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EPILOGUE

by Guido MISLIN

This gift has been a wonderful surprise for me. It has brought back reminiscences of hard work with collaborators and pleasurable hours with good friends all over the world. It opens the gates to gardens where secrets and delightful surprises await us. The volume also serves as a comprehensive anthology of conjectures and questions, many of which have occupied the mathematical community for quite a while.

Aside from being an exceptional accumulation of treasures to please the sophisticated reader, this book may serve as a guide and source of inspiration for new generations of mathematicians. It illustrates the breadth of the expansion of Algebra and Topology over the years. Moreover, it contains many valuable historical facts and references to related topics, together with various suggestions for further reading. The book also identifies many partial results which have been proved in recent years, linking together solved and unsolved mathematical problems in an intricate way.

My deepest thanks go to each of the contributors, but most particularly to Indira Chatterji, who had the inspiration and the generosity to compile this volume.