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Anita Burdman Feferman and Solomon Feferman  
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## ALFRED TARSKI

Alfred Tarski, one of the greatest logicians of all time, is widely thought of as “the man who defined truth.” His work on the concepts of truth and logical consequence are cornerstones of modern logic, influencing developments in mathematics, philosophy, linguistics, and computer science. Tarski was a charismatic teacher and zealous promoter of his view of logic as the foundation of all rational thought; a bon vivant and a womanizer, he played the “great man” to the hilt.

Born in Warsaw in 1901 to Jewish parents, he changed his name and converted to Catholicism but was never able to obtain a professorship in his home country. A fortuitous trip to the United States at the outbreak of World War II saved his life and turned his career around, even while it separated him from his family for years. By the war’s end he was established as a professor of mathematics at the University of California, Berkeley. There Tarski built an empire in logic and methodology that attracted students and distinguished researchers from all over the world.

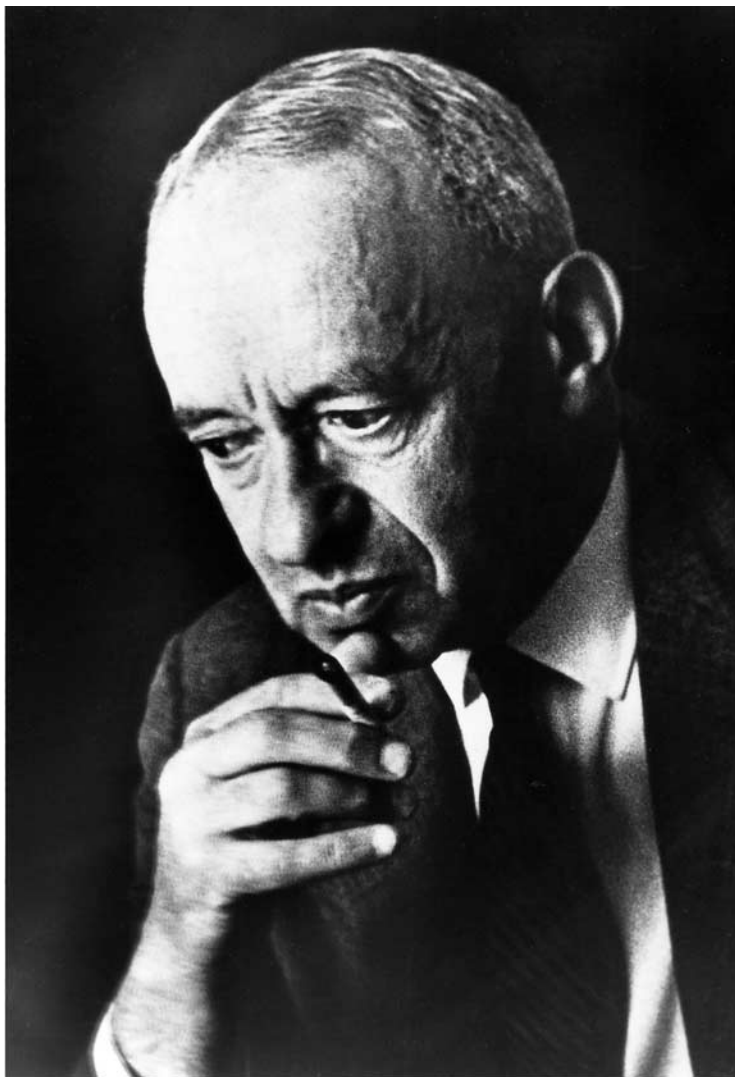
From the cafés of Warsaw and Vienna to the mountains and deserts of California, this first full-length biography places Tarski in the social, intellectual, and historical context of his times and presents a frank, vivid picture of a personally and professionally passionate man – interlaced with an account of his major scientific achievements.

Anita Burdman Feferman is an independent scholar and writer. She is the author of *Politics, Logic and Love: The Life of Jean van Heijenoort* (published in paperback as *From Trotsky to Gödel: The Life of Jean van Heijenoort*). She knew Alfred Tarski socially for thirty years.

Solomon Feferman is on the faculty at Stanford University, where he is professor of mathematics and philosophy. He is a recipient of the Rolf Schock Prize in Logic and Philosophy, a Fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, and has held a Guggenheim fellowship twice. He is the author of *In the Light of Logic* and the editor-in-chief of the multivolume *Kurt Gödel: Collected Works*. He was one of Tarski’s students at UC Berkeley in the 1950s.

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# Alfred Tarski

## Life and Logic

*Anita Burdman Feferman*  
*Solomon Feferman*



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