

The Robots of Dawn

Isaac Asimov

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A millennium into the future two advances have altered the course of human history: the colonization of the Galaxy and the creation of the positronic brain. Isaac Asimov's Robot novels chronicle the unlikely partnership between a New York City detective and a humanoid robot who must learn to work together.

Detective Elijah Baley is called to the Spacer world Aurora to solve a bizarre case of roboticide. The prime suspect is a gifted roboticist who had the means, the motive, and the opportunity to commit the crime. There's only one catch: Baley and his positronic partner, R. Daneel Olivaw, must prove the man innocent. For in a case of political intrigue and love between woman and robot gone tragically wrong, there's more at stake than simple justice. This time Baley's career, his life, and Earth's right to pioneer the Galaxy lie in the delicate balance.

The Robots of Dawn Details

Date : Published March 1st 1994 by Spectra (first published 1983)

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Author : Isaac Asimov

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From Reader Review The Robots of Dawn for online ebook

Barbara says

This sci-fi mystery takes place in the distant future when the Earth is vastly overcrowded and the entire population lives underground and has severe phobias about going outside.

When the story opens a humanoid robot has been "killed" on the planet Aurora which was colonized by Earth people long ago. A famous roboticist - the only one in the galaxy who knows how to create humanoid robots - is accused of the crime.

The detective Elijah Baley, an Earth-man, is called in to investigate with his robot partner, R. Daneel Olivaw. Elijah's job is made doubly difficult because most Aurorans despise Earth people, considering them to be infectious and vastly inferior to themselves.

The case is very important because its solution may determine whether space is further colonized solely by humanoid robots and Aurorans or whether Earth people will be allowed to participate.

Some interesting twists and turns lead to a satisfying surprise ending.

You can follow my reviews at <https://reviewsbybarbsaffer.blogspot....>

Ms. Smartarse says

For all you sci-fi buffs, who are considering reading I Robot and The Rest of the Robots before The Robots of Dawn: it is not necessary. Still, my inner geek was extremely *proud* of itself, for having read them after all.

Our trusty hero, Elijah Baley, has formed a small "club" of people who venture outside their cities, in order to gradually get used to the outer world with its changing meteorological conditions. Meanwhile he has also been (unsuccessfully) petitioning, to be allowed a trip to Aurora. Surprisingly, he suddenly gets his wish, due to yet another crime investigation. Unlike in the previous books though, this time he has to solve the mystery behind a "roboticide" (as opposed to homicide).

I was looking forward to finding out more about Aurora, only to... not find out much. Or if I did glean a few tidbits from here and there, the fact that they were TOLD rather than SHOWN to Elijah made everything quite annoying, and somewhat questionable.

Dr. Han Fastolfe especially, was a constant source of irritation to me: on the one hand, his insistence on considering himself the greatest roboticist in history, and on the other hand, refusing to explain most of his actions because of the Earthmen's inferior robotic expertise. I would've welcomed an example of an actual command given to a robot, instead of the constantly annoying "*I'm a roboticist, so I just KNOW how to do this better than you*" attitude.

There's not much "screen time" for Daneel, who ends up spending a lot more time in his "niche in the wall", rather than actively assisting Elijah in his investigation. However their reunion at the beginning definitely made my inner yaoi fangirl squeal with delight:

"Jehoshaphat!" said Baley in a nearly strangled voice.

"Partner Elijah," said the other, stepping forward, a small, grave smile on his face.

"Daneel!" cried Baley, throwing his arms around the robot and hugging tightly. "Daneel!"

... and then there was

"Yes, Dr. Vasilia. My choice in the matter -- the Earthman over you -- arises not only out of Dr. Fastolfe's instructions, but because the Earthman and I are partners in this investigation and because--" Daneel paused as though puzzled by what he was about to say, and then said it anyway, "--we are friends."

