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Turing: The Tragic Life Of Alan Turing



Synopsis

Hundreds of movies and thousands of books have been written about the heroes of World War II. For dozens of years, however, few people knew about one of the greatest heroes of the warâ "a mild-mannered, eccentric mathematician from the University of Cambridge. This man, an undeniable genius whose later life was plagued by controversy and tragedy, probably played a greater role in the eventual Allied victory than anyone else. Until quite recently his contribution to the war effort was barely recognized. Everyoneâ ™s heard of Churchill, Eisenhower, Montgomery, Patton and even de Gaulle, but far fewer have ever heard of Alan Turing. This is his incredible story.

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Customer Reviews

Sadly disappointment by this book, as a fan of Alan Turing and computer science in general. Poorly written, with an enormous amount of typos and formatting errors. Doesn't capture his genius or his personal story with any sense of respect. I even found factual errors that contradicted the many other biographies on Turing I have read. Stick with The Enigma by the brilliant Andrew Hodges for Turing's life story, and The Man Who Knew Too Much by David Leavitt for exceptional details on the math behind Turing's discoveries.

Having just seen "The Imitation Game", this book fills in what the movie glossed over. So very sad that such a brilliant mind was destroyed by the government's "choice" of either prison or high doses of estrogen. High dose estrogen, long before birth control pills. disrupted his thinking to the point that his only resort was cyanide poisoning. Wonder what else he might have come up with instead of dying so young.

Fast read. Good details about a man who seems to have been ignored until he was posthumously pardoned by Queen Elizabeth II. Highly recommended.

Good overview of the problems and accomplishments of a visionary.

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