

out what he is doing but also says why he is doing it. The exercises are usually interesting but sometimes routine.

This book is accessible to all mathematicians and any graduate student who has had a course in abstract algebra. For the latter, some of the references (eg. references to algebraic varieties) will be obscure, but not to the point of making the book unreadable. Furthermore, the book presents clearly many of the standard techniques of abstract algebra in a fashion which is helpful to a second year graduate student. The exposition is dry but clear, so that the book could be used in a reading course. It is not a book to read quickly to get the flavor of K -theory, but rather a book to be worked through to gain a feel for the subject.

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Emmy Noether, a tribute to her life and work, edited by James W. Brewer and Martha K. Smith, Pure and Applied Mathematics: A Series of Textbooks and Monographs, vol. 69, Dekker, New York and Basel, 1981, x + 180 pp., \$14.75.

The centenary of E. Noether's birth gave rise to two English language tributes very different in intent, background and execution. The first one was written in German in 1968; it was translated in English only in 1980. Its author, a teacher of mathematics living in Vienna, was motivated by a lecture of Professor E. Hlawka (Vienna University) on the development of mathematics in the last hundred years, as she states in the preface of her book. She traced very carefully the available documentary evidence of the life path and the scholarly development of E. Noether in context (see review of *Emmy Noether, 1882–1935*, by Auguste Dick, in Bull. Amer. Math. Soc. **6** (1982), 224–230). The second one is specially written for the occasion by mathematicians who encountered and applied Noetherian modes of thought in their work. The desire to describe the influence of E. Noether on contemporary research brought forth a number of articles (see 6–10 of the book under review) containing semipopular expositions of *Noether's mathematics* by five specialists (R. G. Swan, E. J. McShane, R. Gilmer, T. Y. Lam, A. Fröhlich). A biography entitled: *Emmy Noether and her influence*, by Clark Kimberling (pp. 1–64) followed by personal recollections of Saunders Mac Lane (pp. 65–78) and Olga Taussky (pp. 79–92) relating to E. Noether and new translations of