We discuss how Apostolos Doxiadis’s gem of a novel, *Uncle Petros and Goldbach’s Conjecture*, can be used as required reading in an upper-level mathematics course as a way to explore several important themes in higher mathematics - the nature of proof, creativity, truth, and obsession. A work of fiction about a mathematical genius, the novel is rich with historical mathematical references and includes cameos by Ramanujan, Gödel, and Turing. (Received September 20, 2016)