

Friday Study Guide

Friday by Robert A. Heinlein

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Contents

Friday Study Guide.....	1
Contents.....	2
Plot Summary.....	3
Chapters 1-8.....	4
Chapters 9-14.....	10
Chapters 15-20.....	14
Chapters 21-25.....	17
Chapters 26-29.....	19
Chapters 30-33.....	21
Characters.....	23
Objects/Places.....	25
Themes.....	27
Style.....	29
Quotes.....	32
Topics for Discussion.....	33



Plot Summary

The book is written in chronological order through the eyes of the main character, Marjorie Friday Baldwin. Friday is the woman's professional name while Marjorie Baldwin is a name that Friday uses in personal relationships.

"Friday" begins with Friday being tailed during an operation in Kenya. Friday kills the man shadowing her. Friday has a few altercations where she barely survives on her way back to her Boss' headquarters in the Chicago Imperium. Friday learns that she has been part of a bigger and more complicated ruse than she was led to believe. This is not unusual however.

Friday insists on having time off after this last grueling assignment. Friday returns to her S-Group family in Christchurch, New Zealand. Friday's experiences with her family are recounted. The relationship lasts for many years until it is learned that Friday is not human but rather an Artificial Person. Friday is ousted from the family.

On her journey, Friday meets Captain Ian Tormey. Friday goes with Tormey to his home in Stonewall, Canada. While in residence, the group learns that civil disorder has occurred and Friday is now in jeopardy.

Friday is unable to reach any of her contacts, including the Boss, so she must make the best use of her resources. Friday makes her way south where it is supposedly safer for her, a fugitive from the law. Friday joins a military envoy known as Rachel's Raiders which is scheduled to return to the Chicago Imperium. Shortly before the ship blows up from enemy attack, Friday lands in Arkansas and is taken in by a friendly family.

Friday reaches the Chicago Imperium only to learn that the Boss has dismantled the headquarters and has moved to parts unknown. Friday, desperate to see Janet, returns to Stonewall only to find that they, too, have fled just before being arrested for harboring fugitives.

Friday ends up in California and is reunited with the Boss. Just as Friday is undergoing training for a new profession, the Boss dies and the agency is dismantled. Friday is on the run once again. This time however she is trying to make her own way in a world where there are few people that she can trust. Friday finally receives another job as courier but finds that she has been a pawn in an international plot. Friday has been unknowingly impregnated and is scheduled to give birth to the child of the First Citizen and the Dauphiness, world leaders.

Aboard the Forward, a ship destined for space, Friday rekindles her relationships with her old friends from Earth and also meets several new people. Friday knows that she must escape or be killed after the baby is born. Friday manages to escape from the ship and to live out her days with a family of her choosing on a space colony.



Chapters 1-8

Chapters 1-8 Summary

Chapter 1 begins with Friday leaving the Kenya Beanstalk capsule. She's being followed by a man. This man, who has obviously been hired to shadow Friday, walks through the door to customs. Friday kills him and shoves the man's body into a locker.

"The subconscious has its own logic. I grabbed him before he hit the deck and dragged him quickly toward a rank of bonded bombproof lockers, hurrying to avoid staining the floor - shoved his thumb against the latch, pushed him inside as I grabbed his pouch, found his Diners Club card, slid it into the slot, salvaged his IDs and cash, and chucked the pouch in with the cadaver as the armor slid down and clanged home." Chap. 1, p. 1

As Friday is leaving the area she notices that a public eye camera is mounted above her. The public eye seems to be scanning the area and since it does not land and focus on Friday she assumes that it is most likely an unmonitored camera. Friday kills it just to be safe. Friday goes into a bathroom and washes off her face along with the persona she had created for the mission. Friday looks through the IDs of the man she killed and notices that the man has four identities. Friday gets rid of the IDs.

Friday goes through customs and exits into Mount Kenya. Friday goes to an area where she can track the locations of the man's three additional IDs. After that task is complete, Friday takes the tube to Mombasa and then to the Chicago Imperium. Friday believes she cannot be tracked because she travels with no records and pays cash. Shortly after Friday leaves the hotel in Nairobi it explodes.

Friday thinks about her family in Christchurch and is eager to return to them.

When Friday arrives in Chicago she has picked up at the capsule by Uncle Jack Prufit. Friday boards the carriage. Suddenly two men come out and capture Friday.

In Chapter 2, Friday cannot understand how she was tracked. She is taken into a room and bound. The men gang rape Friday. Friday knows that she has two options - she can either be traumatized by the rape or she can turn it to her advantage. Friday cannot see the men who have abducted and raped her. There is a man she refers to as Strawboss, Rocky, Shorty, and at least one other person. Friday hears a voice from the ceiling. The person speaking is referred to as Major. Major tells Friday that she will soon be interrogated. Friday refers to the kidnappers as amateurs because one never tells a prisoner that she is about to be interrogated. Friday is handcuffed. Friday falls asleep but is awakened when Rocky slaps her.

Friday thinks about the interrogation. Friday's Boss told Friday that if she was ever captured she should sing. Friday never knows more than the most basic information about her missions and spilling the information during an interrogation would not



damage or jeopardize any mission. Friday tells the Major everything she knows. The Major does not believe her.

In Chapter 3, Friday wakes up. She thinks carefully about a way to escape until she hears the Boss' voice. The Boss tells Friday that she is been rescued. The Boss demands Friday's report.

"The trip to Ell-Five was without incident. I found Mr. Mortensen and delivered him the contents of my trick bellybutton. Routine was interrupted by a most unusual factor: the space city was experiencing an epidemic of respiratory disorder, etiology unknown, and I contracted it. Mr. Mortensen was most kind; he kept me at home and his wives nursed me with great skill and tender loving care." Chap. 3, p. 18

The Boss tells Friday that there never was any kind of respiratory disorder but that the entire thing was faked as part of the mission. Friday quickly checks her bellybutton compartment to find that the item that had been placed within had been unloaded. Friday thinks about many good ways to smuggle items in the body. Friday is distressed that the item has been unloaded in the mission most likely compromised. The Boss tells Friday to check her appendectomy scar. The appendectomy scar had been opened and a pouch inserted without Friday's knowledge.

Friday continues to tell the Boss about her trip. She says that next time she wants to travel first class. Friday relates details about Belson and the bomb in Nairobi.