In the end, I was delighted to discover that there were plenty of brilliant Daneel/Elijah moments (I never even considered shipping them before this book), and I quite liked Giskard too, plus the ending was rather interesting as well. Still, there was waaaaay too much philosophizing, just like in Foundation and Earth, that got boring quite fast.

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[review of book 0.1: I, Robot](#)

[review of book 0.2: The Rest of the Robots](#)

[review of book 1: The Caves of Steel](#)

[review of book 2: The Naked Sun](#)

[review of book 4: Robots and Empire](#)

Nikola Pavlovic says

Roboti Zore je svakako zrelija knjiga u odnosu na svoje predhoničke Celicne Pecine i Golo Sunce. Odmah se oseti da je dosta kasnije pisana i da Asimov recima barata sa vise iskustva. Medjutim sama knjiga nije mnogo bolja niti grandioznija sto se samog zapleta i finisa tice. Ali svakako da prija sto se kroz nju svakom stranicom sve vise priblizavamo Glaktickom Carstvu. Tako da je sledeca stanica na ovom epskom SF putovanju knjiga ROBOTI I CARSTVO...

Stephen says

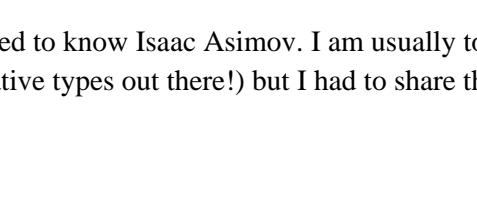
4.0 stars. I really enjoy the Robot novels by Asimov. He is a master at creating larger than life characters and then making you care about what happens to them. This story begins the bridge between Asimov's Robot novels and the Foundation series. Highly Recommended!!

Nominee: Hugo Award for Best Science Fiction Novel (1984)

Nominee: Locus Award for Best Science Fiction Novel (1984)

Catie says

I think that I would have really liked to know Isaac Asimov. I am usually too lazy to add photos into my reviews (Applause for all you creative types out there!) but I had to share this photo from the jacket of my book:



I mean, Jehoshaphat! Have mutton chops, nerd glasses, and a bolo tie ever been so adorable? I know I don't think so. He was, by all accounts, an incredibly brainy person (He was the vice-president of Mensa!), but, to me, his humble, plain-speaking nature really comes across in his novels. His stories are unadorned and simply told, but I always have fun with the logical gymnastics that his characters run through. These mysteries aren't exactly dramatic or emotional. He even manages to have a whole plot line involving a robot – human marriage and one woman's sexual awakening and make it seem tasteful and innocent (and just a bit dry). But, I always enjoy going along with unassuming (like a fox) plainclothesman Elijah Baley and humaniform robot Daneel Olivaw as they solve mysteries using basic logic.

This particular mystery once again involves those pesky three laws of robotics, which seemed like such a great idea at the time, but have turned out to have a few annoying loopholes and caveats. Baley is called to the first settled planet, Aurora, to help solve the "roboticide" of the only other existing humaniform robot (besides Daneel), Jander Panell. No one seems to care about Jander's demise, but Earth's entire future may be resting on Baley's success or failure to solve this mystery. Baley, a lifetime Earthman and inhabitant of Earth's now crowded underground cities, has deeply rooted fears of the outside. But he knows that the only chance that Earth's people have to survive is to leave and colonize other planets. The spacer world leaders have other plans, however: intense prejudice against Earth's people has led to strict limitation of Earth's expansion.

Has anyone else ever played that game called "Mind Trap"?* The game is very basic and consists of these little cards with riddles and puzzles on them for the players to solve. I only mention it because the reason that I love that game is precisely the reason that I love these books. I like pitting myself against the mysteries set up by Asimov to see if I can solve them before the main character does. For the record, the score stands at Catie: 1, Elijah Baley: 2. I figured out the endgame of The Naked Sun before good ol' Lije, but the other two were a surprise (although I did have the "murderer" pegged almost immediately in this one, without knowing why or how). I think that anyone that reads this type of book knows that it's much more satisfying to be

beaten soundly. I guess that's not the *only* reason that I love these books. Asimov always provides some very interesting food for thought. Like, when exactly does a humaniform robot become human enough to actually *be* human? And, are there some aspects of human nature that are so ingrained and universal that no amount of isolated evolution can eliminate them?

