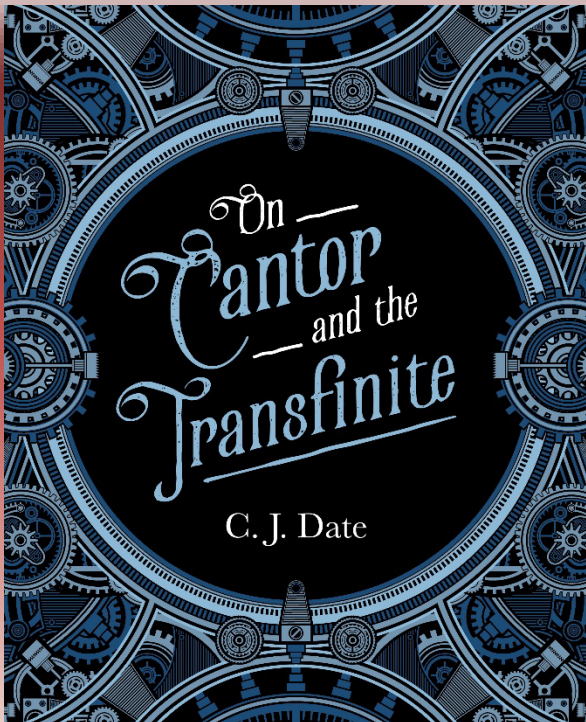


On Cantor and the Transfinite

Cantor claimed among other things that the infinite set of real numbers contains strictly more elements than the infinite set of natural numbers. From this result, he concluded that there's more than one kind of infinity; in fact, he claimed that there are an infinite number of different infinities, or transfinite numbers.

The aim of this book is to explain and investigate these claims of Cantor's in depth (and question them, where appropriate). It's not a textbook, though; instead, it's a popular account—it tells a story—and the target audience is interested lay readers, not mathematicians or logicians. What little mathematics is needed to understand the story is explained in the book itself.



About the Author

Chris Date has a stature that is unique in the database industry. He is best known for his textbook *An Introduction to Database Systems* (Addison-Wesley), which has sold some 900,000 copies at the time of writing. He enjoys a reputation that is second to none for his ability to explain complex technical issues in a clear and understandable fashion. He was inducted into the Computing Industry Hall of Fame in 2004.

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