyptians and Greeks (up to Euclid) saw in plane geometry much more than land-surveying. For the Greeks, Gaia or Ge (from which our word "geometry" derives) was a universe rather than a planet. Man was the measure of

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the cosmos and geometry was the expression of this faculty, the discipline through which one studied the unity of cosmic necessity and human thought. For this reason tradition has it that Plato inscribed on the gates of his

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Academy: "Only geometers enter here." This aspect of the discipline was lost in modern times until studies such as those of Matila Ghyka rekindled an interest that culminated in R. A. Schwaller de Lubicz's Pythagorean synthesis.

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Since it was essentially a rediscovery of unselfconscious modes of thinking, this synthesis did not pose the problem of foundations. Philosophical Geometry originated in the author's perception of this problem

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while working with de Lubicz in Grasse, France, in 1960-61. Written in 1972, *Philosophical Geometry* was conceived as a textbook and took shape in a teaching situation, individual elaboration of theory being the

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declared aim. Defined as "the activity of establishing a necessary conduct for mind through a set of signs denoting a necessary conduct of facts," Philosophical Geometry approaches a universal theme to which the existence of every human

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being contributes a chapter.
Philosophical Geometry is, and has
been, an avenue toward inscription
of such fundamental experience.
Right triangles are at the heart of
this textbook's vibrant new
approach to elementary number

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theory. Inspired by the familiar Pythagorean theorem, the author invites the reader to ask natural arithmetic questions about right triangles, then proceeds to develop the theory needed to respond. Throughout, students are

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encouraged to engage with the material by posing questions, working through exercises, using technology, and learning about the broader context in which ideas developed. Progressing from the fundamentals of number theory

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through to Gauss sums and quadratic reciprocity, the first part of this text presents an innovative first course in elementary number theory. The advanced topics that follow, such as counting lattice points and the four squares

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theorem, offer a variety of options for extension, or a higher-level course; the breadth and modularity of the later material is ideal for creating a senior capstone course. Numerous exercises are included throughout, many of which are

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designed for SageMath. By involving students in the active process of inquiry and investigation, this textbook imbues the foundations of number theory with insights into the lively mathematical process that

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continues to advance the field today. Experience writing proofs is the only formal prerequisite for the book, while a background in basic real analysis will enrich the reader's appreciation of the final chapters.

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This work has been selected by scholars as being culturally important and is part of the knowledge base of civilization as we know it. This work is in the public domain in the United States of America, and possibly other

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text in an easy-to-read typeface. We appreciate your support of the preservation process, and thank you for being an important part of keeping this knowledge alive and relevant.

This anthology, the largest

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collection of Pythagorean writings ever to appear in English, contains the four ancient biographies of Pythagoras and over 25 Pythagorean and Neopythagorean writings from the Classical and Hellenistic periods. The material of

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this book is indispensable for anyone who wishes to understand the real spiritual roots of western civilization.

His Lives and the Legacy of a
Rational Universe

An Anthology of Ancient Writings

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which Relate to Pythagoras and
Pythagorean Philosophy
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The Influence of Pythagoras on
Freemasonry, The Golden Verses
of Pythagoras and The Life and
Philosophy of Pythagoras

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Jesus Christ, Sun of God
Ancient Cosmology and Early
Christian Symbolism
The Life of Pythagoras
*In ancient Greek thought, the
musical scale discovered by the
philosopher Pythagoras was*

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seen as a utopian model of the harmonic order behind the structure of the cosmos and human existence. Through proportion and harmony, the musical scale bridges the gap between two extremes. It

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*encapsulates the most
fundamental pattern of harmonic
symmetry and demonstrates how
the phenomena of nature are
inseparably related to one
another through the principle of
reciprocity. Because of these*

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relationships embodied in its structure, the musical scale was seen as an ideal metaphor of human society by Plato and other Pythagorean thinkers, for it is based on the cosmic principles of harmony, reciprocity, and

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proportion, whereby each part of the whole receives its just and proper share. This book is the first ever complete translation of The Manual of Harmonics by the Pythagorean philosopher Nicomachus of Gerasa (second

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century A.D.) published with a comprehensive, chapter-by-chapter commentary. It is a concise and well-organized introduction to the study of harmonics, the universal principles of relation embodied in

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the musical scale. Also included is a remarkable chapter-by-chapter commentary by the translator, Flora Levin, which makes this work easily accessible to the reader today. Dr. Levin explains the principles