Perfect Musical Pairing

Johann Sebastian Bach - Brandenburg Concerto 3

I generally like the romantics much more than the composers from the baroque period (not a big fan of organ or harpsichord), but this piece is nimble and energetic. It may not have the sweeping emotional impact on me that some of the romantic composers do, but I remember that it's a whole lot of fun to play (even though my playing days are long over).

*Bonus MindTrap Riddles (for all you nerds out there)!

Captain Frank and Professor Quantum played chess. They played seven games, each won the same number of games, and there weren't any draws or stalemates. How could this have happened?

(view spoiler)

If it takes six men six days to dig six holes, how long will it take one man to dig half a hole?

(view spoiler)

Ahmad Sharabiani says

The Robots of Dawn (Robot #3), Isaac Asimov

The Robots of Dawn is a "whodunit" science fiction novel by American writer Isaac Asimov, first published in 1983. It is the third novel in Asimov's Robot series.

Detective Elijah Baley of Earth is training with his son and others to overcome their socially ingrained agoraphobia when he is told that the Spacer world of Aurora has requested him to investigate a crime: the destruction of the mind of R. Jander Panell, a humaniform robot identical to R. Daneel Olivaw, with a mental block. The robot's inventor, Han Fastolfe, has admitted that he is the only person with the skill to have done this, but denies having done it. Fastolfe is also a prominent member of the Auroran political faction that favors Earth; wherefore, it is politically expedient that he be exonerated. En route to Aurora, Baley again is partnered with R. Daneel Olivaw, and introduced to R. Giskard Reventlov, a robot of an earlier model. ...
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Punk says

SF. This is the third in the R. Daneel Olivaw series and Detective Elijah Baley has been sent off-planet to Aurora to investigate a roboticide. He's loaded on a spacer ship, deloused, and then sent to his quarters where he's to remain for the duration of the journey. Everything's so foreign and uncomfortable that Elijah can't help himself when he sees Daneel come through the door -- he hugs him.

These books are all still about the love between a man and his humaniform robot. Over the course of the trilogy, Elijah goes from hating robots on principal, to grudgingly working with one, to actively liking Daneel, to thinking of him not as a robot, but as a friend. Elijah overcomes his prejudices (most of them), opens his mind, and starts considering alternate ways of thinking, spearheading a movement to return earthlings to the soil and send them out into space to relieve the stress on an already crowded Earth. This book is a little less Elijah/Daneel intensive because Daneel spends a lot of his time on Aurora chillin' in a wall niche, but there's still plenty of love. Actual textual love. Observe:

"Yes, Dr. Vasilia. My choice in the matter -- the Earthman over you -- arises not only out of Dr. Fastolfe's instructions, but because the Earthman and I are partners in this investigation and because--" Daneel paused as though puzzled by what he was about to say, and then said it anyway, "--we are friends."

Vasilia said, "Friends? An Earthman and a humaniform robot? Well, there is a match. Neither quite human."

Baley said, sharply, "Nevertheless bound by friendship. Do not, for your own sake, test the force of our--" Now it was he who paused and, as though to his own surprise, completed the sentence impossibly, "--love."

Love! I was eating crackers at the time and nearly choked. The really fabulous thing about all this is the suggestion that it's a just a short hop away from Daneel and Elijah actually being *in* love. After all, this is the book that introduces the phrase "robot husband" and features Elijah thinking he'd cuddle up to Daneel for comfort if only he were human. And then he pretty much does it anyway. I'm telling you, all about the love.

