

*"Flatland could lead to very profound  
thought about our Universe and ourselves."*  
—Isaac Asimov

# FLATLAND



A ROMANCE OF MANY DIMENSIONS

EDWIN A. ABBOTT

WITH  
THE AUTHOR'S ORIGINAL ILLUSTRATIONS

# Flatland A Romance Of Many Dimensions

**Edwin Abbott**



## **Flatland A Romance Of Many Dimensions:**

Flatland David Phelps Abbott, 1926-01-01 I call our world Flatland not because we call it so but to make its nature clearer to you my happy readers who are privileged to live in Space Imagine a vast sheet of paper on which straight Lines Triangles Squares Pentagons Hexagons and other figures instead of remaining fixed in their places move freely about on or in the surface but without the power of rising above or sinking below it very much like shadows only hard and with luminous edges and you will then have a pretty correct notion of my country and countrymen Alas a few years ago I should have said my universe but now my mind has been opened to higher views of things In such a country you will perceive at once that it is impossible that there should be anything of what you call a solid kind but I dare say you will suppose that we could at least distinguish by sight the Triangles Squares and other figures moving about as I have described them On the contrary we could see nothing of the kind not at least so as to distinguish one figure from another Nothing was visible nor could be visible to us except straight Lines and the necessity of this I will speedily demonstrate Place a penny on the middle of one of your tables in Space and leaning over it look down upon it It will appear a circle But now drawing back to the edge of the table gradually lower your eye thus bringing yourself more and more into the condition of the inhabitants of Flatland and you will find the penny becoming more and more oval to your view and at last when you have placed your eye exactly on the edge of the table so that you are as it were actually a Flatland citizen the penny will then have ceased to appear oval at all and will have become so far as you can see a straight line The same thing would happen if you were to treat in the same way a Triangle or Square or any other figure cut out of pasteboard As soon as you look at it with your eye on the edge of the table you will find that it ceases to appear to you a figure and that it becomes in appearance a straight line Take for example an equilateral Triangle who represents with us a Tradesman of the respectable class Fig 1 represents the Tradesman as you would see him while you were bending over him from above figs 2 and 3 represent the Tradesman as you would see him if your eye were close to the level or all but on the level of the table and if your eye were quite on the level of the table and that is how we see him in Flatland you would see nothing but a straight line

**Flatland: A Romance of Many Dimensions** Edwin A. Abbott, 2006-07-13 How would a creature limited to two dimensions be able to grasp the possibility of a third In Flatland A Square's linear world is invaded by a Sphere bringing the gospel of the third dimension Part geometry lesson part social satire the novel enlarges readers' imaginations beyond the limits of our respective dimensional prejudices Upward yet not Northward How would a creature limited to two dimensions be able to grasp the possibility of a third Edwin A. Abbott's droll and delightful romance of many dimensions explores this conundrum in the experiences of his protagonist A Square whose linear world is invaded by an emissary Sphere bringing the gospel of the third dimension on the eve of the new millennium Part geometry lesson part social satire this classic work of science fiction brilliantly succeeds in enlarging all readers' imaginations beyond the limits of our respective dimensional prejudices In a world where class is determined by how many

sides you possess and women are straight lines the prospects for enlightenment are boundless and Abbott's hypotheses about a fourth and higher dimensions seem startlingly relevant today This new edition of Flatland illuminates the social and intellectual context that produced the work as well as the timeless questions that it raises about the limits of our perception and knowledge

**Flatland** Edwin Abbott Abbott, 2016-09-10 Flatland A Romance of Many Dimensions is an 1884 science fiction novella by the English schoolmaster Edwin Abbott Abbott As a satire Flatland offered pointed observations on the social hierarchy of Victorian culture However the novella's more enduring contribution is its examination of dimensions in a foreword to one of the many publications of the novella noted science writer Isaac Asimov described Flatland as The best introduction one can find into the manner of perceiving dimensions As such the novella is still popular amongst mathematics physics and computer science students

**FLATLAND a ROMANCE of MANY DIMENSIONS by Edwin Abbott Abbott** Edwin Abbott Abbott, 2017-07-13 The classic book has always read again and again What is the classic book Why is the classic book READ READ READ then you'll know its excellence

*Flatland: a Romance of Many Dimensions* Edwin Abbott, 2014-01-17 Edwin A Abbott was an English theologian best known for writing the novella Flatland A Romance of Many Dimensions Flatland is a satirical work about a two dimensional world Illustrations are included

**Flatland** Edwin Abbott Abbott, 2010-04 If my poor Flatland friend retained the vigour of mind which he enjoyed when he began to compose these Memoirs I should not now need to represent him in this preface in which he desires firstly to return his thanks to his readers and critics in Spaceland whose appreciation has with unexpected celerity required a second edition of his work secondly to apologize for certain errors and misprints for which however he is not entirely responsible and thirdly to explain one or two misconceptions But he is not the Square he once was Years of imprisonment and the still heavier burden of general incredulity and mockery have combined with the natural decay of old age to erase from his mind many of the thoughts and notions and much also of the terminology which he acquired during his short stay in Spaceland He has therefore requested me to reply in his behalf to two special objections one of an intellectual the other of a moral nature

**A Comprehensive Summary and Analysis of Flatland a Romance of Many Dimensions (Illustrated) by Edwin Abbott Abbott**

Edwin Abbott Abbott, 2025-03-13 Flatland A Romance of Many Dimensions is a satirical novella that critiques Victorian society through the lens of geometry and dimensional allegory The story is narrated by A Square a mathematician living in the two dimensional world of Flatland The inhabitants of Flatland are geometric figures with social status determined by their regularity and number of sides Women are straight lines relegated to the lowest status and perceived as dangerous due to their ability to become invisible

**Flatland: A Romance of Many Dimensions** Edwin Abbott Abbott, 2021-01-01 Flatland A Romance of Many Dimensions is a satirical novella by the English schoolmaster Edwin Abbott Abbott It was first published in 1884 The book used the fictional two dimensional world of Flatland to comment on the hierarchy of Victorian culture but the novella's more enduring contribution is its examination of dimensions

*Flatland a*

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