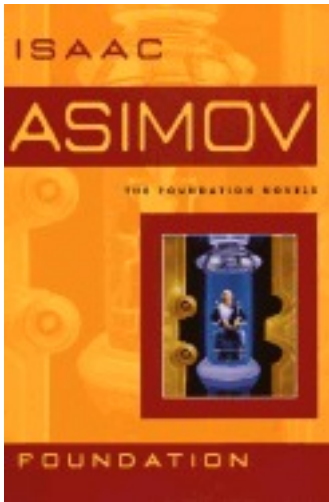


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# Isaac Asimov

## Foundation (Foundation Universe)



Title: Foundation (Foundation Universe)

Author: Isaac Asimov

Format:

Language: English

Pages: 0

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## Description

For twelve thousand years the Galactic Empire has ruled supreme. Now it is dying. But only Hari Sheldon, creator of the revolutionary science of psychohistory, can see into the future--to a dark age of ignorance, barbarism, and warfare that will last thirty thousand years. To preserve knowledge and save mankind, Seldon gathers the best minds in the Empire--both scientists and scholars--and brings them to a bleak planet at the edge of the Galaxy to serve as a beacon of hope for a future generations. He calls his sanctuary the Foundation.

But soon the fledgling Foundation finds itself at the mercy of corrupt warlords rising in the wake of the receding Empire. Mankind's last best hope is faced with an agonizing choice: submit to the barbarians and be overrun--or fight them and be destroyed.

## Insightful reviews

Sanjay Gautam:

Absolutely Loved it! Hail Asimov! He is brilliant! His writing is enchanting and filled with awe inspiring genius. Work of sheer Ingenuity! Height of Inventiveness!

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Katie: A book that's more intriguing than good, I think. I get why it's a classic - the book is full of interesting ideas, and Asimov does a fun job in taking the large scale forces of earthly societies and transplanting them into space. It's very clear that he has a background in medieval studies, and this book could probably be subtitled "A Rather Negative View of Medieval History in Space." Psychohistory, while ridiculous, is a fun concept in the abstract. And it would not surprise me - if I knew more about the history of sci-fi - if I were able to make some claims about the importance of this work for the genre.

Despite that, it can be a bit of a slog to read. This is in large part do to a lack of variation in structure. The book is essentially set up as four short stories covering a hundred-odd years of space history and each story follows the same trajectory: a Great Man uses his wits to outsmart all the dummies around him. This is fun the first time it happens, and I quite like the Salvor Hardin story. But all the stories are essentially variations on that, with the characters and details switched out. It feels almost like reading a detective story, where you know the protagonist is going to have an "Ah-ha!" speech at the end of each section as all of his political rivals slink away in crushing defeat.

The themes are also a bit tired, or lacking in nuance. It's a pessimistic book in a lot of ways, with

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the premise riding on the assumption that the vast majority of people are dumb and unimaginative, and that religion and commerce are best seen as tool of mass manipulation. These are not inherently bad subjects to tackle, but to tackle them with subtlety requires a solid and varied characterization that Asimov doesn't really possess.

Not a terrible book by any means, and worth a read if you're interested in sci-fi in general. But be prepared for some eye-rolling as you go along.

Penny: There's a reason everyone recommends this trilogy. It really is that good. I flew through this (granted it really isn't long) and loved every second! It's essentially 5 short stories that follow one another and need to be read in order. I'm very keen to read the rest of the Foundation novels when I'm finished with my 2014 challenge.

The investigation of science, religion and trade, and how they can work together and against one another is remarkably well done. It was unusual to read Asimov sans robots, but of course he didn't disappoint. Highly recommended to anyone and everyone!

The introduction tells the story of how Isaac Asimov came up with the idea for this series (the fall of the Roman Empire in space basically) and how the original publication proceeded. The interesting part came when he'd completed the trilogy and was very much done with the Foundation novels, but could not escape their popularity and was eventually strongly persuaded by his publishing company to write more Foundation novels. When he re-read his trilogy, he found that he did have a lot of unanswered questions and there was a lot more to write, and so he wrote the sequels and prequels. I'll be reading this series in publishing order.