Hernan Garcia says

Para Elijah Baley, dos años han pasado desde que transcurriesen las aventuras narradas en *El Sol Desnudo*, a las narradas en *Los robots del amanecer*, el siguiente libro cronológicamente hablando, de la saga de la Tierra. Sin embargo para Asimov pasaron han pasado 26 ... y se nota.

La narrativa es mucho mas madura (se evidencia claramente en la cantidad de paginas del libro, que prácticamente dobla a la anterior novela de la saga), llegando a ser bastante impactante para el lector que sigue cronológicamente la saga.

¿Es un buen libro? Si! No hay dudas de ello! Pero a mi entender, queda muy evidenciado que Asimov escribió esta historia para, simplemente, ser un nexo coordinante entre sagas, dejando llenas algunas lagunas que, a futuro, aparecerán.

Davyne DeSye says

Just love this book, for so many reasons!

First, the purely obvious one: I love the duo of Elijah Baley, hard-boiled detective, and R. (short for 'robot') Daneel Olivaw, his partner, so of course, I would be pleased with another installment of their detecting adventures together! (While this story is the third in a series, it stands completely on its own and can be read and enjoyed without having to read the first two books.)

I also love the romance in this one. Asimov is not very big on including romance in his stories, but I can't figure out why – he certainly writes one well enough! (Not that this is a romance novel. It's not. But the subplot inclusion of a little romance was nice!)

And, well, this is going to sound silly, but... I love the food descriptions in this book. I am hedonist when it comes to food. Or perhaps a glutton? Sheesh, neither of those words is very nice, so maybe I'll just say I'm a food lover. In the previous books in this robot series, it has been made clear that food on over-crowded Earth is mostly made from yeast... and Asimov's descriptions are enough to make me think I'd just die of starvation if I had to live in his Caves of Steel. I mean, zymoveal. Yuck. It just sounds gross. I'd rather not eat, thank you. But in this book, Elijah Baley joins his partner Daneel on the planet of Aurora, the oldest of the settled planets. Here he experiences fresh/real fruit, fresh/real vegetables, real meat... sigh. Just reading about Elijah (who is, of course, homesick for Earth) lamenting that the one thing he will miss on returning to his home planet is this wonderful food... Well, I was pumping my fist in the air every time and saying "Amen!"

And finally, this book is the key piece of the series that wonderfully ties all his other books in (a) the Robot series, (b) the Galactic Empire series and (c) the Foundation series together. He drops little hints here and there that someone unfamiliar with the entire 14-book super-series would not get (even though they add to this particular story and are not out of place) and that just give me that tingly "Ooooh! That's right! Can't wait to get to that story again"... kind of like seeing one of your favorite actors make a cameo appearance in a movie with a line or a gesture that references some other movie that you love – and probably now want to watch next. He even puts in references to several of his short stories included in his robot short story collections. Just lovely!

Having said all that... the plot here is an interesting one, the mystery of who murdered Jander seemingly undiscoverable (with all the terrible political implications for both the planet Aurora and Earth), and yet... Elijah Baley pulls it off for us again. And I was super glad to learn more about Dr Fastolfe and Gladia... characters from two earlier books who are beautifully fleshed out here.

Overall, just extremely satisfying! Highly recommended to anybody who likes robot stories, science fiction in general, or Asimov.

Ivana Books Are Magic says

You know even if this novel wasn't as a great read as it happened to be, it would have deserved five stars on

the merit of that last chapter alone. The ending of this novel was absolutely brilliant. Not only that I didn't see it coming, I didn't expect anything of the kind. It was such a worthy ending to the series! Talk about finishing with style! Still, let's get back to the beginning, shall we? This is the final novel in Asimov's Robot series and it happens to be my favourite one. I liked the way it was formatted as a murder mystery and I think it didn't make this novel any less profound. The murder plot was exceptionally well written so not surprisingly it kept me pretty interested, but it didn't take my attention from what I enjoyed most about this novel and that was its examination of what it is to be human. Moreover, this novel made me think about a great deal of things and I always love novels that do that. Surely such an intelligent and perfectly plotted novel you cannot find every day!

