Bollobás, Béla:: *The Art of Mathematics – Take Two. Tea Time in Cambridge*. Cambridge University Press, Cambridge 2022, xiii + 333 pp., US-\$ 22.84, £19.69, ISBN 978-1-108-97826-2 (paperback), 978-1-108-83327-1 (hardcover).

'Recreational' mathematics is what mathematicians love to do after – or in-between – more 'serious' mathematics. Quite often, recreational mathematics is some kind of a social event, where toy problems and other brain teasers are tossed around during coffee breaks and between office doors. Béla Bollobás's book contains 128 such problems from various fields of mathematics, ranging from analysis, geometry, number theory to probability and combinatorics. Some of the problems are 'easy' (like the Monty Hall problem), while some can be pretty hard (e.g. those involving prime numbers), but all of them can be solved in at most 4 pages. In some sense it is a modern and slightly more challenging continuation of the long tradition of recreational mathematics books by Lewis Carroll, W.W. Rouse Ball, Martin Gardner or Hugo Steinhaus, just to mention a few. Still, most of the brain-teasers should be accessible to undergraduates and even interested high-school students.

As the title indicates, this is already the second instalment and the structure of the presentation is similar to the first book: There are problems (32 pages), most of them have hints (11 pages) and all are fully solved in the third part of the book (286 pages). The solutions give an alternative, more mathematical statement of the problem (which is often part of the solution) and they come with detailed comments and a short bibliography. As one would expect, the selection reflects the author's (good!) taste, yet there is some loose connection between the problems: All of them are linked to mathematicians which have some relation to Cambridge.

While it is clear that one should not (even try to) read this book from cover-to-cover, I think that this book is best read in company, when one can immediately discuss the one or the other problem and when there is less incentive to give up and look at hints and solutions. Béla Bollobás book is *the* perfect coffee-table book for any maths department's common room.

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