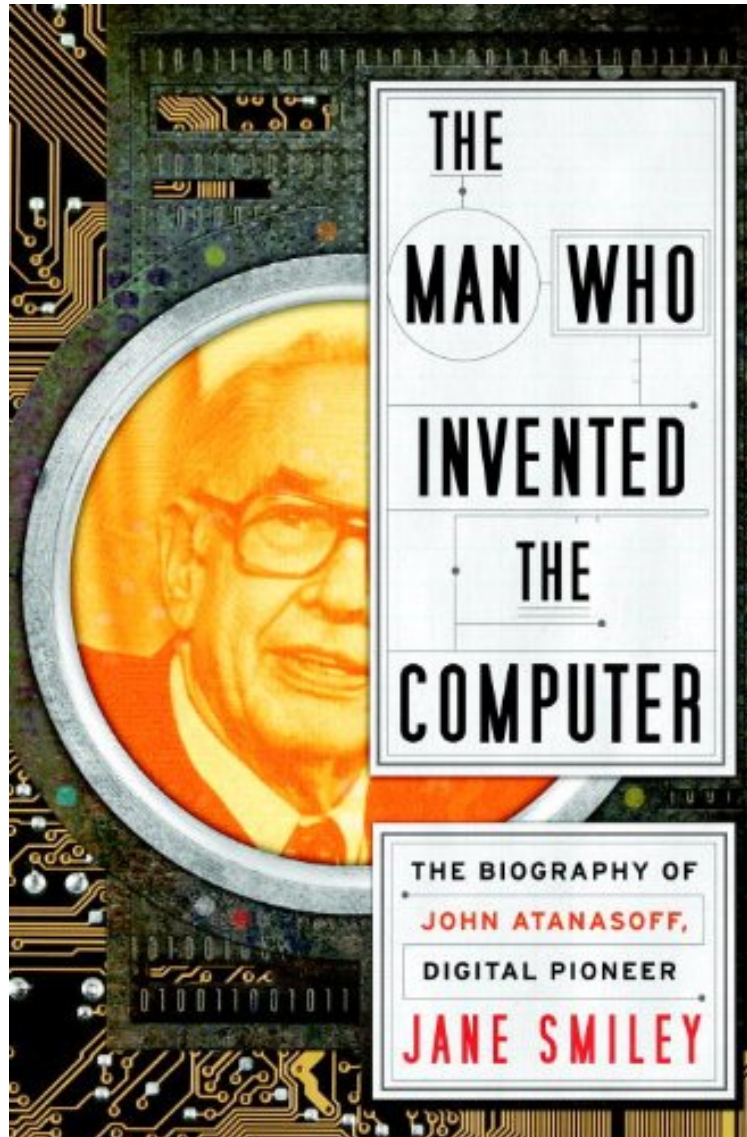


(Get free) The Man Who Invented the Computer

The Man Who Invented the Computer

Von Jane Smiley

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Von Jane Smiley : The Man Who Invented the Computer before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Man Who Invented the Computer:

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. A very readable and intersting biographyVon F. MASSEThis is an easy to read, captivating biography about an inventor (and his student and co-inventor Berry) whose name is often passed over in the writings of the history of early computers. Especially interesting is the story about the ENIAC co-inventor J. Mauchly and what he really took home

after spending some time looking at the ABC computer (and squeezing J. Atanasoff for information).

Kurzbeschreibung From one of our most acclaimed novelists, a David-and-Goliath biography for the digital age. One night in the late 1930s, in a bar on the Illinois-Iowa border, John Vincent Atanasoff, a professor of physics at Iowa State University, after a frustrating day performing tedious mathematical calculations in his lab, hit on the idea that the binary number system and electronic switches, combined with an array of capacitors on a moving drum to serve as memory, could yield a computing machine that would make his life and the lives of other similarly burdened scientists easier. Then he went back and built the machine. It worked. The whole world changed. Why don't we know the name of John Atanasoff as well as we know those of Alan Turing and John von Neumann? Because he never patented the device, and because the developers of the far-better-known ENIAC almost certainly stole critical ideas from him. But in 1973 a court declared that the patent on that Sperry Rand device was invalid, opening the intellectual property gates to the computer revolution. Jane Smiley tells the quintessentially American story of the child of immigrants John Atanasoff with technical clarity and narrative drive, making the race to develop digital computing as gripping as a real-life techno-thriller. From the Hardcover edition. **PRAISE FOR THE MAN WHO INVENTED THE COMPUTER:** "Engrossing. Smiley takes science history and injects it with a touch of noir and an exciting clash of vanities." --Kirkus sNovelist Jane Smiley shines her talent on the underappreciated career of John Atanasoff, the man recognized as creating the first computer. It's a rare treat to read a book about digital science in the language of an acclaimed prose stylist. Bloomberg Businessweek [Jane Smiley] follows the John McPhee-perfected recipe for historical journalism nicely and with lan: take an abstruse subject, research it deeply, then humanize it tenderly, adding off-kilter insights and sharp portraits of the curious folks involved.... Smiley blends all these convergent and parallel narratives into a superb whole, as fetching and gripping as any novel. She displays an unwavering, cogent grasp of all the technical details, a keen eye for historical forces, and much psychological insight; her prose is a model of smooth transparency. Anyone who wants to understand the roots of our twenty-first century digital culture needs to read this book. Paul Di Filippo, Barnes Noble Kurzbeschreibung From one of our most acclaimed novelists, a David-and-Goliath biography for the digital age. One night in the late 1930s, in a bar on the Illinois-Iowa border, John Vincent Atanasoff, a professor of physics at Iowa State University, after a frustrating day performing tedious mathematical calculations in his lab, hit on the idea that the binary number system and electronic switches, combined with an array of capacitors on a moving drum to serve as memory, could yield a computing machine that would make his life and the lives of other similarly burdened scientists easier. Then he went back and built the machine. It worked. The whole world changed. Why don't we know the name of John Atanasoff as well as we know those of Alan Turing and John von Neumann? Because he never patented the device, and because the developers of the far-better-known ENIAC almost certainly stole critical ideas from him. But in 1973 a court declared that the patent on that Sperry Rand device was invalid, opening the intellectual property gates to the computer revolution. Jane Smiley tells the quintessentially American story of the child of immigrants John Atanasoff with technical clarity and narrative drive, making the race to develop digital computing as gripping as a real-life techno-thriller. From the Hardcover edition.