"My dear Friday, you're too modest. A large number of people and a huge amount of money have gone into trying to keep you from completing your mission, including a last ditch attempt to her former farm. We may assume, at least hypothesis, that the bombing at the Hilton had its sole purpose killing you." Chap. 4, p. 21

Friday is surprised that someone would attempt to take her life by blowing up the hotel in Nairobi.

The Boss complements Friday on the way she handled herself during this mission and tells her that he has high esteem for her as do many of her colleagues. The Boss tells Friday everything that happened during the mission has been recorded. The Boss fills in the details.

In Chapter 4, Friday is ready to go home. However she has suffered many injuries including simple fractures of her fibula and tibia; compound fractures of the bones in her foot and three toes; a hairline skull fracture; four broken ribs; burns; and a sawed off nipple. Although the injuries can be fixed with plastic surgery, the doctor prefers Friday to heal and regenerate on her own.

Friday thinks about her future, including the possibility of becoming an assassin. The Boss tells Friday that they always need skilled assassins but he does not want to sacrifice her as a courier.



Friday begins to convalesce. Meanwhile she is given an assassins' handbook. The handbook is so confidential that Friday is not permitted to sleep unless the document is returned to a clerk. As Terrence, the clerk, leaves they handbook with Friday, Friday kisses him deeply. Friday thinks about having sex with the clerk. For the first time in a very long time Friday begins to feel as if she belongs somewhere. Over the next short while Friday develops kissing friendships with another clerk and the night nurse.

The Boss visits Friday. Friday is scheduled for retraining at 0900 hrs. Friday thinks about the fact that she is not human. The Boss has falsified all of Friday's records. Friday talks about being raised as an animal, so much so that she was unable to use a fork until the age of 10. The Boss has decided that Friday will not become an assassin. The Boss continues to talk about how intellect wins wars.

In Chapter 5, Friday finishes retraining. She jets to Auckland, on her way to reunite with her family in Christchurch. Friday meets Captain Ian Tormey, pilot of the jet. Tormey seems immediately taken with Friday. Friday tells Tormey that she is on her way to Christchurch. Tormey is immediately fascinated by the idea of an S-group family. As with many men Tormey thinks that an S-group family has to do with sex. S actually stands for synthetic family. Friday attempts to give a standard explanation.

Tormey tells Friday that he would like to become a part of the S-group family. Friday doubts that Tormey fully understands what he is asking but promises to talk to Anita about it. Tormey also offers Friday the use of his apartment in Auckland whenever she needs it because he is only there six days a month.

In Chapter 6, Friday arrives in Christchurch. According to Friday Christchurch is the most beautiful city on the globe. Friday compares Christchurch with many other cities including Paris, San Francisco, and Rio. Friday also compares Christchurch to off planet cities. Friday's history with her S-group family is recounted, including the story of when she fell in love with Douglas. Friday had never felt anything like true love before. Friday was worried about meeting the rest of the family but soon found that she was in love with them as well. The concept of living in an S-group family is strange for many but not for Friday, perhaps in part because she is not human. As part of her training, Friday was trained as a doxy. However aside from all of her training, Friday had never learned anything about being part of the family. The entire concept is foreign to Friday. Friday talks about the first days with the family in Christchurch. Friday admits that she has never told Douglas or any of the others that she is not human. Not being human means that Friday is immune to most diseases and infections. Friday also has unusual reflexes including dexterity.

Friday continues to think about her family. When Friday first meets the members of the S-group she does not inform them that she is sterile. It is obvious that Friday loves children. Within the group, Friday is known as Marjorie Baldwin.

Anita approaches Friday about becoming part of the group. Anita works as the CEO of the family. Anita quips that while marriages are made in heaven bills must be paid on earth. For every person that joins the S-group they must pay a dowry. The dowry allows



a person to move into the house and to purchase one of the 10 votes. The members of the family are Brian, Albert, Douglas, Victoria, Lisbeth, and Anita plus many children. The name of the S-group is the Davidson Group Family.

Friday informs Anita that she has no money but that she is paid in gold. Anita says that Friday may pay in gold and in fact will get a better deal because of it. At the end of the negotiation is determined that Friday will pay NZ\$858.13 per month for the next 17 years. The following week Friday marries into the family. Friday will continue with her current job and visit Christchurch occasionally.

When Friday meets family at the landing site she notices that the subject of Ellen is taboo. Ellen is one of the family's children. According to Albert, Ellen has married a Tongan against Anita's wishes. Friday does not understand why this is a problem.

In Chapter 7, Vicki and Marj go on an overnight shopping trip. Marjorie asks a lot of questions about Ellen and why the family is so upset about her recent marriage. Vicki attempts to explain that Anita is angry because Ellen married a Tongan and angrier still because she did so against Anita's wishes. Marj becomes incensed about prejudice. The topic of artificial persons is broached. Marjorie asks if there would be prejudice against her if Vicki and the others knew that she was an artificial person. Vicki tells Marjorie not to be ridiculous. Marjorie tells Vicki that she is an artificial person. Vicki is in shock. The next day the women go home. Vicki tells Brian about Marjorie's confession. Brian speaks to Marjorie about the confession and begs her to tell Vicki that it was all a joke. Marjorie had forgotten about the conversation. Later Anita asks Marjorie to go to town with her to run errands. Along the way they stop at a botanic garden and sit to talk. Anita accuses Marjorie of deceiving the family. Marjorie is shocked. Anita says, "Don't play innocent. I've never had to deal with the creature not of God's law before. I was not sure that the concept of sin and guilt was when you could understand. Not that it matters, I suppose, now that you are unmasked. The family is asking for an annulment at once; Brian is seeking Mr. Justice Ridgley today" (Chapter 7 p. 67).

In Chapter 8, Marjorie leaves any time and goes to Auckland. Marjorie thinks about demanding a vote in front of the family Council but realizes that the effort would be built considering the vote was 6-1 against her staying in the family. Marjorie had been told not to return to the house that her effects would be packed and sent to the port in Auckland. According to the contract needs some do on Marjorie's contract was payable at once. Anita tells Marjorie that she will not be expected to pay out the balance of the contract but that no monies would be returned to her. Marjorie is upset but then realizes that she did it to herself. Marjorie realizes that she acted out of anger. She later explains, "I wasn't able to find any better answer. Anger at the whole human race for deciding that my sort are not human and therefore not entitled to equal treatment and equal justice. Resentment that had been building up since the first day invited me to realize that there were privileges human children had just from being born and that I could never have simply because I was not human" (Chapter 8, p. 70).



