

REVIEWS OF CALCULUS FOR THE AMBITIOUS

T. W. Körner

From the reviews:

- The mystery is maintained right to the end.
Detective Novels Weekly
- A well rotten cook on deferential callouses.
Which Spell Checker?
- Like its author, this book is short and opinionated.
Bognor Review of Books
- The author's circlist leanings are shown by his statement, in direct opposition to a growing body of opinion, that pi is irrational.
Heartland Institute
- Outdated technology and no certificate of completion.
Moocs International
- As we have unfortunately come to expect, Newton's wife is airbrushed from the story.
Guardian
- The book is well designed for its purpose. Small and light it will fit any saddle bag.
Cohen the Barbarian
- The erotic charge of the plot is all the stronger for being underplayed.
Journal of the Society of Romantic Novelists
- An outstanding example of its type. The reader who buys it will learn a valuable lesson.
Delphi Evening Post
- I bought this book to teach myself French. It was utterly useless. Also, I did not like the picture on the cover, the coffee I get at lunch time is tepid, my cat seems unwell and my mother keeps phoning me. I cannot recommend this book.
Amazon review
- A true masterpiece. I have read three books in my life and this is by far the best.
Another Amazon review
- My children showed signs of incipient geekiness. I gave them this book with entirely satisfactory results.
One of hundreds of unsolicited testimonials which may be viewed at our Sukhoy Nos offices.
- A poisonous book written by an enemy of all that decent people hold dear.
Daily Mail

- After careful study of all the evidence, I have concluded that mathematics is dull and useless. This is a book about mathematics, so it is dull and useless.
Sir Simon Jenkins (BA, FSA, FRSL, VIP)
- The author hopes ‘that the spirit of Euler hovers over this book’. We regret to report that three well conducted seances have failed to bear out his hope.
Bulletin of the British Spiritualist Society
- Nothing odd will do long. Tristram Shandy did not last.
Samuel Johnson
- We cannot approve of a cover which gives greater prominence to the author than to the publisher.
Spokesperson, Schoolbook Publishers’ Association
- As Patrician of Ankh-Morpork, I often have to consider what to give the ambitious. Sometimes an expenses paid one way journey to Genua or an unrefusable offer of a clerkship at our embassy to the Agatean Empire will serve. At other times only a long stay in free, if rather restricted, accommodation will do. This book provides another option, though one to be reserved for the more difficult cases.
Lord Vetinari, review in the Ankh-Morpork Times
- This book contains no pictures of men wearing wigs. It is thus impossible for students to appreciate the historical context of the mathematics. The author does not tell students how to calculate the area of a surface of revolution and so fails to show vital role of mathematics in modern technology.
Thomas Gradgrind, sponsor of Gove’s Academy, Coketown
- The author is clearly an able expositor, but he has chosen a subject and an approach to that subject which is likely to gain him few readers. This reviewer feels that the best way for the author to obtain the success that he deserves would be to write a history of the Viennese tram system. Such a history should be written in a light hearted and accessible manner whilst providing sufficient detail for the real enthusiast.
Tram Spotters Monthly
- The aspiring student who buys this book in the expectation of something along the lines of J. Carrier’s ‘Elementary Calculus’ will be woefully disappointed.
Modern Photography
- A little bird tells us that the several of the big studios are interested in a film version. The working title is ‘Newton and Leibniz, Hunters of the Night’ with the slogan ‘By day one was Master of the Mint and the other Librarian to the Court of Hanover’.
Stars and Studios