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Why, should we as gardeners, torture ourselves? Why squander precious water on plants? With continued national concern over water use, Xeriscape gardens present an option for today and tomorrow. This fully illustrated reference offers complete information on 100 low-water-use trees and shrubs, perennials and vines, ground covers, annuals, and shade plants. The plants were chosen for their ability to thrive in tough conditions, for their low water usage, and for their potential to add beauty and diversity to any landscape. Whether you have a small patio or terrace, a city lot, or a bit of acreage, there is more than enough variety in these pages to turn your garden into a place of beauty.

Gardeners do not need to fluff and feed.

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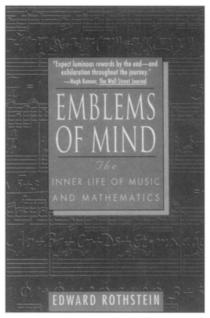
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Avon Books, 1996, 263 pages, 5¼" x 8", paperback, \$13.00

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n this elegant exploration, Edward Rothstein, the chief music critic for The New York Times, reveals the inner lives of mathematics and music, how these activities work, what it feels like to be immersed in them, and where they lead. Even though one is a science, the other an art, their common origins in cult and mystery, their links in history, and their continuing intersections point to profound similarities. Both begin in the world and then create abstractions that lead to unexpected realms; both are concerned with proportion and ratio; both are poetic activities, relying upon metaphor and image.

As Rothstein proceeds on this remarkable journey, he explains how mathematics makes sense of space, how music creates a story how pumbers are

ates a story, how numbers are

examined, and how melody works. Compositions by Bach, Beethoven, and Chopin are explored; mathematical puzzles and elaborate theories of topology are described. Rothstein discusses the Golden Rectangle as well as the development of Romanticism; the trope used to chant the Hebrew Bible as well as the swing of telephone cords; the importance of style in mathematics as well as the nature of the "High" in that now-contested term "High Art." —from Avon Books

Scientists and governments are vigorously searching for signs of life in the universe. Will their efforts meet with success?

Award-winning author Paul Davies, an eminent scientist, explores the ramifications of that success in his fascinating new book.

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Human society is only a few thousand years old. Davies argues that if we get a message from space, it will come from communities much more advanced than our own. What would we make of the existence of a billion-year-old technological society? Would we be communicating with machine or organic intelligence? If life exists elsewhere, does this imply the existence of a plan or a design? If evolution proceeds randomly and we are the result of myriad accidents, could intelligent life evolve twice?

Delving deeply into profound ideas in mathematics and philosophy—from Descartes to Darwin to Dennett—Davies takes us on a whirlwind journey through issues in quantum theory, mind and matter, consciousness, and time, as he explains why he believes "they're out there"—and what that implies. —from Basic Books



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