Brad: an html thing!>--i may have sworn i learn this a decade ago, yet now i do not know. anything tells me i learn an excerpt in a category someday and concept i learn the book. i did not take into account a fucking factor except Hari Seldon--c'mon ... Lucas is the main shameless thief in view that Shakespeare. Coruscant = Trantor. do not even faux it doesn't. And the Ewoks are stripped directly out of The note for international is Forest.--psychohistory is a load of crap, yet a enjoyable load of crap.--Sherri instructed me that beginning was once all in regards to the intrigue and he or she was once right. i am getting so bored with violencebeing the instrument of victory in ALL literature that it truly is striking to learn a ebook and not using a shred of violence, the place international relations and mind rule the galaxy or universe or whatever.--Asimov--this shit is without doubt one of the real progenitors of sci-fi as we all know it. which rocks.--the man who offered me this booklet has most of these fleshy pollops drooping off his facial skin. i badly are looking to see him at the seashore this summer. he most likely has one lower than his armpit the dimensions of a big droopy thing--the fall, highbrow arrogance, religion, mercantilism, all strong things. it really is universilization within the fifties.--fukushima mon amour--can i am getting me considered one of them own strength fields?--my disguise is that this amazing, funky green, wannabe-cubism from the Avon variation circa 73. it feels like my mom's outdated stove.--could it paintings higher than we think?

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Tom: I hugely suggest beginning to someone who professes to have a grain of curiosity in Sci-Fi. The political intrigue, spiritual undertones, cutting edge sci-fi theories, global building, and epic scope make origin some of the most priceless reads of speculative fiction. The premise is that the genius, Harry Seldon, has created and perfected a brand new science, psychohistory, a sort of complicated statistics, to the measure that he can mathematically expect and consultant the way forward for super huge inhabitants samples. via mathematics, he predicts the inevitable fall of the galactic Empire and the decline of humanity right into a barbaric darkish age. He then units in movement occasions to lessen the unwanted effects of this darkish age and finally create a brand new Empire to take care of the dignity of humanity in the course of the universe. the unconventional and sequels hide generations of time because the occasions he posthumously predicts and directs take place. Having a few records historical past from my Economics education, i discovered Asimov's rules of psychohistory to be either attention-grabbing and implausible. even if Harry Seldon's psychohistory plots the long run utilizing facts from a major pattern size, heritage is basically written by means of leaders whose person activities couldn't be decided or swayed by way of mathematics. whereas it really is believable to me that complicated perfected records may well be expecting the autumn of the empire, i need to droop my disbelief to think that Seldon may well competently be expecting the process the a lot smaller starting place which so seriously will depend on the selections of person leaders like Salvur Hardin. even though a few of the options in the back of starting place require a dose of suspended disbelief, i did not brain as the similar rules are so rattling attention-grabbing and how Asimov applies them to the plot is brilliant. i do not believe that "beaming up" or "hyper area travel" are believable notions either, yet i like the guidelines nonetheless. the belief of psychohistory, or a super-advanced kind of the econometric regression research I studied in college, is really attention-grabbing and serves because the foundation for one hell of a shrewdpermanent read. I enjoyed how Asimov techniques the belief of God. i myself think in a God that's all-powerful and omniscient-- capable of consultant and are expecting the future. Asimov units up Seldon to be a God-figure and explains his powers to foretell and consultant the long run by means of his genius wielding of psychohistory. faith even vegetation up in accordance with Seldon's legacy. Speculating concerning the nature of upper energy is a vintage side of sci-fi. an attractive sidenote is this form of hypothesis gave approach to Tom Cruise's Scientologist ideals during the writer L. Ron Hubbard. This exhibits smart suggestion put within the correct brain on the correct time can dramatically effect the masses--which occurs to be a topic of Foundation. With my history rooted in Cristianity, i locate characters similar to Aslan, Jean ValJean, and Harry Seldon that represent deity or replicate the authors rules of upper energy fascinating.

Nandakishore Varma: along the Robots, the basis needs to be the main endearing (and enduring) factor that Asimov has created. Being the maths nut that I am, I loved the full proposal of having the ability to foretell human behaviour properly statistically, given the dimensions of the inhabitants was once mammoth enough. The self-discipline of psychohistory is gifted with simply enough uncertainty to make it credible. a great read!

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