The story is such a great read. Both a murder mystery and a profound examination of what it essentially means to be human. Its protagonists, a detective and his robot friend, get reunited to work on a case together. Solving this case is very important for more reasons than one... let's just say they are both very motivated to do so because it will have a lasting effect on human society as such. While they are trying to solve the robocite case, Asimov paints for us a fantastically detailed account of a future society. Some details may feel a bit dated to a modern reader, but only a bit, because Asimov really had a knack for predicting possible future uses of technology. Well, when you're a scientist yourself (as he was), it must be easier to get the science part right. However, I don't think that science plays as an important part in this novel as in some of his other works.

The protagonists of this novel appeared in the series before, so if you read any of the earlier ones, you'll be happy to see more of them. Nevertheless, I think it could be said that this novel can be read on its own. Sure, there are references to earlier works, but they are not relevant for understanding the story. Even if you hadn't read any Asimov prior to this, you won't have any problems following this story or understanding the relationship between its protagonists.

One of the things that I personally enjoyed a lot was the way the author showed how the society we grow up influences us. That was especially the case on the example of a pretty well developed female character. She was raised up differently than others and hence has problems fitting in. This novel made me consider about the role that a society plays a part in how we find our romantic interesting or how and even why we establish relationship with others. For those of you who like that nurture vs. nature debate, this will be a fascinating read.

Another thing I immensely liked were the dialogues. Asimov tends to write didactic and long dialogues, that still feel credible and naturally. In this sense, *Robots of Dawn* is no exception. Furthermore, dialogues play an important part in this novel because it is through them that we find out not only what the characters are thinking, but what their intentions might be. If you like deductive and logical writing, this is something you might enjoy. The detective in this novel is a well portrayed and his thinking process is an interesting one to follow.

To whom I would recommend this novel besides fans of science fiction and detective stories? To those who enjoy clean and intelligent writing. I think that fans of dystopian literature might find this one interesting as well. Dystopian is sometimes used as a synonym for SF and while I wouldn't agree with that, I think Asimov's works are something that a fans of dystopian literature would enjoy as well. Why? Because the way he crafts his future worlds goes into exploration what we are as human beings and it even predicts of what we might be capable of it. Moreover, I do believe this novel isn't only about some society in the future but it very much about our own society, an examination of our own weaknesses and strengths, a novel that tell us something of who we are as humans. In that sense, I think *Robots of Dawn* is still a very relevant novel.

To sum up, this novel fulfils the full potential of science fiction literature and it is among the best things written in the genre. That's my personal opinion and I would like to add that this happens to be the best novel by Isaac Asimov that I have read so far. I was utterly amazed by it. I do like Asimov as a writer and I've been into SF since my adolescence. Nevertheless, *The Robots of Dawn* felt like something different, not

in a way that it didn't contain those elements that I usually like in Asimov's book, but in a sense that it contained them in a more perfect balance. It was just perfect. It dealt with so much, from politics to social customs, it had characters that appealed to me, it worked perfectly on so many levels and it had a fantastic ending. I can't praise it enough.

Stephen says

4.0 stars. This is either the third or fourth book in the Robot series (depending on whether you want to include the short story collection *I, Robot* as the first book in the series. In this book, written in 1983, begins the process of integrating the Robot series with Asimov's Foundation series and provides an explanation regarding why robots are not part of the Galactic Empire of the Foundation series. It also does a credible job of planting the seeds of the science of psychohistory made so famous in the *The Foundation Trilogy*. I enjoyed it and look forward to reading the next book in the series *Robots and Empire*.

One final comment, I just re-read this by listening to the audio version read by William Dufris and I think he does an excellent job with the story.

Nominee: Locus Award for Best Science Fiction novel

Nominee: Hugo Award for Best novel

Apatt says

"I cannot say what I feel in any human sense, Partner Elijah. I can say, however, that the sight of you seems to make my thoughts flow more easily, and the gravitational pull on my body seems to assault my senses with lesser insistence."

