Miscellaneous quotations

The goal

Mathematics has inspired many great quotes, but let us focus instead on the human side of being a mathematician, or a student of mathematics... Do you know a good quote about mathematicians? Please email Professor Laugesen with the quote, including a web link to verify the quotation.

The quotes so far...

"Some mathematician has said that enjoyment lies in the search for truth, not in the finding it." - Leo Tolstoy, Anna Karenina

"All mathematicians share...a sense of amazement over the infinite depth and the mysterious beauty and usefulness of mathematics." - Martin Gardner, More Mathematical People

...I loved, and still do love, mathematics for itself as not allowing room for hypocrisy or vagueness, my two pet aversions. - Stendhal (Henri Beyle), The Life of Henri Brulard

"Students must learn that mathematics is the most human of endeavors. Flesh and blood representatives of their own species engaged in a centuries long creative struggle to uncover and to erect this magnificent edifice. And the struggle goes on today. On the very campuses where mathematics is presented and received as an inhuman discipline, cold and dead, new mathematics is created. As sure as the tides." - J. D. Philips, Mathematics as an Aesthetic Discipline

Mathematical fiction

Alex Kasman (College of Charleston) has put together a searchable collection of about 1000 mathematically-themed works of fiction.