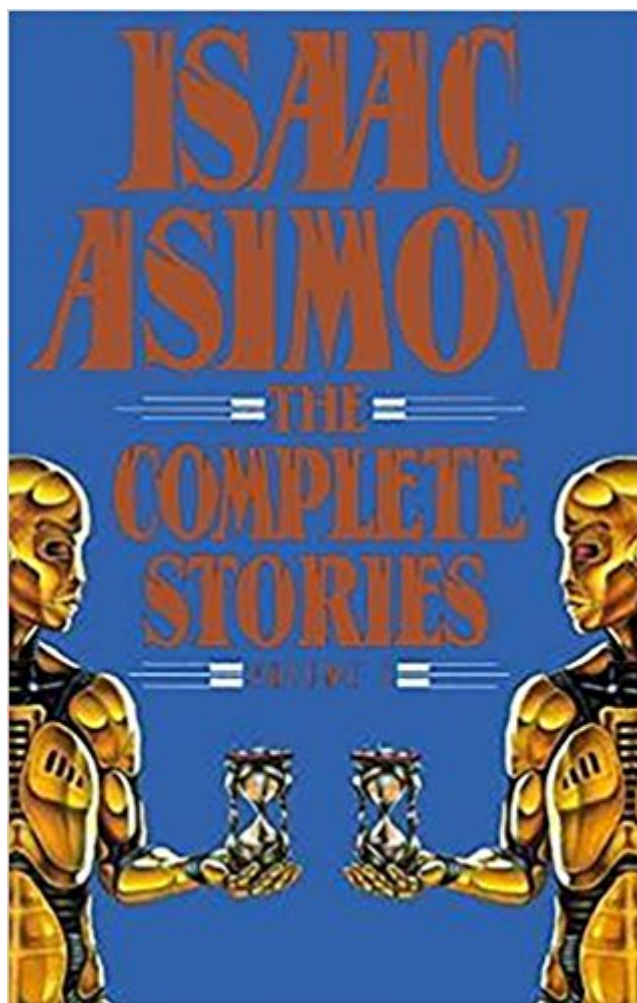


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# Isaac Asimov: The Complete Stories, Vol. 1



## Synopsis

The first book of the definitive three-volume collection of short stories by the prolific Isaac Asimov, whose tales have delighted countless fans for over half a century--a must for every science fiction bookshelf.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Containing the collections "Earth Is Room Enough" and "Nine Tomorrows" from the 1950s as well as the more recent "Nightfall and Other Stories," this volume of 46 stories begins an ambitious project to publish the complete short ficiton of sf's most prolific author. Future volumes will appear annually. Libraries needing to spruce up their Asimov collection may want to consider purchase. Copyright 1990 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

The first book of the definitive three-volume collection of short stories by the prolific Isaac Asimov, whose tales have delighted countless fans for over half a century--a must for every science fiction bookshelf.

This book was pretty entertaining. It's a pretty typical Asimov book (a lot of science, a lot of talking, a lot of mind games), even though it includes the atypical-for-Asimov subject of aliens. I'm just

disappointed that the middle section with the aliens wasn't longer! It was easily the most interesting and compelling part of the book, and I'm sure Asimov could've gotten more out of it. The last part seemed to be the longest and it had the least compelling plot and characters. Still, this book is pretty decent and is worth reading.

I was used to his Foundation series and the Robot stories, but this added a greater dimension and hinted at his mystery writing. I hadn't realized he started writing in the 1930's just like Clarke. So it was enjoyable to read stories with plot, character, story, and realism.

I am, in general, a reader of fact, not fiction, but the environment in one of the stories made me buy the book! The story is called Strikebreaker, and it is about a world which is like an asteroid where they have basically hollowed it out and are living on the inside of it at many levels at 50 metres per level, which gives an awful lot of living space. Earlier I read a book called "Asimov on Astronomy", where Strikebreaker is mentioned due to a consideration about living inside a planet-/oid. So, I ordered this book with the story and was hoping to get a thorough description of this world by Asimov. Well he has done the maths, but does not go into much detail about how it could be done. I was disappointed on that score. However in this book there are so many very short stories that if a title grabs your interest most of them are not a long affair to go through, and there are quite a lot of stories with a good idea on how things could be done. This is a good feature of all those stories by Asimov. I do not read fiction, or science fiction, but Asimov being such a fantastic science writer, seems to have convinced me to check out some of his stories for ideas. This book confirms the conviction, even if I know I won't read it all.

I'm biased in my reviews as I've been an Asimov fan since I was a kid. I bought this compilation for my son so he could develop the same love of science fiction that I did when I was his age. Isaac Asimov is a great writer and I never get tired of reading the huge amount of stuff he's produced.

Let it be known that the title of this review could be applied to both the book and how I feel about the man, Isaac Asimov, in general. The tales contained within "The Complete Stories, Vol. I" explore broad topics including space exploration, colonization, politics, relationships, war, and even religion, nearly all of which are as thought-provoking and interesting today as they were when they were originally penned 50+ years ago. The short story format makes this book easily digestible and most of the stories are fairly brief, between 5 and 15 pages. Isaac Asimov's unique voice, visionary ideas

and nimble grasp of language redefined what science fiction means to me. I thoroughly enjoyed this book and highly recommend it to anyone looking for big sci-fi in a small package.

Re-reading these stories years later they have lost none of their wonder. Some of the stories might seem dated though the bulk of technology is simple and understandable as the stories are not hard science sci-fi but more people oriented 'what if' sort of questions. This volume is also a perfect collection that just seems to flow so well together. My favorite has always been stories of the multivac. Read 'The Last Question'. Amazing story of multivac through the eons of human expansion. This is a must read volume for even casual fans, well worth the price if you can find it.

A thick book full of interesting and varied stories. Amazing, the scope and range of Asimov's imagination. If you are looking for something a bit different that will hold your attention, and you are fond of easy reads, these 46 narratives fit the bill nicely. You might find his 1950's concept of futuristic computers humorous. Read a few and see what you think.

Plot and science were excellent. Characters interesting, but a couple were rather two-dimensional. Character interaction was a bit awkward in spots and the ending felt rushed. I was disappointed not to return to Earth to be there as Lamont saw Hallum's face. I did enjoy experiencing the lunar surface. Imagery very well done. Overall, I enjoyed it but wouldn't read it again.

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