



Theories of Flight

Simon Morden

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Winner of the 2012 Philip K. Dick Award

Theorem: Petrovitch has a lot of secrets.

Proof: Secrets like how to make anti-gravity for one. For another, he's keeping a sentient computer program on a secret server farm - the same program that nearly destroyed the Metrozone a few months back.

Theorem: The city is broken.

Proof: The people of the OutZone want what citizens of the Metrozone have. And then burn it to the ground. Now, with the heart of the city destroyed by the New Machine Jihad, the Outies finally see their chance.

Theorem: These events are not unconnected.

Proof: Someone is trying to kill Petrovitch and they're willing to sink the whole city to do it.

Theories of Flight Details

Date : Published May 1st 2011 by Orbit

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Author : Simon Morden

Format : Paperback 368 pages

Genre : Science Fiction, Cyberpunk, Fiction, Dystopia

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From Reader Review Theories of Flight for online ebook

Sexy says

I have read the whole trilogy and I loved every bit of it. Reminds me of Cowboy Bebop a bit in how they feel. The first book felt very anime-like. However, in this second book, the plot thickens, as it should. It's just a fun read. I highly recommend to anyone interested in the cyber-punk genre. You've got your hero, you've got your trusty side kicks, the action, and what have you. It's a very colorful adventure. It's probably not one of the 'greats', but if they made a movie out of this, I'd sure as hell pay to see it and complain about how the book was better.

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<http://knigolandia.info/book-review/t...>

Reading says

Was chugging along and truly loving this book and the manner in which Mr Morden was developing the storyline - especially fond of the manner in which he described the evolution of the New Machine Jihad merging with Petrovich including his interaction with the avatar. You gotta love this character as he is an immoral son of a bitch with an irrational love of humanity and a belief in people yet he has zero patience for incompetence or lack of a spine to 'do the right thing'.

The reason I am only giving three stars relates to my disappointment in how the book ended. From chapter 30 onward it begins to feel thrown together as characters pop up, return, die and come together so rapidly and randomly as to leave me feeling a bit dissipated - there was so much potential and build up and then... pfft.

Other minor notes:

Not enough Maddy, love Lucy and Valentine and how Petrovich has a "harem". The sequence in which he acquires the bus is spectacular. I truly hope the third book brings it all home as I am rooting for this series!

***Absorbed in Countless Worlds* says**

It was a slow start here, but became just as fantastic as the first book further down the line.

Frederick M Martone says

2nd time through is even better. Wish there was a translation for all the italicized language.

Great theatre, intriguing science and most excellent cast of characters. Page Turner if there ever was one. Science fiction action adventure.

kattykatkat says

I read all three of the trilogy back to back and this was just as entrancing as the first one. I will say that by the end of this book Sam has become a bit of a Stu, but not in such an overwhelming way that it killed my joy. I did have the same complaint that I had with the first book which is that you are thrown in this world and not a lot of the back story is explained. For example: America is some crazy right wing theocracy and the author continuously refers to it as "Reconstructionist" and vaguely talks about us apparently shutting our borders to refugees. I wish he had gone in to a little more detail about the world political situation. that said it is still a fine read.

Metodi Markov says

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John says

Didn't like it as much as the first book. He sets up an interesting plot at the beginning. Then wipes it off the table as it has almost nothing to do with the rest of the book.

Ivan Bogdanov says

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Liviu says

The second Petrovitch book starts well and for the first 100 pages I thought it will match the debut and maybe even take the series to the next level; then it turns repetitive, predictable and a little boring since there is nothing essentially new introduced despite tantalizing hints

Bradley says

Returning to the Metrozone after the first book and several years in-between was NOT an issue. In fact, this one was pretty much awesome when it came to catching us up and re-building the world and heading us straight into the gee-whiz awesomeness of an anti-grav breakthrough and soon into the darker underbelly of a complete civil war.

Best features: cyberpunk, a great AI, super smart Samuil Petrovitch being rightfully egotistical and badass, and a truly great world to play in.

Oh, and it's quite Russian. With plenty of Russian humor. :)

This novel was pretty much a ramp-up in pacing and tons of streamlined action. The characters are pretty damn memorable, too. But what's the best part of this?

The resolution. It goes from an awesome flight to a massive turnaround with even more massive repercussions across the world. :)

I'm not letting this sit on the sidelines again. I'm going to enjoy the hell out of reading the other two. :)

L says

Sci-Fi novels typically plunge the reader into another time, another place, or both. Some explain the fictional world more or less pedantically, and then let the story roll. Others just charge ahead, leaving the reader to pick it up along the way. In the best of these, character and story carry it all. This is one of those. By the end, I still didn't really have a handle on much of the back-story. And that just didn't matter, not really. Morden peopled his tale with interesting characters and then threw them into a wildly impossible predicament, well, war against impossible odds. I liked this so much I missed my dance class this evening, because I just couldn't put it aside. Such is life.

Denise says

Further adventures of the foul-mouthed physicist-turned-savior of the remains of London after some unnamed apocalypse. Not quite as laugh out loud funny as the first book but still some great lines:

We're out of explosives, and experimental physics is all we have.

Are you familiar with Schrodinger's Cat?

No.

And another metaphor dies whimpering on the altar of ignorance.

Ha!

Charles Haworth says

Still loved this one

Same world even if London is more battered and bruised. Much more violence as civil war wracks the street and great AI usage.

Good science. Petrovitch becomes a bit too much of an action hero as he is after all a scientist at heart but even so I love it