Ahh.. good old R. Daneel Olivaw, how I have missed you.

It has been decades since I read anything by Isaac Asimov. When I started reading sci-fi in my teens Asimov was the go-to author for new readers. I was not quite ready for Heinlein or Clarke but Asimov's *The Foundation Trilogy* and his robot stories and novels were just the thing to start a lifelong devotion to the genre. Of course, I went on to read many other sf authors and for some reason, I completely missed Asimov's later works from 1980 onward. So I have no idea how his return to the Foundation universe went, and of course, I have not read *The Robots of Dawn*.

This later robot novel from 1984 is a belated sequel to *The Caves of Steel* and *The Naked Sun*, two beloved whodunit robot novels from the 50s. So once again ace detective Elijah Baley of that dreadful plebeian planet called Earth is called upon solve a seemingly impossible murder on another planet (human occupied). The difference is this time it is a "roboticide" where a "humaniform" robot is ~~murdered~~ rendered permanently inoperative (I love Asimov's neologism, nothing to figure out). Also back is the excellent R. Daneel Olivaw, the first humaniform and really almost human robot, and introducing Giskard, another friendly and loyal robot who unlike Daneel is "robot in form" with glowing eyes.

I remember seeing this Chris Foss cover when the book was first published on paperback. Brilliant art but

nothing to do with the book!

As with the aforementioned Elijah Baley books the good doctor used a crime fiction template for this novel. I think the style here is more reminiscent of P.D. James than Agatha Christie, with a slower pace and a lot of dialogue. The science fiction aspect of it is not neglected however, Asimov's world building and attention to details is legendary. He did not disappoint here with his depiction of a future human colony planet. Even the toilets are interesting, I can just imagine some very relaxing time there. As a slothful potato couch, I would love to live in Aurora where tons of robots are at the beg and call of everybody.

While Asimov's straightforward, smooth and friendly prose style brings back memories of my early days as a sci-fi reader, the differences are quite startling. For a start, this book is very dialogue heavy. There are pages and pages of just two characters discussing robotics, politics, and whatnot from all possible angles. It does drag the book's momentum and at times and I found it to be occasionally tiring to read, not *tiresome* but tiring. Baley just grinds and grinds away at the suspects hoping they will let slip something that will incriminate them like some kind of futuristic Columbo. These grilling sessions are not actually awful, they are quite well written but they do seem to be interminable after a while. I am surprised the suspects do not simply confess to everything just to shut him up.

Another thing that surprised me is the discussion of sex and even the inclusion of a mildly erotic scene. This is not a complaint however, it is just very different from the Asimov of my teen years. This is a much more adult book than Asimov's Golden Age classics. There are even some philosophical passages like *"Are there Laws of Humanics as there are Laws of Robotics? How many Laws of Humanics might there be and how can they be expressed mathematically?"*

Interestingly some of the technology seems a little dated in these days of wireless internet. The robots actually speak to each other verbally rather than communicating via wi-fi or something similar. Navigation is also done by preloaded maps rather than some kind of GPS. The robots even drive vehicles rather than having AI built into them for completely hand-free driving. This is not a criticism of Asimov however, he was a scientist, not a fortune teller. I just find it interesting how the future is turning out in actuality in comparison to Asimov's speculation.

One thing I particularly like about Asimov's robots above other authors' depiction of AI characters is the *robotness* of them. Their "somewhat stilted way with the language" as Asimov described, and their adherence to and interpretations of The Three Laws of Robotics . Nowadays sci-fi authors tend to portray robots (or AI) as speaking exactly like people normally do. Yes, I can imagine this being the case with very advanced AI, but Asimov's robots have the sense of otherness that makes them somehow more believable. Fans of Asimov's robot books will be delighted by the references to Susan Calvin and one of the most memorable stories from I, Robot, and the reference to The Bicentennial Man. A tenuous link to the Foundation series is also introduced through the initial development of psychohistory. If you ever wondered why there are no robots in The Foundation Trilogy the answer is given here.

