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The Code Book

The Science of Secrecy from
Ancient Egypt to Quantum
Cryptography

Simon Singh

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“Singh has created an authoritative and engrossing read which both explains and humanizes the subject.... This intelligent, exciting book takes its drive from a simple premise-that nothing is as exciting as a secret.”

—*Scotland on Sunday*



SIMON SINGH

The Code Book

Simon Singh received his Ph.D. in physics from Cambridge University. A former BBC producer, he directed an award-winning documentary film on Fermat's Last Theorem that aired on PBS's *Nova* series and wrote the bestselling book, *Fermat's Enigma*. He lives in London, England.

Also by Simon Singh

Fermat's Enigma

The Code Book

*The Science of Secrecy
from Ancient Egypt
to Quantum Cryptography*

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For my mother and father,
Sawaran Kaur and Mehnga Singh

The urge to discover secrets is deeply ingrained in human nature; even the least curious mind is roused by the promise of sharing knowledge withheld from others. Some are fortunate enough to find a job which consists in the solution of mysteries, but most of us are driven to sublimate this urge by the solving of artificial puzzles devised for our entertainment. Detective stories or crossword puzzles cater for the majority; the solution of secret codes may be the pursuit of a few.

John Chadwick

The Decipherment of Linear B

Contents

Cover

About the Author

Other Books by This Author

Title Page

Copyright

Dedication

Epigraph

Introduction

1 The Cipher of Mary Queen of Scots

2 Le Chiffre Indéchiffrable

3 The Mechanization of Secrecy

4 Cracking the Enigma

5 The Language Barrier

6 Alice and Bob Go Public

7 Pretty Good Privacy

8 A Quantum Leap into the Future

The Cipher Challenge

Appendices

Glossary

Acknowledgments

Further Reading