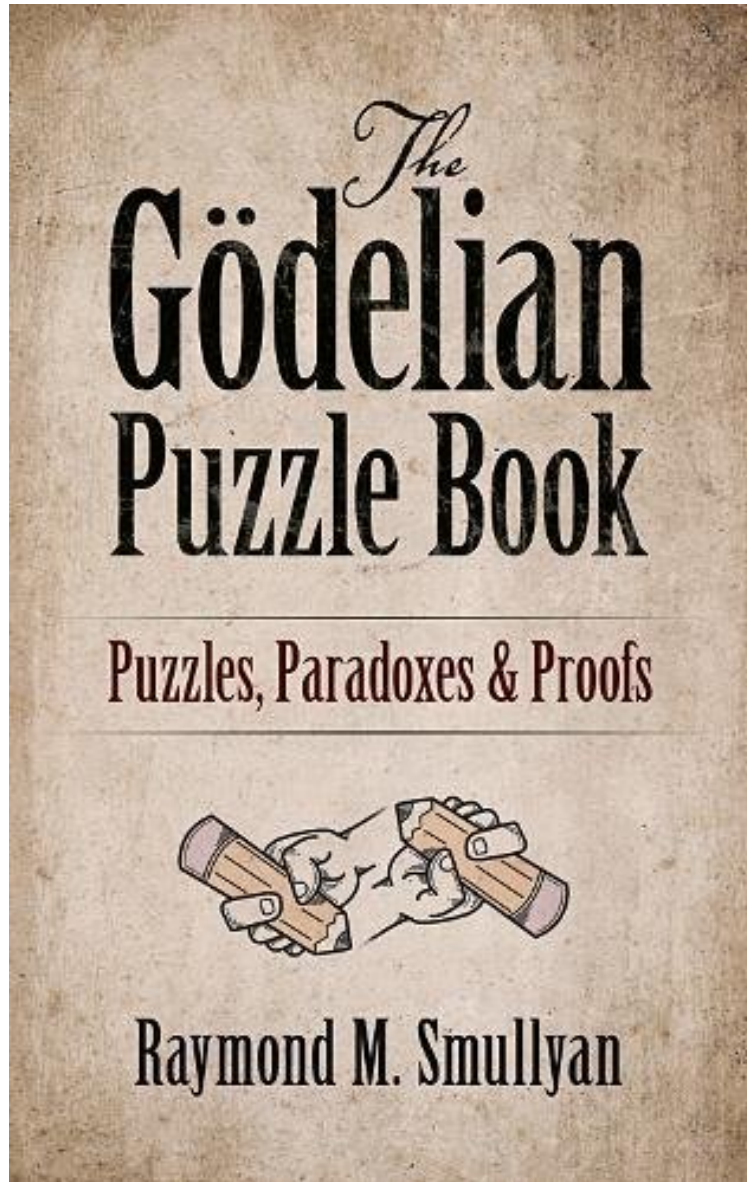


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## The Gdelian Puzzle Book: Puzzles, Paradoxes and Proofs

*Raymond M. Smullyan*

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more amazing, wondrous, and stupendous. He is a boundless source of creativity and ingenuity, and not even his advanced years deter him in the slightest. His latest "Godelian Puzzle Book" is a true masterpiece - a mixture of humor and brilliance which entertainingly bares the very mind and soul of the eminent logician Kurt Gdel. I can not recommend this book enough!58 of 59 people found the following review helpful. Excellent Puzzles, Terrible EditingBy Adam MachanicThis book is extremely entertaining, full of educational, thought-provoking, and sometimes difficult logic puzzles. I'm a huge fan of Smullyan and his work and this book certainly did not disappoint. This book is a great way to learn about Godel's theorems without any risk of falling asleep.That said, I am not a fan of typos and errors, and this book is full of them. Several of the puzzles are impossible to solve because a wrong name is used in the scenario, and some of the proofs are equally problematic. Anyone paying close attention will be able to work around the issues, but that should not be required of the reader. I'm not sure why these problems weren't caught during a review phase.Were this book any less excellent I would have given it three or perhaps even two stars as a result of the errors. I'm disappointed by the issues, but would still highly recommend the book. Just be extra-alert as you work through it.7 of 7 people found the following review helpful. Godelian Puzzle BookBy william P. CollinsI am not a professional student of Logic but Smullyan's other books have kept very busyover a long time span. This book takes me just where I wanted to go to apractical account of why Godel has made such a tremendous impact

These brand-new recreational logic puzzles provide entertaining variations on Gdel's incompleteness theorems, offering ingenious challenges related to infinity, truth and provability, undecidability, and other concepts. Created by the celebrated logician Raymond Smullyan, the puzzles require no background in formal logic and will delight readers of all ages.The two-part selection of puzzles and paradoxes begins with examinations of the nature of infinity and some curious systems related to Gdel's theorem. The first three chapters of Part II contain generalized Gdel theorems. Symbolic logic is deferred until the last three chapters, which give explanations and examples of first-order arithmetic, Peano arithmetic, and a complete proof of Gdel's celebrated result involving statements that cannot be proved or disproved. The book also includes a lively look at decision theory, better known as recursion theory, which plays a vital role in computer science.

About the AuthorRaymond Smullyan received his PhD from Princeton University and taught at Dartmouth, Princeton, Indiana University, and New York's Lehman College. Best known for his mathematical and creative logic puzzles and games, he was also a concert pianist and a magician. He wrote over a dozen books of logic puzzles and texts on mathematical logic.