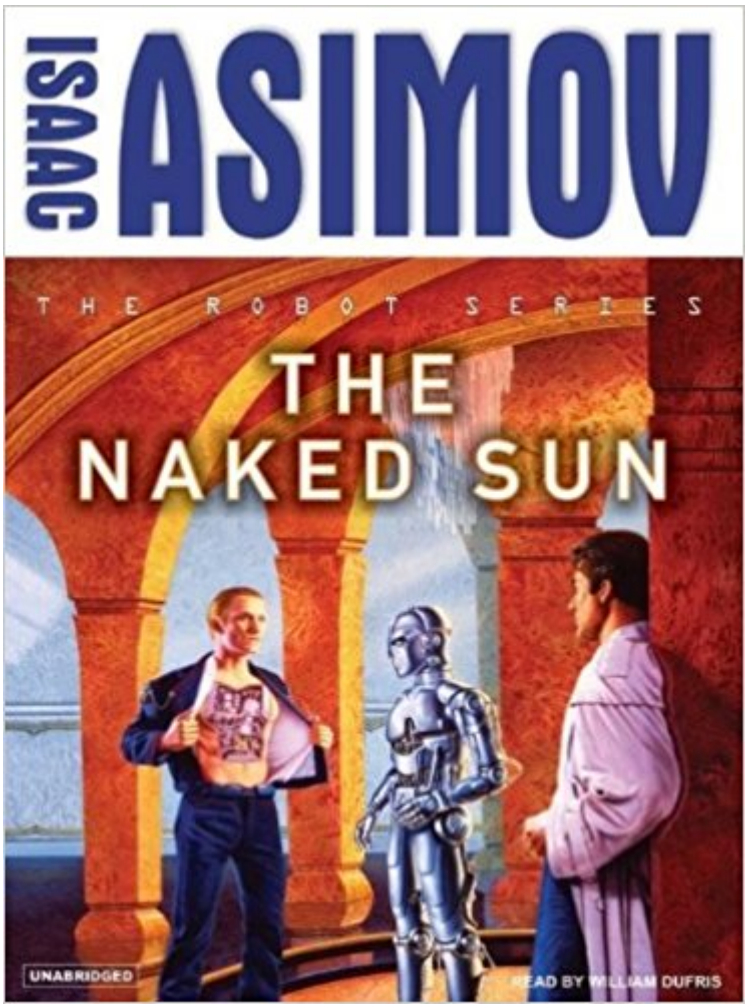
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The Naked Sun (Robot)



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Synopsis

A millennium into the future, two advancements have altered the course of human history: the colonization of the Galaxy and the creation of the positronic brain. On the beautiful Outer World planet of Solaria, a handful of human colonists lead a hermitlike existence, their every need attended to by their faithful robot servants. To this strange and provocative planet comes Detective Elijah Baley, sent from the streets of New York with his positronic partner, the robot R. Daneel Olivaw, to solve an incredible murder that has rocked Solaria to its foundations. The victim had been so reclusive that he appeared to his associates only through holographic projection. Yet someone had gotten close enough to bludgeon him to death while robots looked on. Now Baley and Olivaw are faced with two clear impossibilities: Either the Solarian was killed by one of his robots-unthinkable under the laws of Robotics-or he was killed by the woman who loved him so much that she never came into his presence!

Book Information

Series: Robot (Book 2)

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Customer Reviews

`One of the classic presentations of the womb-city, metropolis as mother, which has haunted imaginations ever since... The Caves of Steel and The Naked Sun are the best books Isaac Asimov ever wrote'The Guardian `Isaac Asimov was one of the great explainers of the age...It will never be known how many practicing scientists today, in how many countries, owe their initial inspiration to a book, article, or short story by Isaac Asimov'Carl Sagan `Asimov displayed one of the most dynamic imaginations in science fiction'Daily Telegraph `Asimov's career was one of the most formidable in

science fiction’The Times --This text refers to the Preloaded Digital Audio Player edition.