Marjorie calls Capt. Ian Tormey at home. A naked, drunken woman answers the phone. It is Ian's sister Betty. Betty and her husband Freddie are visiting from Sydney. ENA insist on picking Marjorie up at the airport and taking her back to the apartment.

Marjorie meets Betty and Freddie. Betty is quite drunk and Marjorie joins in. Marjorie does not remember much of the previous night when she awakes but notices that she is in bed with Freddie. Marjorie is not sure how to feel about this situation. Ian says that he must fly out to Winnipeg shortly and offers to take Marjorie with him to the airport. Freddy insists that Marjorie should stay behind and he would take her to the airport in plenty of time. Marjorie finally agrees to remain at the apartment.

The time arrives to board the flight to Canada.

Chapters 1-8 Analysis

The reader is introduced to Friday aka Marjorie Baldwin, the main character in the story. Friday works as a courier for Systems Enterprises, an underground organization located in the Chicago Imperium. In the beginning of the story Friday is on an unknown mission in Kenya. Friday does not know why she is being followed and has been careful about covering her tracks. However, the man in Kenya and the bombing in Nairobi show that Friday is on an important and dangerous mission, even if Friday has no idea what the mission is at the time. The Boss never reveals his true plans and Friday has learned to accept that. Friday is puzzled by the level of danger in her mission and dismisses the attempts to stop her from completing the mission.

"My dear Friday, you're too modest. A large number of people and a huge amount of money have gone into trying to keep you from completing your mission, including a last ditch attempt to her former farm. We may assume, at least hypothesis, that the bombing at the Hilton had its sole purpose killing you." Chap. 4, p. 21

It is explained that Friday is an Artificial Person which explains how she can kill without any real remorse and withstand rape and torture given to her by her captors. It also seems that others expect Friday to take whatever comes and just deal with it. While the Boss has some feelings for Friday he is often cold and calculating and ever confident that Friday will complete her mission.

Friday is not human; instead she has been created from a test tube experiment in a lab known as a crèche. Friday appears human but has many skills and abilities not possessed by humans. Friday is immune to most disease and can regenerate herself given time. This is seen when Friday is injured after being tortured in Chicago when she returns from Kenya.

Being an AP, gender and sex mean almost nothing to Friday and she seems to take love or sexual release wherever and whenever it is available.

Friday recounts her experiences falling in love with Douglas and the rest of the S-Group family in New Zealand. Like humans, Friday has a deep seated need to belong. Friday



believes that she has fulfilled this need by marrying into the family. Friday only wishes she could spend more time in Christchurch.

Friday is stunned when she is ousted from the family. She learns quickly that Anita is a cold woman who clearly has an underlying agenda. Desperate to get away, Friday accepts Ian's invitation to Stonewall.



Chapters 9-14

Chapters 9-14 Summary

In Chapter 9, Ian and Marjorie arrive in Winnipeg. Ian introduces Marjorie to his wife Janet. Marjorie wonders why Ian would bother trying to pick her up when he has such a beautiful life at home. Marjorie also meets Georges, Janet's other husband. The group leaves Winnipeg and goes to a compound in Stonewall. Marjorie is enthralled by the house and its beauty. Janet admits to being the compound's architect. Ian is the resident gadget master and Georges is an artist in many ways. Janet gives Marjorie a tour of the house. Meanwhile she explains that they are all married. The men joke that one man is not enough to handle Janet. Shortly after arriving in Stonewall there is a chilling message on the television: "Our border with the Chicago Imperium has been sealed off and refugees are being rounded up. The attack by Québec is more serious but may be in error by a local commander; there has been no declaration of war. State of emergency is now in effect, to stay off the streets, be calm, and listen on this wavelength for official news and instructions" (Chapter 9, p. 84).

The incident known as Red Thursday had arrived.

In Chapter 10, the group watches the television constantly. News scrolls across the screen and reporters discuss the unrest that is taking place worldwide. There have been attacks on various world leaders, including the chairman of the Chicago Imperium who has been killed in his bed. There are many unverified reports and people are being told to remain calm.

There were also reports of people shooting down Democrats over the age of 14. Ian begins to panic because he cannot contact Betty or Freddie. Janet tells him not to worry that they are quite capable of taking care of themselves and are probably equally worried about him.

The conversation turns toward Georges. Georges asks Marjorie if she wants to donate her eggs so he can work more on his genetic experimentation. Janet explains that Georges is a Mendel Professor of Teratology at the University of Manitoba as well as being the Chief Tech of Associate Production Lab and Creche. Georges is also an Associate Professor of Gene Manipulation.

The Council for Survival is also introduced in this chapter.

In Chapter 11, the Council has prepared a grand list of world leaders that can be seen as targets. The Prime Minister is not on this list. Marjorie thinks it must be a sad thing to be the prime minister and considered not important enough to be targeted for assassination. The Council is simply a guide of morals, the public conscience of those in power. If the people in power fail to live up to their promises or are corrupt, they die. There is no sense in trying to abdicate or run.



The concept of justice is questioned. The group begins to wonder who would take up the mantle of leadership if there was a chance of being assassinated.

Marjorie is told that her credit and passport are null and void. Marjorie can't even make the phone call to her boss. Marjorie will have to stay in Stonewall.

Another broadcast comes across that is given by one of the authorized spokesmen for the Stimulators. The spokesman discusses the fact that there are many imposters posing as members of their organization. The spokesman states that they are not responsible for riots or any other atrocities. Because of these imposters the Stimulators will interrupt communications but will restore them as soon as conditions permit. The spokesman states that they have been forced to change their essentially benign plan.

The spokesman lays out a list of emergency decrees. The first emergency decree: Members representing themselves as Angels of the Lord will be sentenced to death. Citizens are required to perform a citizen's arrest on any of these people and turn them over to police. The second decree involves falsely representing a stimulator. Falsely claiming actions carried out by Stimulators is punishable by death. There is also a reform program for world leaders which includes an immediate reform on wages, prices, and rent. All mortgages are canceled. Interest will be at a fixed rate. Healthcare will be nationalized. There is a special decree to stop the manufacture of Artificial Persons. Currently existing Artificial Persons will be permitted to work but most remain indoors at all other times.

In Chapter 12, Ian chastises Georges. Janet says that men never understand that sometimes we just have to wait.

Janet shows Marjorie "the Hole," a tunnel placed under the bath in Janet's room. The Hole leads to a room designed to house three people in case of civil disorder. The room can support three people for up to three months. There is also an escape hatch leading to the outside.

