

Judith Grabiner, the author of *A Historian Looks Back*, has long been interested in investigating what mathematicians actually do, and how mathematics actually has developed. She addresses the results of her investigations not principally to other historians, but to mathematicians and teachers of mathematics. This book brings together much of what she has had to say to this audience. The centerpiece of the book is *The Calculus as Algebra: J.-L. Lagrange, 1736-1813*. The book describes the achievements, setbacks, and influence of Lagrange's pioneering attempt to reduce the calculus to algebra. Nine additional articles round out the book describing the history of the derivative; the origin of delta-epsilon proofs; Descartes and problem solving; the contrast between the calculus of Newton and Maclaurin, and that of Lagrange; Maclaurin's way of doing mathematics and science and his surprisingly important influence; some widely held myths about the history of mathematics; Lagrange's attempt to prove Euclid's parallel postulate; and the central role that mathematics has played throughout the history of western civilization. The development of mathematics cannot be programmed or predicted. Still, seeing how ideas have been formed over time and what the difficulties were can help teachers find new ways to explain mathematics. Appreciating its cultural background can humanize mathematics for students. And famous mathematicians' struggles and successes should interest -- and perhaps inspire -- researchers. Readers will see not only what the mathematical past was like, but also how important parts of the mathematical present came to be.

Brice Marden: *Graphite Drawings, Through a Glass Darkly: Suffering, the Sacred, and the Sublime in Literature and Theory, The Story Of Mental Fascination, Trial theory and practice of excellent papers selected - Anhui court system(Chinese Edition), Indian Self-Rule: First-Hand Accounts of Indian-White Relations from Roosevelt to Reagan (Current Issues in the American West ; V. 4)*,

The centerpiece of the book is *The Calculus as Algebra: J.-L. Lagrange*, " This section A *A Historian Looks Back: The Calculus as Algebra and Selected Writings*. Judith V. Grabiner. Series: Spectrum. Copyright Date: Cambridge Core - Recreational Mathematics - *A Historian Looks Back* - by Judith V. Grabiner. *The Calculus as Algebra and Selected Writings*. A Historian.

*A Historian Looks Back: The Calculus as Algebra and Selected Writings (Spectrum)* by Judith V. Grabiner () [Judith V. Grabiner] on Amazon. com. Buy *A Historian Looks Back (Spectrum)* on todrickhall.com ? FREE SHIPPING on qualified orders. The centerpiece of the book is *The Calculus as Algebra: J.-L. Lagrange*, . award-winning paper reprinted several times as a specimen of exemplary writing. United States Choose a country/region for shopping.

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