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of Pythagorean harmony, provides extensive background information, and helps to situate Nicomachus' thought in the history of ideas. This important work constitutes a valuable resource for all students of

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*ancient philosophy, Western
cosmology, and the history of
music.*

*Homage to Pythagoras collects
essential documents by people at
the leading edge of the sacred
sciences today. These*

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articles--both scholarly and sympathetic to the Pythagorean perspective--are proof of the contemporary interest in Pythagoras' philosophy as a living reality and provide a major addition to the field of

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*Pythagorean studies and
traditional mathematics.*

*Contents: Introduction by
Christopher Bamford "Ancient
Temple Architecture" by Robert
Lawlor "The Platonic Tradition on
the Nature of Proportion" by Keith*

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*Critchlow "What is Sacred
Architecture?" by Keith Critchlow
"Twelve Criteria for Sacred
Architecture" by Keith Critchlow
"Pythagorean Number as Form,
Color, and Light" by Robert
Lawlor "The Two Lights" by*

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*Arthur Zajonc "Apollo: The
Pythagorean Definition of God"
by Anne Macaulay "Blake, Yeats,
and Pythagoras" by Kathleen
Raine About the Authors
ROBERT LAWLOR is the author
of Sacred Geometry; Earth*

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Honoring; and Voices of the First Day. After training as a painter and a sculptor, he became a yoga student of Sri Aurobindo and lived for many years in Pondicherry, India, where he was a founding member of Auroville.

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In India, he discovered the works of the French Egyptologist and esotericist, R. A. Schwaller de Lubicz, which led him to explore the principles and practices of ancient sacred science. KEITH CRITCHLOW is the author of

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Order in Space; and Time Stands Still. A painter, Critchlow discovered geometry intuitively. A period of intensive geometric practice and work with Buckminster Fuller led him to recognize that the universal

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principles of geometry are revealed and confirmed both by the area of design where art and mathematics meet and in the study of nature and ancient and medieval sacred cosmological architecture of temples,

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cathedrals, and mosques. He has been a senior lecturer at the Architectural Association in London and taught Islamic Art at the Royal College of Art. He has also participated as geometer in various sacred architectural

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projects, and is a cofounder of Temenos, a journal devoted to the arts and imagination, and Kairos, a society that investigates, studies, and promotes traditional values of art and science. ARTHUR ZAJONC

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is Professor of Physics at Amherst College, where his research has concerned the nature of light and the experimental foundations of quantum mechanics. He has also taught and written extensively on

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*interdisciplinary aspects of
science, the history of science,
culture, and spirituality, especially
the works of Goethe and Rudolf
Steiner. He is the author
Catching the Light and The New
Physics and Cosmology,*

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featuring dialogues with the Dalai Lama. He has been a visiting scientist at many laboratories and was a Fulbright professor. ANNE MACAULAY lives in Scotland where she has, for many years, studied the origins of the

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*alphabet, the history of the guitar,
the figure of Apollo, and other
mysteries surrounding
Pythagorean thought. She has
lectured at Research into Lost
Knowledge Organization (RILKO)
and was a trustee of the*

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*Salisbury Center in Edinburgh.
KATHLEEN RAINE was a British
poet with an international
reputation as a scholar of the
imagination. A renowned student
of William Blake, a penetrating
critic, and a profound*

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autobiographer, she wrote numerous books and articles. Kathleen Raine was a cofounder and the editor of Temenos. Professor of Music at Colgate University and a widely respected musicologist, Godwin traces the

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history of the idea, held since ancient times, that the whole cosmos, with its circling planets and stars, is in some way a musical or harmonious entity. The author shows how this concept has continued to inspire

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*philosophers, astronomers, and
mystics from antiquity to the
present day.*

*Divine Harmony describes
Pythagoras's wanderings in
ancient Phoenicia, Egypt,
Babylon, and Greece, and*

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explores key Pythagorean ideas as taught at his scholarly community in southern Italy. This fascinating study of the sixth-century Greek scientist and mystic includes illustrations, a map, a new introduction, and an

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updated bibliography. Drawing on the writings of Pythagoras's disciples, the authors present a lively portrait of a man whose ideas continue to resonate.