In Chapter 13, the group returns for lunch. There is no news. The group discusses that the problem with the world is not so much the government but multinational corporations.

Janet asked Marjorie if she wants to stay. Marjorie says she must go and analyzes the border to find a way to get home. Georges is also in danger due to his work in the lab.

A police officer comes to arrest George because he did not report for internment. The policeman points a gun at the group. Marjorie acts quickly and kills the police officer. The body is hidden and the automated police vehicle is sent away on autopilot.

Marjorie suggests that everybody leave but Janet says she cannot leave the animals.

In Chapter 14, Marjorie insists on leaving but promises to come back when she has vacation time. It is decided that Marjorie and Georges will travel together at least for a period of time. Marjorie and Georges leave Stonewall.



Marjorie and Georges talk about the fact that she is an Artificial Person. Marjorie tells Georges that her real name is Friday. Georges suggests reversing Friday's sterility.

Chapters 9-14 Analysis

Once again, Friday becomes a part of a family rather quickly. Friday is most taken by Janet, who impresses her as the leader of the house and a strong, intelligent and decisive woman. This can be seen in part as Friday's need for a mother figure although Friday does not seem to know exactly what that means or what to do about it. Likewise, Ian, Janet, and Georges are excited to have Friday at Stonewall and are eager to keep her. Georges seems particularly enthralled with Friday, even after he learns that she is an AP.

Friday quickly becomes protector of the group. First she decides that she must leave in order to protect them, must separate from Georges to protect him, and also kills Lt. Dickey when he threatens to arrest Georges.

The arrival of Red Thursday is somewhat confusing. There is little explanation on the state of the world, countries and their governments. The world government has drastically changed in this novel. There are no longer countries as they exist in the world today. Rather, they are territorial states. Canada and Mexico remain as they are in modern times but the United States is separated into different territories. Most notable is the California Confederacy. There is a territory known as the Chicago Imperium which houses the headquarters for Systems Enterprises, Friday's employer.

Much of the world exists in a fascist state. It is commented that while the Council for Survival and the Stimulators and like groups wish to target corrupt world leaders, someone should be focused on the multinational corporations. It is however, much harder to assassinate a corporation than it is a person.

Supposedly the people behind Red Thursday are known as The Council for Survival. This group has promised to assassinate corrupt world leaders. It is at times unclear which activities are laid out by the council and which are issued by the Stimulators, a similar group. Both claim to have benign and nonviolent plans for ridding the world of corruption by assassinating leaders responsible. There are temporary bans on travel and police are everywhere, rounding up those in breach of the new emergency decrees.

During one news broadcast at the beginning of the civil disorder, a spokesman for the Stimulators discusses the fact that there are many imposters posing as members of their organization. The spokesman states that they are not responsible for riots or any other atrocities. Because of these imposters the Stimulators will interrupt communications but will restore them as soon as conditions permit. The spokesman states that they have been forced to change their essentially benign plan.

The spokesman lays out a list of emergency decrees. The first emergency decree: Members representing themselves as Angels of the Lord will be sentenced to death. Citizens are required to perform a citizen's arrest on any of these people and turn them



over to police. The second decree involves falsely representing a stimulator. Falsely claiming actions carried out by Stimulators is punishable by death. There is also a reform program for world leaders which includes an immediate reform on wages, prices, and rent. All mortgages are canceled. Interest will be at a fixed rate. Healthcare will be nationalized. There is a special decree to stop the manufacture of Artificial Persons. Currently existing Artificial Persons will be permitted to work but most remain indoors at all other times. This makes Friday a fugitive. Georges may also be a fugitive for his work in genetic manipulation and the creation of APs.

Friday and Georges decide it is best to leave Stonewall and to take their chances in the open until they can find safe haven.



Chapters 15-20

Chapters 15-20 Summary

In Chapter 15, Friday wakes up to Georges arranging breakfast. They learned that the international corridor is closed. There are no guarantees that they could use the SLC-Omaha-Gary but the tubes to other cities are open and running as usual. Friday attempts to make a new plan. Georges and Friday go from Bellingham to San Jose. Friday notices a large number of police vehicles.

Georges and Friday don disguises for the rest of the trip.

Georges and Friday meet John Tumbril, a Chief Confederate.

In Chapter 16, Georges and Friday are permitted to be let go and not be turned over to the Québécois Consul General.

Friday wins the national lottery.

Friday goes to the MasterCard headquarters and is told that she cannot withdraw money because this branch is no longer in communication with the Chicago Imperium and therefore cannot honor her request. Georges mentions the winning lottery ticket. The manager, Chambers, begins to sputter when Georges requests the address of the nearest American Express office. Friday says they will redeem her winning ticket. Chambers turns Friday over to his Boss. The Boss eventually issues Friday new credit that can be paid out in gold.

In Chapter 17, Friday and Georges arrive in Vicksburg. Friday compares the city to ancient Gaul. Vicksburg is referred to as a lusty, evil place where the police refuse to go at night.

Friday reads Opportunity Ads and is surprised that anything goes.

The assassins strike again, ten days after the first attack. It is unclear if the attack was launched by the Council for Survival, the Stimulators, or the Angels of the Lord. There is no news from the Chicago Imperium or the California Confederacy.

Friday joins a military operation known as Rachel's Raiders. Friday plans to resign her post shortly before arriving in the Chicago Imperium.

In Chapter 18, Friday is aboard the excursion boat Skip to M'Lou. The boat prepares to enter into the Chicago Imperium. When the boat gets near the Boss headquarters Friday plans to resign from Rachel's Raiders. Hopefully this will occur before they see any action.



Friday manages to get off the boat shortly before it explodes. She attempts to swim to shore and lands in Arkansas. Friday is taken in by the Hunter family. In return for their hospitality Friday is asked to pay it forward. Friday eventually gets to St. Louis and attempts to call the Boss. Friday is unable to contact the Boss. She remains in the underground. The Boss has a new underground headquarters but its location is unknown to Friday. Friday tries to reassure herself that nothing could possibly happen to the Boss. After a short while in the Imperium Friday realizes that she must get out before being stopped by the Imperial police.

In Chapter 19, Friday arranges for and purchases a new identity as Hannah Jensen.

Friday plans to cut through the fence on the border to going to Canada. Friday manages to ward off Imperial police as well as a man posing as a worker. Friday manages to get through the border into the other side. She regrets leaving behind her jumpbag on the ship.