A millennium into the future, two advancements have altered the course of human history: the colonization of the Galaxy and the creation of the positronic brain. On the beautiful Outer World planet of Solaria, a handful of human colonists lead a hermit-like existence, their every need attended to by their faithful robot servants. To this strange and provocative planet comes Detective Elijah Baley, sent from the streets of New York with his positronic partner, the robot R. Daneel Olivaw, to solve an incredible murder that has rocked Solaria to its foundations. The victim had been so reclusive that he appeared to his associates only through holographic projection. Yet someone had gotten close enough to bludgeon him to death while robots looked on. Now Baley and Olivaw are faced with two clear impossibilities: Either the Solarian was killed by one of his robots--unthinkable under the laws of Robotics--or he was killed by the woman who loved him so much that she never came into his presence! --This text refers to the Preloaded Digital Audio Player edition.

Asimov’s novels consist of a handful of dialogues between a limited number of characters. More than science fiction, the robot series, are more drama and mystery, taking place in a futuristic or alternate universe. The genius of Asimov, is how ingrained this made up universe is in the development of his dramas and mysteries. So much so, that the reader also gets "sucked" in this make believe reality.It seems Asimov first created this futuristic alternate universe, then he lets his characters and their situations, interactions or dramas develop influenced by all the constraints, or advantages of that alternate universe. His dialogues describe "normal" daily live occurrences, however with the odd and occasional sprinkle of the peculiar due to the alternate universe where said dialogue is taking place.

The second book in the Robots detective series by Isaac Asimov, this is just as gripping as the other two. It’ll keep you guessing throughout and, at least for me, the ending was a big surprise. Well developed characters, as with the others this is more a detective story set on a well-built scifi backdrop than strictly a scifi story in and of itself. Great worldbuilding as is expected with this series and the main characters are very likeable and complex. Watching the primary character develop through his arc is very interesting and engaging, and you can see his transformation over all three books with this one marking some of the biggest changes. Fascinating insight into a potential future for humanity and robots alike, while still being primarily a mystery that hooks you in and doesn’t let

go.

Great writers can state something without being overt. This is about someone who lives inside the earth’s surface . Nobody dwells on the surface anymore. So when describing the insecurity they have about living on the surface of a planet, Asimov uses the following paragraph ."He thought of the Earth suddenly as a ball of stone with a film of moisture and gas, exposed to emptiness on every side, with its Cities barely dug into the outer rim, clinging precariously between rock and air. His skin crawled!" Barely clinging to the rim! That description hooked me.

Not quite the same tone as the first two. Link to foundation is hamfisted. Crosses over into science fantasy. Steals the "good enough for government work" style resolution of the second one. A fair bit of sexual content is there, but nothing super explicit (looking at you Daemon and Cryptonomicon). Still good and thought promoting. If you read the first two, go for it.

for the younger generation of scifi readers, you may find this story, with it’s lack of sophisticated weaponry and epic space battles and multitudes of alien species, somewhat subdued and too focused on one person, a rumpled, middle-aged police detective of Earth, who is afraid of open spaces, of leaving the crowded, underground mega-city he calls home, and suspicious of the robots that human off-worlders build and deploy as laborers to support their luxuriant lifestyles. This story is about the detective solving a murder on another planet while facing his fears. He must do his work in the spacious and sparsely populated environment of Solaris, a world where robots out-number humans and the humans can’t bear being in the same room with each other. And even though there are the three laws of robotics designed to protect people from their positronic creations, this detective knows that any law can be manipulated and broken. As you read this story, you will recognize numerous concepts that you take for granted in modern science fiction books and movies.

Generic review for Asimov’s books because I bought all of them for my collection and am writing ALL of the reviews at once.I love everyone of his books, and each brings a great story to the table, if you are looking for a good Saga to start reading, check out his Foundation / Robot series. I’ve read them all the way through several times and each time, loved each book. Each book builds off the one prior and adds a whole new dynamic to the overall universe while still being able to be enjoyed individually. If you are reading this review, Just check out the book, I guarantee it will be worth it.

I love all of Asimov’s writing. This is a three book series, but each book can stand alone. It is a sci-fi mystery series.

The Naked Sun is as enjoyable and as relevant today as it was in the 1950’s. When it was written, Sputnik I had not yet been launched and no computer had yet been programmed in FORTRAN. A heartless study of it could, indeed, ferret out some anachronisms. But it requires no more "suspension of disbelief" now than it did originally. The reward is a tidy murder mystery, a character undergoing painful but necessary change, and a cautionary tale that needs to be retold today. Take your pick. I enjoyed as much re-reading it in 2015 as I did first reading it fifty years ago.

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