



The Empire Novels

Isaac Asimov

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3 in 1 Novels. Includes The Stars, Like Dust, The Currents of Space and Pebble in the Sky.

Description: In the 1950s, after penning his Future History stories-what would become his most famous series, Robots and Foundation-Isaac Asimov published his first three novels, the classic works that make up this exclusive SFBC omnibus. Set thousands of years after a nuclear holocaust ravaged the Earth, the Empire novels trace the Grand Master's vision of mankind's first halting steps toward galactic civilization and the birth of the first Galactic Empire.

The Stars, Like Dust: A native of one of the backward planets conquered by the cruel Tyranni Empire, Biron Farrill is only days away from graduating from the University of Earth when someone tries to murder him in his sleep. The attack is part of a Tyranni plot to eliminate all resistance leaders, one of whom had been his own father. Now Biron has been chosen to step into his father's shoes and rally the rebellion. But once he casts his lot with the freedom fighters, he will find himself guarding against treachery on every side and facing the most difficult choice of his young life: to betray either the woman he loves or the revolution his father died to protect.

The Currents of Space: Thousands of years after the events of The Stars, Like Dust, a man named Rik is wiped of his mind and deposited on the planet Florina-a wimpering, thumb-sucking half-child. Valona, a lonely peasant girl, adopts and takes care of him, and slowly his memory returns. But what he remembers entangles the pair in a web of interplanetary intrigue, in which they're hunted by high-ranking officials and spies. For what Rik knows about the future could topple an empire.

The Empire Novels Details

Date : Published January 1st 2002 by Science Fiction Book Club (first published 1952)

ISBN : 9780739431054

Author : Isaac Asimov

Format : Hardcover 548 pages

Genre : Science Fiction, Fiction, Space, Space Opera, Science Fiction Fantasy

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From Reader Review The Empire Novels for online ebook

Jeremy says

Three short stories about the imaginary future. One of them I think ties into the Second Foundation, as someone on a dying earth invents a procedure to enable psychic powers. I always wondered where all them psychics in the 2nd foundation came from.

Brad says

Worth reading if you want to feel like you've tried to bridge the gap between the Robot and Foundation series. Unfortunately The Empire Novels don't add much to the Galactic story but are three independent SF books. All three books are weak. Pebble in the Sky was the only story worth reading on its own merits alone. Reading The Empire Novels satisfied my curiosity about their place in the Foundation universe but not much else.

Cosmin says

impressive.

Dave Wheatley says

I read these as a teenager and just devoured them. I don't know how they hold up for adults, but I still like the main premise of the series: psychohistory. Psychohistory theory is such that given a deep enough set of data for a particular chunk of time and space, one can predict the future. Those that practice gathering that data and making predictions are called psychohistorians. The founding psychohistorian predicts bad things for mankind and makes or affects the changes in human society to change the course of history for thousands of years into the future.

Freek says

N/A

Natalí says

Tenía pendiente este trozo de la cronología de Asimov. Interesantes pero al ser cortos, algunas cosas parecían apuradas. Un "must" para los fans de Fundación? y Robots.

Diane says

These are my FAVORITE science fiction books. They link to the robot books and the prefoundation and the book that comes after. Every few years I do a Foundation reading fest. It is about the changes in society and civilizations over thousands of years. Extremely interesting and insightful.

Sereneji says

Die drei Romane sind in sich geschlossen und zeitlich - obwohl nicht direkt erwähnt wird, wie viele Jahre dazwischen liegen - voneinander weit entfernt. Personen und Schauplätze wechseln und das einzige, was ein wiederkehrender Faktor ist, ist die Erwähnung der Erde und der galaktischen Gesellschaft in ihrer derzeitigen Ausprägung.

Als eigenständige Romane lesen sie sich sehr gut, auch wenn Asimov vom wissenschaftlichen Standpunkt her viele Annahmen macht und diese nach heutigen Wissenstand, wie er selbst in einer Note sagt, unwahrscheinlich bzw. falsch sind. Dennoch sind die Geschichten sehr fesselnd geschrieben, was nicht zuletzt auf die interessante Charaktergestaltung zurückzuführen ist.

Im Kontext der Foundation Geschichte bieten die Bücher einen Einblick in die Anfänge des Galaktischen Imperiums und - bezogen auf die immensen Zeiträume, die allein schon vor den Geschehnissen des ersten Buches gelegen haben müssen - ein Gefühl dafür, was im Laufe der Besiedlung der Galaxis über Jahrhunderttausende Jahre an Wissen verloren gegangen ist über die Ursprünge der menschlichen Zivilisation.

Nickolai says

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Lexxi Kitty says

Consolidating.

The Stars Like Dust - 1995 - 3.75

The Currents of Space - Nov 10 1995 - 4.00

Pebble in the Sky - 1995 - 4.00

Shawn says

Asimov is the grandmaster of sci-fi for a reason. The characters are enjoyable and the stories compelling. A

thoroughly enjoyable set of novels.

Javier says

I have read a lot of Asimov's work, and I've always liked it. But when I finished the first two books (*Stars, like dust* and *Currents of space*), the first thing that came to my mind was: wow, this must have been the worst Asimov books I've ever read.

Don't get me wrong, they're not bad books, but they're short ones, and I got the feeling that nothing really happened on them.

The characters are very simple, very predictable, and I wasn't able to identify myself with any of them.

The same thing happened with the stories.

Pebble in the sky is different. It's the last book of the "trilogy", and also, in my opinion, the best one.

I would highly recommend reading only *Pebble in the sky*, but if you want to know how the first Galactic Empire evolved through time you should read them all.

English is not my mother tongue so I'm sorry if the "review" isn't grammatically perfect.

Eric says

Great collection of early Asimov. All short reads with interesting who-done-its.

Nikola Pavlovic says

Ovaj serijal je sacinjen iz tri kako vremenom tako i prostorom odvojene price. Medjutim svaka se tice Galaktickog Carstva i neke krize u koju ono zapada. Heroji su neretko veliki protivnici samog Carstva ali zbog covecnosti koju nose u sebi i mogucnosti da sagledaju siru sliku ljudske civilizacije i budu humani spasavaju Galakticko carstvo razaranja i bede koju bi to razaranje donelo svakom zivom coveku u svemiru. Prva i druga prica govore o dobu kada je Carstvo bilo jos u procesu formiranja i kolonizacije ostalih svetova. Dok poslednja govori o tome kako je imperija spletom cudnih okolnosti izbegla najsmrtonosniji moguci udarac koji je mogao doci sa planete Zemlje, odbacene i izolovane kolevke citave ljudske civilizacije. Serijal dalje napreduje ka knjigama o Zaduzbini, vrhu Asimovljeve spisalacke karijere.

Jim says

Asimov's writing is fresh and while building on a theme doesn't re-hash the same old characters in these novels.