In spite of my quibbles with some of the pacing, I really enjoyed this book and coming back to Asimov after all these years. Now I feel an urge to reread the original Foundation Trilogy plus the subsequent Foundation volumes from the 80s. Also a reread of the old Elijah Baley novels and robot short stories. With all that in my TBR I'd be lucky to squeeze in books by anybody else.

R. Daneel Olivaw on the cover of The Naked Sun

Alina says

The final chapter and, mainly, the final conversation, smoothly snatched the 5th star.

Ivana says

Why is that I always have such a hard time writing about my favourite novels? I'm not sure, but it is always so hard to find the right words to describe literature that I hold in high esteem.

This is the best novel by Isaac Asimov that I have read so far. I was just amazed by it. I do like Asimov and from my book shelf you can see that I'm no stranger to sf. However, The Robots of Dawn was something different. It was just perfect. It dealt with so much, from politics to social customs. In one sense it is not about some society in the future but about our own society, an examination of our own weaknesses and strengths.

Such an intelligent and perfectly plotted novel you cannot find everyday. The ending was so cool (sorry but I had to use that word) and it caught me by surprise which doesn't happen very often (when it comes to book at least). It really made me think about many things, one thing most of all: How much are we influenced by the society we live in?

If I have time (or the creativity) one day I might actually write a decent review.

Kit says

Okay, so star rating==not always indicative of book quality with me, but before you say I am unfairing this review, let me explain you a thing: ((SPOILERS TO FOLLOW))

My god, I adore robots interacting with people. My god. I am sure none of you could tell this about me at all because I am clearly quite subtle about it, but I have always been delighted to read about closeness between humans and nonhumans. I love the way it makes me think about how logic and reason works in different people as well as different cultures and backgrounds. I enjoy thinking about relationships with people being more than just the sum of person-to-person, but person to object, person to space, person to idea, person to symbol, etc, and I find that the unique mindset of a robot (sounds weird, I know) really aids me in understanding more about these differences in view or expectation.

Asimov's books are great for that and although he is rather good at illuminating these other types of relationships or engagements, he is not the best writer of relationships in the male-to-female realm...so here's where the first statement I made comes in: Asimov is far better at writing the chemistry and dynamics between Baley and Daneel, Baley and Giskard, Baley and Solaria, Baley and Aurora, Baley and Dr. Fastolfe, Baley and food, Baley and a bathroom, Baley and...
...well, you get the idea.

Asimov had great ideas and a rather lovely way of exploring them, but for some reason, the realm of romantic relationships between men and women seems to be a huge roadblock to enjoying this book, both in myself as a reader and in Asimov in his ability to let the story flow. The relationship between Baley and

Gladia is carried out in a way that is cringeworthy at worst and completely stilted and baffling at best. The way he writes their fling seems carefully constructed in its intent to make Baley the Mr. Man hero of the piece even more, but it kinda falls flat. I actually laughed out loud in their final parting with the melodramatic utterances of "...my love..." after Baley was so flighty about their morning after dinner. I didn't really see the relationship developing to a point that ever really made sense, so I was even more amused to see that, just like the mystery itself, Asimov had Gladia explain step by step what happened and how she was lead to giving Baley the ol' nightshift nurse routine. How romantic! :P

I've got to say, I adore the way he writes the interactions between Baley and /literally everyone else/ in this novel, though. I'm kinda loving the way Dr. F screws with Baley for his own "research", and, of course, all that this entails with our dear R. Giskard at the end. It makes for cute Sci-Fi schmaltz, but I enjoy it all so very much.

Aaaaaaaaand as for Daneel, the faithful android partner?

...you keep standin' by your hu-man, bro. Keep being his android seatbelt and shrink. Mad respect, Mr. Olivaw. Mad. Respect. :)