His Life, Teaching, and Influence
His Life and Teaching, a

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*Compendium of Classical
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*Breakfast with Seneca: A Stoic
Guide to the Art of Living*

*Numenius of Apamea, the Father
of Neo-Platonism; Works,
Biography, Message, Sources,*

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On the Pythagorean Way of Life
The History of an Idea
Pythagoras; Source Book and
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The timeless brilliance of this
exhaustive survey of the best classical

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writers of antiquity on Pythagoras was first published in 1687 in Thomas Stanley ' s massive tome, The History of Philosophy. It remains as contemporary today as it was over three hundred years ago. The text of the 1687 book has been reset and modernized to make it more

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accessible to the modern reader.

Spelling has been regularized, obsolete words not found in a modern dictionary have been replaced, and contemporary conventions of punctuation have been used.

Biographical sketches of Thomas Stanley and Pythagoras by Manly

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Palmer Hall, founder of the Philosophical Research Society, have been included, along with a profound overview of Pythagorean philosophy by Platonic scholar Dr. Henry L. Drake. The extensive Greek language references throughout the text have been corrected and contextualized,

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and reset in a modern Greek font. Each quotation has been verified with the source document in Greek. An extensive annotated appendix of these classical sources is included. A complete bibliography details all the reference works utilized, and a small Glossary defines a number of terms,

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especially those from musical theory, which may be unfamiliar to the non-technical reader.

The Pythagorean idea that number is the key to understanding reality inspired Neoplatonist philosophers in the fourth and fifth centuries to develop theories in physics and

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metaphysics based on mathematical models. The theories produced by this revived interest in Pythagoreanism were to become influential in medieval and early modern philosophy, and this book makes use of some newly-discovered evidence to examine for the first time the development of those

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theories.

Sound coming from outside the field of vision, from somewhere beyond, holds a privileged place in the Western imagination. When separated from their source, sounds seem to manifest transcendent realms, divine powers, or supernatural forces. According to

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legend, the philosopher Pythagoras lectured to his disciples from behind a veil, and two thousand years later, in the age of absolute music, listeners were similarly fascinated with disembodied sounds, employing various techniques to isolate sounds from their sources. With recording and

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radio came spatial and temporal separation of sounds from sources, and new ways of composing music. Sound Unseen: Acousmatic Sound in Theory and Practice explores the phenomenon of acousmatic sound. An unusual and neglected word, "acousmatic" was first introduced into

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modern parlance in the mid-1960s by avant garde composer of musique concr è te Pierre Schaeffer to describe the experience of hearing a sound without seeing its cause. Working through, and often against, Schaeffer's ideas, Brian Kane presents a powerful argument for the central yet

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overlooked role of acousmatic sound in music aesthetics, sound studies, literature, philosophy and the history of the senses. Kane investigates acousmatic sound from a number of methodological perspectives -- historical, cultural, philosophical and musical -- and provides a framework

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that makes sense of the many surprising and paradoxical ways that unseen sound has been understood. Finely detailed and thoroughly researched, *Sound Unseen* pursues unseen sounds through a stunning array of cases -- from Bayreuth to Kafka's "Burrow," Apollinaire to Zizek,

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music and metaphysics to architecture and automata, and from Pythagoras to the present-to offer the definitive account of acousmatic sound in theory and practice. The first major study in English of Pierre Schaeffer's theory of "acousmatics," *Sound Unseen* is an essential text for scholars of

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philosophy of music, electronic music, sound studies, and the history of the senses.

This anthology, the largest collection of Pythagorean writings ever to appear in English, contains the four ancient biographies of Pythagoras and over 25 Pythagorean and Neopythagorean

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writings from the Classical and Hellenistic periods. The material of this book is indispensable for anyone who wishes to understand the real spiritual roots of Western civilization.

Philosophical Geometry

The Theology of Arithmetic

Homage to Pythagoras

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The Manual of Harmonics of
Nicomachus the Pythagorean
Pythagoras

Pythagoras and the Pythagoreans

Pythagoras and the Delphic Mysteries

**A fascinating portrait of the
Pythagorean tradition,
including a substantial**

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**account of the Neo-
Pythagorean revival, and
ending with Johannes
Kepler on the threshold of
modernism.**

**In recent decades it has
become obvious that**

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**mathematics has always
been a worldwide activity.
But this is the first book to
provide a substantial
collection of English
translations of key
mathematical texts from**

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**the five most important
ancient and medieval non-
Western mathematical
cultures, and to put them
into full historical and
mathematical context. The
Mathematics of Egypt,**

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**Mesopotamia, China, India,
and Islam gives English
readers a firsthand
understanding and
appreciation of these
cultures' important
contributions to world**

