

Hypatia's Math

Synopsis

A young woman (Hypatia) in Roman Alexandria develops herself into a gifted geometer, mathematician and teacher, but her world is destroyed by the growing darkness and political strife that emerge. Religious fundamentalism builds steadily in this clash of cultures. Inspiring excerpts from classical works by Porphyry, Plotinus, Aristotle and Plato are woven into the action to further the plot and add to the classical mood, while the events in the play are based closely on extant historical texts. Dance and music, including an Homeric hymn, add to the artistic texture. Hypatia of Alexandria was the most famous woman mathematician of antiquity, and her story is as relevant now as it was in her day.