Friday watches as the man is taken away by the police. Friday decides that she needs to see Janet and plans to return to Stonewall. Friday makes her way back to the compound and finds the escape hatch. Friday learns that Ian and Janet are not at home.

She falls asleep on the concrete floor.

In Chapter 20, Friday wakes up in a tunnel. She makes her way into the Hole and begins looking for a hidden switch. She attempts to determine where Janet may have put the switch. Friday finds the switch and prepares to settle into the hidden room.

The Council for Survival promises a third round of killings approximately ten days from the last attack. The Stimulators issue a matching statement and condemns the Council for Survival. The Angels of the Lord do not make a statement.

"Again I had tentative conclusions, shaky ones: the Stimulators were a dummy organization, all propaganda, no field operatives. The Angels of the Lord were dead and/or on the run. The Council for Survival has extremely wealthy backing willing to pay for more unprofessional stooges to be sacrificed and mostly futile attempts - but that was merely a guess, to be dropped in a hurry if the third round of attacks turned out to be efficient and professional - which I did not expect, but I have a long record for being wrong." Chapter 20, p. 194

Friday leaves a note for Janet telling her about the charges placed on the Visa card and which clothes she had taken.

Friday boards a capsule for Vancouver. On the shuttle she meets a man named Trevor Andrews. Friday is unable to shake the man but makes it clear that she is not interested in being picked up. Regardless, the pair has dinner together and spends the night together sleeping in a hotel room.



Friday learns that Janet's credit card has been invalidated. Friday is unable to reach Ian, Janet or Georges. Friday begins to panic when she cannot reach Betty or Freddie. Friday believes that maybe the Boss had sent word her through the family in Christchurch. Friday calls Brian. Friday learns that she had supposedly extorted money from the family and has in effect destroyed them. Friday suspects that Anita had forged her name. Friday learns about the various situations of family members. Brian tells Friday not to call him again.

Friday receives a note from Trevor apologizing for running away. Trevor confesses to being an AP and wishes that Friday was one as well.

Chapters 15-20 Analysis

Friday's world begins to fall apart. She and Georges have parted ways. Due to the unstable state of communications and worldwide panic, Friday is unable to reach anyone including Ian, Janet, Betty, Freddie, Goldie, Anna or the Boss. Friday must live by her wits and try to figure out what to do. Even with Janet's information on hand, there is a good chance that Friday could be captured by the Imperial police. Friday is devastated when she returns to headquarters to find it is empty and the farm has been burned to the ground.

Friday decides that the safest and smartest place for her to go is the compound in Stonewall.



Chapters 21-25

Chapters 21-25 Summary

In Chapter 21, Friday calls the Boss' bank and manages to talk to a human being. Friday gets an appointment with a law firm in the credit card building. She is picked up by Goldie in a taxicab. Goldie tells Friday that she has been reported dead. Friday is taken to the Boss' office. The Boss chastises Friday for taking so long to get to him. The Boss finally admits that it was his fault.

Friday learns that the Boss has been keeping track of her through various contacts including Anita and Brian. Janet and Ian were about to be arrested when the Boss stepped in to help them escape. Ian's fingerprints were found in the police APV that crashed near Fargo. Friday admits to killing Lt. Dickey.

The Boss tells Friday that she is scheduled to go in for training to enter into her true profession.

In Chapter 22, Friday whiles away most of her time in California until it is time to go to school. Friday's teacher is the head librarian Professor Perry. The professor is very busy and tells Friday to familiarize herself with the equipment until they learn the plan regarding her training.

Until Friday learns what she is supposed to be studying she reads about King Louis XI and politics of 15th century France. It takes a month before Friday realizes the Boss is training her to become the World's Greatest Authority.

The next day Friday is summoned to the Boss' office. They have a lengthy discussion on the plague, rats and fleas. The Boss tells Friday he believes she should relocate, that the Earth is no place for her. The Boss gives Friday two assignments: to study the Shipstone corporate complex and to learn how to spot a sick culture.

In Chapter 23, Friday learns about the Shipstone corporate complex. Goldie stops by to tell Friday it is time to eat. The Boss has limited Friday's work time to 40 hours per week. Goldie tells Friday that the Boss is in constant pain and if he is rude it is simply the pain talking. Goldie estimates that the Boss is over 100 years old.

Friday learns that the Shipstone companies are guilty of two things: supplying energy to people and undercutting their competitors: declined to share their secrets of the final assembly stage of their company. Friday learns that the Shipstone complex is actually one company, not 28 separate companies. The directors of the Shipstone complex control everything of major importance in the territorial nations. Shipstone is a planet wide government.

In Chapter 24, Anna makes an announcement the following morning that the chairman has died. The body has been cremated and there is no scheduled memorial service.



There will be a company meeting to wind up the affairs. Friday learns that the Boss' name is Dr. Baldwin. It is announced that the employees will hire out with some other company. Friday wonders if she is broke and if she has to go to work for someone else. There is an argument between Friday and one of the organizers when it is demanded that Friday turnover her California credit card. Friday storms off. Goldie tells Friday that they are leaving and not to contract with any of the employer's on-site.

Friday reads a letter left to her by the Boss. The documents Friday has received are legitimate. Friday is Dr. Baldwin's foster daughter.

Friday learns about her genetic parents, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Green. The Boss also tells Friday he has named her in his will that that it will not make her rich. Friday also learns that Anna, Goldie, and Bert have been named in the will. Anna announces that she will go to Alabama and retire with her daughter and grandchildren.

In Chapter 25, the group arrives in Las Vegas. Friday learns that she must pay income tax on her lottery winnings. Bert offers to help with this issue.

Friday begins to feel desperate to contact Janet. Friday also learns how much she had relied on the Boss.

The job search begins. Friday also asks Goldie to marry her.

Chapters 21-25 Analysis

There is hope for Friday when Goldie picks her up in a taxi. Friday learns that the Boss has known where she was all along, even after she was reported to be dead after the explosion on the Skip to M'Lou. Friday is baffled at this information.

Friday is relieved to see the Boss but is also concerned for his declining health. Friday sees Boss as being all knowing and invincible - one of the few people she can always rely on in times of crisis. Boss is an old man. No one is quite sure how old but Anna says she believes he is over 100 years old. In the beginning of the story, Baldwin walks with two canes, garnering him the moniker Two-Canes. He is also referred to as Kettle-Belly by colleagues and others in the profession. As the story progresses, Baldwin becomes ill and is in constant pain. When Friday meets him in California, Boss is in a wheelchair. Friday learns that the Boss is declining fast and is in constant pain. Shortly thereafter, Boss dies.

