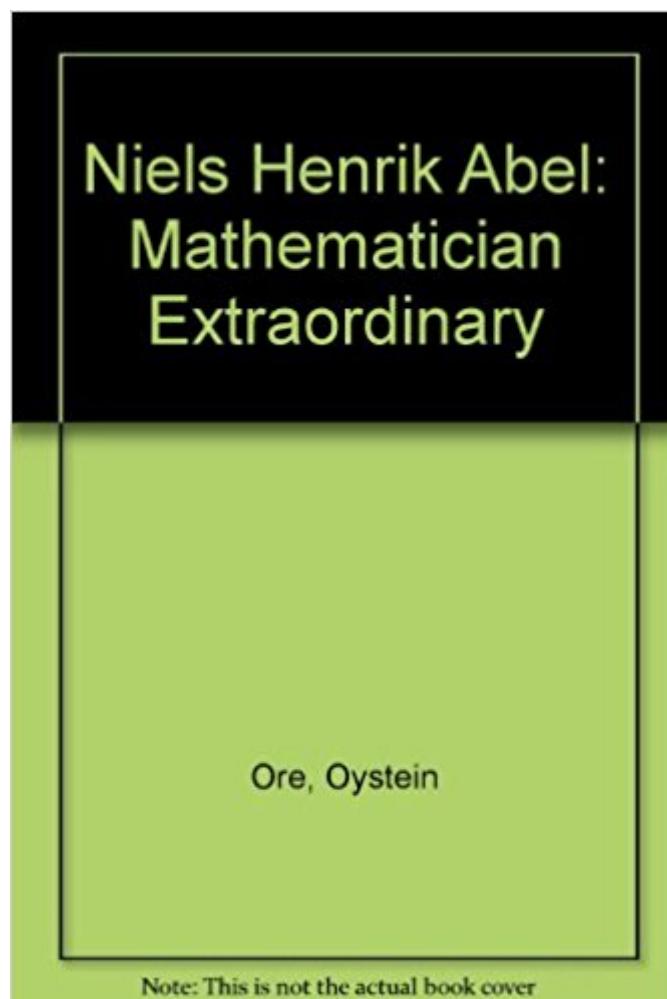


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Niels Henrik Abel: Mathematician Extraordinary



Synopsis

This is a story of more than a century ago, about a circle of young scientists, and in particular one among them, a mathematician, Niels Henrik Abel. He is well known to any mathematician of today; indeed, few men have their name associated with so many results and concepts in modern mathematics. This, however, is not the main concern in this book. It is rather the simple story of a scientist, his family and friends, his hopes and sorrows, his triumphs and tragedies. Many great lives, rich in outer events, have inspired biographers. But the profound humanity of a searching soul may provide the background for an equally arresting chronicle--the heart-warming tale of a young man who set out from a little Norwegian town to explore the world of science. --This text refers to an alternate Hardcover edition.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

This book is a gold mine for those who want to learn more about N. H. Abel's life and time. Oystein Ore makes a great job exposing Abel's intimate life, there's a lot of fragments cited from Abel's correspondency with his acquainted people, namely, Crelle, Holmboe, Keilheau, Boek, Hansteen, Legrende, his beloved Christine Kamp and many others. This book is not about Abel's scientific life, but about his life, his ancestors, his good and bad times. I think one can read about Abel's scientific advances in Carl Anton Bjerknes's biography on Abel: Niels-Henrik Abel: Tableau de sa vie et de son action scientifique (Cambridge Library Collection - Mathematics) (French Edition). Besides, one major topic in Ore's book is the development of Abel and Jacobi's competition to publish breakthroughs in equation theory and elliptic equations. These young men, although they lived a

very short life span, they did more than many other mathematicians; specially Abel, whose name was used to name many things after him. In conclusion, Abel is one of the most humble, noble, and recognized scientists of all times, everyone interested in Abel's life or in history of mathematics should read this fine book. And read it twice!

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