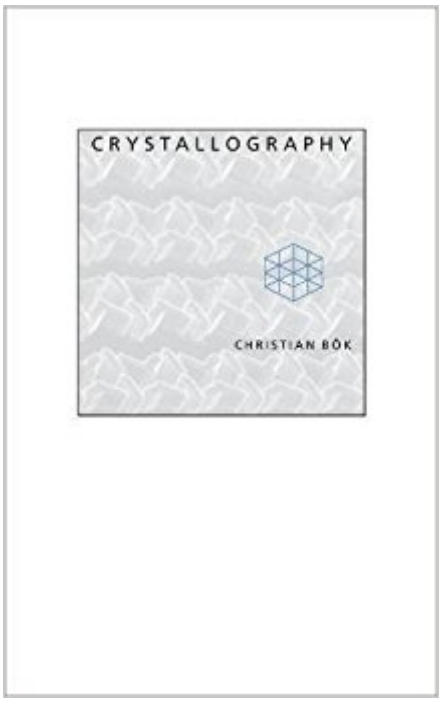
Crystallography



Synopsis

Published in 1994, Crystallography was a gem of a book, an instant hit that was nominated for the Gerald Lampert Award. It has been unavailable for an ice age, and Coach House Books is proud to bring it back.'Crystallography' means the study of crystals, but also, taken literally, 'lucid writing.' The book exists in the intersection of poetry and science, exploring the relationship between language and crystals - looking at language as a crystal, a space in which the chaos of individual parts align to expose a perfect formation of structure. As BÃƒÂ¶k himself says, 'a word is a bit of crystal in formation,' suggesting there is a space in which words, like crystals, can resonate pure form.Lucid, sparkling, a diamond of a book: Crystallography is a crystal-clear approach to the science of poetry from the author of Eunoia.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Christian Bok is the author of Crystallography (Coach House Press, 1994), a 'pataphysical encyclopedia nominated for the Gerald Lampert Award for Best Poetic Debut, and 'Pataphysics: The Poetics of an Imaginary Science (Northwestern University Press, 2001). His book Eunoia won the 2002 Griffin Poetry Prize and is the best-selling Canadian poetry book of all time. Bok has created artificial languages for Gene Roddenberry's Earth: Final Conflict and Peter Benchley's . His conceptual artwork has appeared at the Marianne Boesky Gallery in New York City as part of the exhibit Poetry Plastique. He currently teaches at the University of Calgary.

This is a fascinating book exploring language through crystallography that fits nicely into the Oupilo

experiments. In general the book is accessible - word squares, concrete poems, charts and, yes, some poetry as "commonly understood." The most personal poems are under "Diamonds" which explores the relationship with his father, a diamond cutter. The layout of the poems in this section remains a puzzle to me. As I do Merrill's "The Changing Light at Sandover", I found myself wanting a crib sheet to point out what I felt I was missing of the author's intent.The linguistic "games" that I found most interesting were the classification of letters by their axis of symmetry and the "dripping line" (think of water dripping from a cave ceiling). (Unfortunately the web removes multiple spaces so it is not easy to give an illustration - just think of fewer and fewer letters falling into the next line, always spelling out meaningful clauses, phrases, words.)This book is a major tour-de-force of experimental writing. It will get under your skin. You'll read and reread digging deep to find the underlying principles. You may even become obsessed. Or you may read through it quickly dismissing it as a mere experiment.

Great book combining science poetry. Bought it for one of my introductory English classes. Really opens the mind up the link between science and poetry. I ended up writing a paper on it due to my interest.

I forget what I paid for it--$12? $16? Something like that. Cheap. It has paragraphs you'll never read anywhere else, using long strings of words that have never before been next to one another. It's a testament to what can be done--because Christian Bok did it--if one goes off in a hole somewhere and focuses, and that's a good lesson any ol' time.How much is one fantastic, comprehensible, and yet on the surface bizarre sentence worth to you? In entertainment or inspiration or education? I'd say--for me-- a dollar at least, and five at most. Applying that standard, this book is worth hundreds of dollars. I'm no intellectual, and I'm no freak, but I like language and words, and I like this book a lot.

My view is that this is where Bok's work on chemistry + poetry really started to emerge strongly. The more recent biological poems - living poems made of DNA chains, can be linked to to passages herein on the structure of crystals, and their inherent portal-like qualities. It's unique from assemblage type poems, wherein archival information is assembled to make "sciency" found poems. And it's not translation, where the material of another work is used, as in "Parse". Rather, the material of the crystallography is taken from the basic components of our thought on crystals themselves.

IBWT.It’s a club I’m starting it.Who’s in.This bok is great if you like jewelry.And/or the english.

I am a geology major and I usually tend to avoid poetry, however, this book is quite an exception. This book took the science of geology and the art of poetry and combined them into a masterpiece. This analysis of these two fields of study is incredible and is a definite must read.

The Basics of Crystallography and Diffraction (International Union of Crystallography Texts on Crystallography) The Basics of Crystallography and Diffraction: Fourth Edition (International Union of Crystallography Texts on Crystallography) The Basics of Crystallography and Diffraction: Third Edition (International Union of Crystallography Texts on Crystallography) Crystal Structure Analysis: Principles and Practice (International Union of Crystallography Monographs on Crystallography) The Rietveld Method (International Union of Crystallography Monographs on Crystallography) International Tables for Crystallography, Space-Group Symmetry (IUCr Series. International Tables of Crystallography) Foundations of Crystallography with Computer Applications, Second Edition Structure of Materials: An Introduction to Crystallography, Diffraction and Symmetry Minerals and Rocks: Exercises in Crystal and Mineral Chemistry, Crystallography, X-ray Powder Diffraction, Mineral and Rock Identification, and Ore Mineralogy Optical Crystallography (MSA Monograph Series) Crystallography: An Introduction Principles of Protein X-ray Crystallography (Springer Advanced Texts in Chemistry) Introduction to the Methods of Optical Crystallography Crystallography and Crystal Defects Introduction to Crystallography (Dover Books on Chemistry) Crystallography Crystallography Made Crystal Clear, Third Edition: A Guide for Users of Macromolecular Models (Complementary Science) Elements of X-ray Crystallography Structure Determination by X-ray Crystallography Structure Determination by X-ray Crystallography: Analysis by X-rays and Neutrons