Friday is left on her own again, this time without a job. Friday realizes that she most likely has to find a job, especially because she is unsure if she can access her bank accounts. Friday, Goldie, Anna and Burt leave the headquarters without securing one of the offered jobs. The group makes individual plans and heads to Las Vegas.



Chapters 26-29

Chapters 26-29 Summary

In Chapter 26, Anna and Burt get married. Friday "sort of marries" Goldie and they move into a crackerbox. For the first time in Friday's life she becomes a homeowner and a housewife. Goldie gets cold for a job. Friday continues to try to reach Georges, Ian, Janet, Betty and Freddie but is unsuccessful.

Friday continues to look for work realizing that she will not be able to live in Las Vegas long before she goes broke.

Friday continues to look for work and considers a dangerous position that promises could pay. When Friday returns home she receives a note from Goldie saying that she is gone to Texas to accept a job with a former Boss. Goldie asks Friday to join her but says she will understand if she must stay behind and look for her Canadian friends.

In Chapter 27, Friday goes to hyperspace lines and asks for a job as master at arms, unarmed. The man in charge laughs at Friday. The man is not impressed by Friday's credentials.

Friday realizes that she must leave Las Vegas and go to look for a job. Friday finds some money and gets information about Ian who has supposedly resigned. The only forwarding address Friday has for Ian is Freddie's address in Sydney. When Friday reaches someone at the University she learns that Freddie is also gone.

Friday receives a call from Hyperspace with an offer of a job as a courier. Friday insists on receiving a fee and airfare for the job interview.

In Chapter 28, Friday arrives at Finders Inc. The receptionist gives Friday over time but eventually Friday gets in to see Mr. Mosby. Mosby asks Friday about Dr. Baldwin as a test. Friday works hard to control her temper. Mosby knows about the navel pouch and asks to see it. Friday agrees.

On the way to a lunch meeting Friday learns that the trip is from Earth to the Realm. The round trip will take four months.

Four days later, Friday assumes her new identity as Ms. Marjorie Friday, a woman who is offensively rich.

In Chapter 29, Friday discusses the ship and admits that she has no idea how a hyperspace ship works although she find it to be a very interesting place.

Included is some technical information about various points in the galaxy.



Friday realizes that Mac has been following her and let him know that she recognizes him as being the man that raped her. Mac is surprised that Friday had been tortured. Mac also claims to be a double agent. Friday also learns that Franklin Mosby works for Shipstone. Friday asks Mac a series of questions telling him that he knows his life depends upon the answers. Friday learns that Mac goes by the name Pete.

Chapters 26-29 Analysis

Friday finds it difficult to find a job for which she is suited and that will pay her what she is worth. There is a scene at Hyperspace/Finders, Inc. that leads Friday to believe that the boss is a misogynist and that there is no job for her at that location. It is either by chance or by design that Friday ends up accepting a job. It is not clear why Mosby, knowing so much about Friday and having been order to hire her, give Friday such a hard time and almost loses her.

Friday is mislead about her latest assignment which will take four months to complete.



Chapters 30-33

Chapters 30-33 Summary

In Chapter 30, Friday discusses the Outpost, a cold place that has an atmosphere much like a G8 star.

Friday feels sick and is surprised although she is not immune to motion sickness. Friday tells herself that she will not let sickness keep her from seeing Outpost.

Friday asks to see her friend Jerry Madsen the junior ship surgeon. Jerry worries about giving Friday medication in case she might be pregnant. Friday assures Jerry that she isn't pregnant. The next day Jerry calls Friday to tell her that she is pregnant. Friday is stunned. Friday realizes that she has been implanted. Friday wonders why they didn't ask her to be a host of mother. It becomes clear to Friday that she is carrying the child that should be had by the Dauphiness. The women would be in the same hospital at the same time where the switch would be made. Friday believe that after she gives birth she will disappear.

In Chapter 31, Friday recalls several political assassinations including the ones involving JFK and Huey Long. Friday things about the first citizen who managed to take the throne over untold dead bodies; the sun is even more ruthless than the father. Friday does not expect to be thanked for her contribution to his posterity.

Friday things about who we she might escape. Friday thinks about notifying the captain but then realizes that the captain is most likely in the know. Friday realizes that she is on her own.

Friday confronts her made about her true identity and arranges for them to eat in the state room where they can talk. Friday tells Tilley that she will be leaving the ship at Botany Bay. Friday tells Tilly that she is going to help her escape and that Friday will pay her. The two women make plans. Tilly says she may attempt to escape and meet Friday at Botany Bay.

In Chapter 32, at 2 a.m., Friday begins her breakout. Friday runs into Mac/Pete and knocks him out, laying him on deck. Friday carries Pete into the cargo hold. Friday ties Pete and prepares to gag him when he speaks. Pete tells Friday that it was suspected she would attempt to jump ship at this point. Friday learns that Pete is also an AP.

The next morning Friday and Pete discuss plans. The only plan Friday had is to run out when the cargo door opens knowing that she will not be injured. Pete suggests that they lump themselves and with the immigrants.

In the cargo hold Friday spots Janet. The group of friends is reunited. Once down the ramp Friday runs. Pete and Tilly catch up and the three make their getaway. The group ends up at a farmhouse where they are taken in by some locals.



In Chapter 33, it is 20 years later. Friday says it has been 20 good years. After Friday's escape she became useless to the First Citizen and the Dauphiness, who were eventually assassinated. Friday says that perhaps her memoir should end here because she has been boring since landing on Botany Bay. She has been a country housewife.

Several issues are cleared up including the fact that Janet and Ian thought that Friday was dead when the Skip to M' Lou exploded. Georges says it was a coincidence that they all ended up on the Forward having had booked passage on another ship.

The eight people in the group have married, had children and live in one large rambling house. Technically Friday is married to Pete. Friday gave birth to a daughter named Wendy. No one ever questions paternity and Friday lets other people believe that Pete is Wendy's father. Wendy announced her first pregnancy at age 14, followed by another pregnancy at 16, 18, and 20. Wendy got married at age 20.

Friday thinks about her life and how she finally belongs. Friday believes that everybody wants to belong.

Chapters 30-33 Analysis

Friday's new assignment places her in even more jeopardy. It becomes clear that others are in on the plan when Jerry asks Friday if she is pregnant and the captain keeps a close eye on her. Friday also deduces that Tilly is not a maid, but an agent. This is confirmed by Mac/Pete.

