

fluke



THE MATH & MYTH
OF COINCIDENCE

JOSEPH MAZUR

TITLE:

Fluke

AUTHOR:

Joseph Mazur

READ BY:

Tim Andrés Pabon

CLASSIFICATION:

NONFICTION

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Historical / Nonfiction / Philosophy / Science

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"Mazur's thoughtful tour reveals the explanatory power of probability theory in the larger world."— *Publishers*

Weekly

"Mazur takes what could be difficult, abstruse subjects—probability and statistics—and makes them entertaining.

The author draws examples and illustrations from a variety of fields—law enforcement, economics, the sciences—and, when he unavoidably gets into some fairly complicated mathematical discussions, he explains his terms and remembers that, for the most part, his readers aren't mathematicians. An ideal book, then, for the lay reader who is curious about the nature of coincidence."— *Booklist Online*

Fluke

by Joseph Mazur

Read by Tim Andrés Pabon

What are the chances?

This is the question we ask ourselves when we encounter the strangest and most seemingly impossible coincidences, like winning the lottery four times or Lincoln's dreams foreshadowing his own assassination. But when we look at coincidences mathematically, the odds are a lot better than any of us would have thought. In *Fluke*, mathematician Joseph Mazur takes a look at the seemingly improbable, taking us on a tour of the mathematical concepts of probability - such as the law of large numbers and the birthday paradox - and then combines these concepts with lively anecdotes of flukes from around the world, revealing that, if there is any likelihood that something could happen—no matter how small—it is bound to happen to someone at some time.

AUTHOR

Joseph Mazur is an emeritus professor of mathematics at Marlboro College and the author of four other popular mathematics books, including the highly acclaimed *Enlightening Symbols: A Short History of Mathematical Notation and Its Hidden Powers*. Mazur lives in Marlboro, Vermont with his wife, Jennifer.

READ BY

Tim Andreas Pabon is an actor and a voice actor, who has been seen on *House of Cards* and *The Wire*. As a stage actor, he has worked Off-Broadway, and his regional credits include Center Stage, The Shakespeare Theatre, The Hippodrome, and GALA Hispanic Theatre, among others. Both a Spanish and English audiobook narrator, he has narrated over sixty books, one of which was nominated for a 2015 SOVAS award. He is from Washington, D.C.