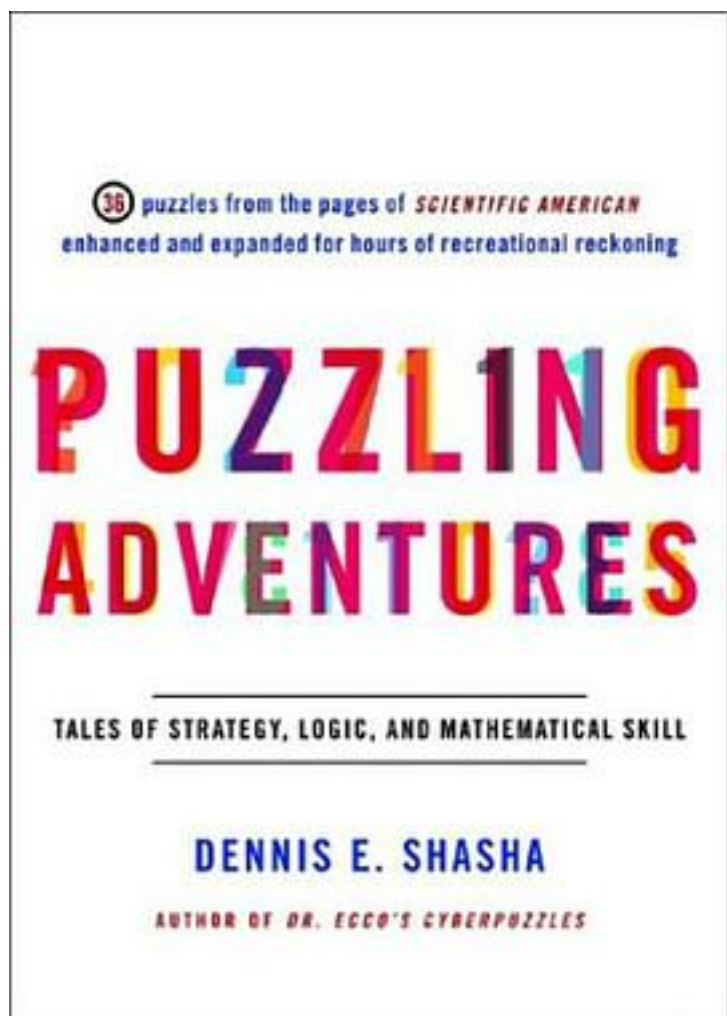


Puzzling Adventures



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Safecracking, bullying, marital infidelity and gambling have never before been explored

with the mathematical acuity and whimsy of Puzzling Adventures. Collected and enhanced from Dennis Shasha's popular Scientific American column, here are thirty-five of the most innovative and emotive mathematical puzzles ever to appear in its pages. Edgy, challenging and representing the ultimate in recreational mathematical games, Puzzling Adventures dares the reader to work out the logic underlying venture fund investments, escape a Minotaur, catch a polar bear, play power politics, work out if a witness is lying, spy on contraband traders and verify DNA. An encrypted set of stories and commentary float above the puzzles. They need decrypting to discover their hints. The hints lead to a surprise-if the reader can work them out...

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