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**mathematics. The five
section authors--Annette
Imhausen (Egypt), Eleanor
Robson (Mesopotamia),
Joseph Dauben (China), Kim
Plofker (India), and J.
Lennart Berggren**

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Stuck in one place for hours
with no particular goal in
life? You want to talk to
other people but no one
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feel the same way but when you look at them laughing and smiling, you don't want to ask. Nearly all conflicts between people stem from the inability to adequately communicate. Intended for

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**the modern world, The
Roomer is a display of
thoughts which may be
present in anyone's daily
life. It is a character's
coming into self-awareness,
accompanied by guilt and**

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**regret. Sometimes we want
to to change and think this
will cause problems to
disappear. Yet, more often
than not, a shift in
perception often causes
realizations of what is**

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cure for past and future
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thought. Michael Chase's lucid translation—complete with a useful chronology and analytical bibliography—at last makes this book available to the English-speaking world. Hadot carefully examines Plotinus's views on the

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**self, existence, love, virtue,
gentleness, and solitude. He shows
that Plotinus, like other
philosophers of his day, believed
that Plato and Aristotle had
already articulated the essential
truths; for him, the purpose of**

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practicing philosophy was not to profess new truths but to engage in spiritual exercises so as to live philosophically. Seen in this light, Plotinus's counsel against fixation on the body and all earthly matters stemmed not from disgust

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or fear, but rather from his awareness of the negative effect that bodily preoccupation and material concern could have on spiritual exercises.

Attributed to Iamblichus (4th cent. AD), The Theology of

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**Arithmetic is about the mystical,
mathematical and cosmological
symbolism of the first ten
numbers. It is the longest work
on number symbolism to survive
from the ancient world, and
Robin Waterfield's careful**

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**creative partnership with nature
and collaborate with nature's
intelligence For millennia the
world was seen as a creative,
interconnected web of life,
constantly growing, developing,
and restoring itself. But with the**

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**arrival of the Scientific
Revolution in the 16th and 17th
centuries, the world was viewed as
a lifeless, clocklike mechanism,
bound by the laws of classical
physics. Intelligence was a trait
ascribed solely to human beings,**

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and thus humanity was viewed as superior to and separate from nature. Today new scientific discoveries are reviving the ancient philosophy of a living, interconnected cosmos, and humanity is learning from and

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**collaborating with nature's
intelligence in new, life-enhancing
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organizing intelligence at the heart of nature and humanity's place in the cosmic pattern. He examines the ancient vision of the living cosmos from its roots in the "world soul" of the Greeks and the alchemical tradition, to its

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**eclipse during the Scientific
Revolution, to its return today. He
explains how the mechanistic
worldview led to humanity's
profound sense of alienation, for
if the universe only functioned as
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intelligence that exists deep within
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**and new ways to collaborate with
nature's intelligence.**

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A small collection of three pieces exploring the impact and legacy that Pythagoras has left on both Freemasonry, as well as modern, esoteric, philosophical thought. Includes "The Influence of Pythagoras on Freemasonry" by Albert G. Mackey, "The Golden Verses of Pythagoras" which is traditionally

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attributed to Pythagoras himself and "The Life and Philosophy of Pythagoras" by Manly P. Hall. This is a nice primer for someone becoming interested in Pythagoras.

What we think music is shapes how we hear it. This book traces the history of the idea of pure - 'absolute' - music from

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Pythagoras to the present, with special emphasis on efforts to reconcile the irreducible essence of the art with its profound effects on the human spirit. The core of this study focuses on the period 1850-1935, beginning with the collision between Richard Wagner and the Viennese critic Eduard Hanslick.

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Japanese people have lived on the country's other three main islands—Honshu, Kyushu, and Shikoku—for many centuries, but ethnic Japanese, or Wajin, began coming to Hokkaido in large numbers only in the latter half of the nineteenth century. This book tells the story of Japan's aboriginal people, the

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Ainu, followed by that of foreign explorers and ethnic Japanese pioneers. The book pays close attention to the Japanese-Russian conflicts over the island, including Cold War confrontations and more recent clashes over fishing rights and the Hokkaido-administered islands seized by the U.S.S.R. in 1945.

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This commentary provides valuable insight into the basic tenets of an unknown sect from the formative years of Hellenistic Pythagoreanism, a movement which had a major impact on the morality and philosophy of the Greco-Roman world.

Theurgia

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