mentor, by telling him: "Poincaré said that geometry is the science
of correct reasoning from incorrectly drawn figures; for you it is
the other way around."

In the end it doesn't much matter why Ulam shied away from
technical mathematics; what matters is that we see him as he was, a
very human hero who succeeded in turning a weakness into major
strength. Rota's scientific and psychological portrait, suffused with
love, pain, understanding, and admiration, succeeds in bringing
him to life.

The unusual and unusually beautiful design and artwork, in-
cluding three portraits of Ulam by Jeff Segler, enhance the value
of this volume and the pleasure it gives; the editor, Nicky Cooper,
has earned our gratitude.

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Kleinian groups, by Bernard Maskit. Grundlehren der Mathema-
    tischen Wissenschaften, vol. 287, Springer-Verlag, Berlin, Hei-
    delberg, New York, 1988, xiii + 326 pp., $77.50. ISBN 3-540-
    178746-9

Colleagues and friends of Bernie Maskit can turn to almost any
page of his book and immediately recognize his characteristic style.
The focus is on that part of the field where his own contributions
are most strongly felt. Before turning to the book itself, we will
make some general comments.

In the complex analysis we learn early about Möbius trans-
formations; the conformal automorphisms of the (Riemann) 2-
sphere; and their classification into elliptic, parabolic, and loxo-
dromic/hyperbolic. Each is the composition of two or four reflec-
tions in circles which following Poincaré leads easily to its natural
extension to a conformal automorphism of the 3-ball. Besides giv-
ing rise to the orientation preserving conformal automorphisms of
the ball, this procedure also establishes that the totality of these
extensions gives the full group of orientation preserving isometries
of hyperbolic 3-space $\mathbf{H}^3$.