It is odd that Friday would speak with and spend time with Mac/Pete knowing that he was one of the men that raped her in Chicago. As an AP, however, this seems to be par for the course and no long term grudges are held although Friday mentions it often.

Friday also deduces that the plot involving her and the mission to Kenya involved impregnating her with the First Citizen's child. The FC's wife, the Dauphiness is infertile and so they need a surrogate. Friday knows she will be assassinated once the child is born and must escape.

The reunion with her friends seems more than coincidental for Friday but she is thrilled that the group has been reunited. After completing the escape plan - which again seems too easy, the group lives happily ever after.

Characters

Friday

The main character in "Friday" by Robert Heinlein is an Artificial Person named Friday. Friday is also known as Marjorie Baldwin to those outside her profession.

Friday is not human. Instead, she has been created from a test tube experiment in a lab known as a crèche. Friday appears human but has many skills and abilities not possessed by humans. Friday is immune to most disease and can regenerate herself given time. This is seen when Friday is injured after being tortured in Chicago when she returns from Kenya. Friday is also able to store vast amounts of data, which is why the Boss chooses her to become the World's Greatest Authority. Friday also possesses great strength, speed, and dexterity. All of these things are vital to her job as courier for Systems Enterprises and beyond.

Few people know that Friday is an AP. It is kept secret because many people do not approve of the work done by geneticists. While APs can feel some emotions, they can also be sociopathic. Friday is ousted by her family in Christchurch when they discover that she is an AP.

Dr. Hartley Baldwin

Dr. Hartley Baldwin is the head of Systems Enterprises, an underground organization for which Friday works. Friday and Dr. Baldwin are very close, despite the fact that Friday does not learn his true identity until his death. After Boss dies, Friday learns his name and also learns that he is her foster father and perhaps in some way, responsible for her creation.

Friday sees Boss as being omniscient and invincible - one of the few people she can always rely on in times of crisis.

Boss is an old man. No one is quite sure how old but Anna says she believes he is over 100 years old. In the beginning of the story, Baldwin walks with two canes, garnering him the moniker Two-Canes. He is also referred to as Kettle-Belly by colleagues and others in the profession. As the story progresses, Baldwin becomes ill and is in constant pain. When Friday meets him in California, Boss is in a wheelchair. Friday learns that the Boss is declining fast and is in constant pain. Shortly thereafter, Boss dies.

Captain Ian Tormey

Captain Ian Tormey is the pilot that navigates Friday's shuttle to and from Auckland. The pair become fast friends and eventually become part of the same family.



Janet Tormey

Janet is Ian's wife. She is very motherly to Friday and becomes an integral part in Friday's life.

Georges Perreault

Georges is also married to Janet. Georges is an artist and geneticist who is eager to work with Friday.

Mac/Pete

Mac/Pete is the name of the man who was hired to kidnap Friday at the Chicago Imperium. Mac/Pete is a double agent that eventually becomes Friday's husband.

Tilly

Matilda "Tilly" Jackson is an agent hired to pose as Friday's maid. She becomes part of Friday's family.

Anna

Anna is one of the people employed by the boss. She escapes with Friday and Goldie.

Goldie

Goldie is the nurse that cares for Friday upon her return from Kenya. Goldie and Friday eventually marry.

Betty

Betty is Ian's free wheeling sister from Sydney.



Objects/Places

Tormey House in Stonewall

The setting of "Friday" takes place in many different areas including Chicago, Stonewall, Los Angeles, Botany Bay, and Auckland. The house in Stonewall may be the most important since it is the home of Ian and Janet Tormey and Georges Perreault. It is one of the few places where Friday/Marjorie is the safest and feels the most loved until she finally relocates permanently to Botany Bay.

Marjorie is taken to the house by Ian and Janet after leaving Auckland and landing in Winnipeg. Marjorie is enthralled by the house and its beauty. Janet admits to being the compound's architect. Ian is the resident gadget master and Georges is an artist in many ways. The compound is secure with great stone walls and heavy security measures. Marjorie is happy to see that the compound has its share of animals including horses and cats. Marjorie bonds with the cats immediately.

Janet gives Marjorie a tour of the house and its lavish yet practical rooms. Marjorie is permitted to share a bedroom with whomever she chooses or she can sleep alone.

After learning that the Chairman of the Chicago Imperium has been murdered and civil disorder has been launched across the globe, Janet tells Marjorie that they are prepared for such an event. Janet shows Marjorie "the Hole," a tunnel placed under the bath in Janet's room. The Hole leads to a room designed to house three people in case of civil disorder. The room can support three people for up to three months. There is also an escape hatch leading to the outside.

Marjorie and Georges decide to leave Stonewall to get to a safer zone. Marjorie ends up returning to Stonewall after a few near misses only to find that Ian and Janet are gone.

Christchurch, New Zealand

Christchurch, New Zealand is the home to Friday's S-Group family, the Davidson Family Group. Friday spends as much time as possible in Christchurch when she is not on a mission. According to Friday Christchurch is the most beautiful city on the globe. Friday compares Christchurch with many other cities including Paris, San Francisco, and Rio. Friday also compares Christchurch to off planet cities.

Eventually, Friday is ousted from the family and sent away from Christchurch, never to return.



Auckland, New Zealand

Auckland is a frequent port of call for Friday, especially when she visits her S-Group family.

Kenya

The story begins in Kenya where Friday is sent on a mission.

Chicago Imperium

The Chicago Imperium is the home to the Boss and the underground network known as System Enterprises.

System Enterprises

System Enterprises is a worldwide underground organization for which Friday works. It is operated by Dr. Hartley Baldwin.

Council for Survival/Stimulators

The Council for Survival is the name of the group that has promised to assassinate corrupt world leaders.

Botany Bay

Botany Bay is the name of the space colony where Friday makes her escape.

California

California is the new home to the Boss' organization, until his death.

Luna City

Luna City is the native region for the Boss as well as Friday's "biological" parents.



Themes

Artificial Persons

Friday is not human. Instead, she has been created from a test tube experiment in a lab known as a crèche. Friday appears human but has many skills and abilities that are not possessed by humans. Friday is immune to most diseases and can regenerate herself given enough time. This vital ability becomes apparent when Friday is injured after being tortured in Chicago when she returns from Kenya. Friday is also able to store vast amounts of data, which is why the Boss chooses her to become the World's Greatest Authority. Friday also possesses great strength, speed, and dexterity. All of these things are vital to her job as courier for Systems Enterprises and beyond.

Few people know that Friday is an AP. It is kept secret because many people do not approve of the work done by geneticists. While APs can feel some emotions, they are in many ways sociopathic. Friday is ousted by her family in Christchurch when it is learned that she is an AP. Georges, however, appreciates Friday's position. Janet explains that Georges is a Mendel Professor of Teratology at the University of Manitoba as well as being the Chief Tech of Associate Production Lab and Creche. Georges is also an Associate Professor of Gene Manipulation. This allows Georges to understand Friday better than any human can.

When the civil disorder begins, APs are considered to be fugitives by many. There is a special decree to stop the manufacture of Artificial Persons. Currently existing Artificial Persons will be permitted to work but most remain indoors at all other times. Friday is on the run. She is determined to find a safe place to live.

World Government

The world government has drastically changed in this novel. There are no longer countries as they exist in the world today. Rather, they are territorial states. Canada and Mexico remain as they are in modern times but the United States is separated into different territories. Most notable is the California Confederacy. There is a territory known as the Chicago Imperium which houses the headquarters for Systems Enterprises, Friday's employer.

Friday spends a great deal of time in the Chicago Imperium when she is not working. Friday also has a home in the the first part of the novel in Christchurch, New Zealand. Friday also spends time in Canada at the compound owned by Ian and Janet Tormey. There is a discussion on how the British Canadians uphold their idea of government.

Much of the world exists in a fascist state. It is commented that while the Council for Survival and the Stimulators and like groups wish to target corrupt world leaders, someone should be focused on the multinational corporations. It is, however, much harder to assassinate a corporation than it is a person.



Council for Survival/Stimulators

The Council for Survival is the name of the group that has promised to assassinate corrupt world leaders. It is at times unclear which activities are laid out by the council and which are issued by the Stimulators, a similar group. Both claim to have benign and nonviolent plans for ridding the world of corruption by assassinating leaders responsible. There are temporary bans on travel and police are everywhere, rounding up those in breach of the new emergency decrees.

During one news broadcast at the beginning of the civil disorder, a spokesman for the Stimulators discusses the fact that there are many imposters posing as members of their organization. The spokesman states that they are not responsible for riots or any other atrocities. Because of these imposters the Stimulators will interrupt communications but will restore them as soon as conditions permit. The spokesman states that they have been forced to change their essentially benign plan.

The spokesman lays out a list of emergency decrees. The first emergency decree: Members representing themselves as Angels of the Lord will be sentenced to death. Citizens are required to perform a citizen's arrest on any of these people and turn them over to police. The second decree involves falsely representing a stimulator. Falsely claiming actions carried out by Stimulators is punishable by death. There is also a reform program for world leaders which includes an immediate reform on wages, prices, and rent. All mortgages are canceled. Interest will be at a fixed rate. Healthcare will be nationalized. There is a special decree to stop the manufacture of Artificial Persons. Currently, existing Artificial Persons will be permitted to work but most remain indoors at all other times.

Style

Point of View

"Friday" by Robert Heinlein is written in the first-person point of view, through the eyes of the main character, Friday. The use of the first-person perspective in the story works well in that the reader is able to understand the modern world through the eyes of a courier and savvy citizen. The reader is taken on a journey along with Friday and is enabled to see inside the mind of this unusual warrior and Artificial Person as she wends through a complicated case of politics, murder, and betrayal.

The main character, Friday, goes by several different names including Marjorie (Friday) Baldwin and Friday Jones among others. Marjorie is the name Friday tends to use in personal and non-work related situations until later in the story. All in all, Friday's personality remains the same while using different monikers.

The use of the first-person perspective makes the story seem slightly less fantastic to the point that the reader can grasp what the future might be like if the world was run by a group of secret societies and have become territorial states rather than countries.

While the third-person and omniscient perspective may have enabled the reader to get a broader view of the life of an AP, as well as the inner workings of the government and underground, the use of the first-person perspective lends an air of authenticity to the story and allows the character of Friday to become real.

Setting

The setting of "Friday" takes place in many different areas including Chicago, Stonewall, Los Angeles, Botany Bay, and Auckland. The house in Stonewall may be the most important since it is the home of Ian and Janet Tormey and Georges Perreault. It is one of the few places where Friday/Marjorie is the safest and feels the most loved until she finally relocates permanently to Botany Bay.

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prepared for such an event. Janet shows Marjorie "the Hole," a tunnel placed under the bath in Janet's room. The Hole leads to a room designed to house three people in case of civil disorder. The room can support three people for up to three months. There is also an escape hatch leading to the outside.

Marjorie and Georges decide to leave Stonewall to get to a safer zone. Marjorie ends up returning to Stonewall after a few near misses only to find that Ian and Janet are gone.

Language and Meaning

The language used in "Friday" tends to be relatively informal and relies a great deal on dialogue between the characters.

It is clear by the use of specific language regarding weapons that Anita is a professional courier and worker for an underground network. Friday is a world and off planet traveler that has been trained in many areas. There are many references to many techniques used for carrying sensitive information and protection of oneself used throughout the course of the work day. It should be noted that Friday does not use weapons.

The language used by Friday and the other characters is very descriptive and is used in such a way that the person she is speaking to can fully understand the meaning and context of what is being said. However, there are many instances in which the person speaking makes regional references of which the reader may have no knowledge, particularly when talking with the Australians. It is never made clear, for example, if a "honker" is a telephone/video link or a television. There are also many references to items that take place in the future that may be somewhat confusing to the reader.

Structure

"Friday" by Robert Heinlein is a work of fiction. The book is 357 pages in length and is comprised of 33 chapters. The shortest chapter is 6 pages in length; the longest chapter is 19 pages in length. The average length of a chapter is 11 pages.

The book is written in chronological order through the eyes of the main character, Marjorie Friday Baldwin. Friday is the woman's professional name; Marjorie Baldwin is a name Friday uses in personal relationships.

"Friday" begins with Friday being tailed during an operation in Kenya. Friday kills the man shadowing her. Friday has a few near misses on her way back to her Boss' headquarters in the Chicago Imperium. Friday learns that she has been part of a bigger and more complicated ruse than she was led to believe. This is not unusual.

Friday insists on having time off after this last grueling assignment. Friday returns to her S-Group family in Christchurch, New Zealand. Friday's experiences with her family are recounted. The relationship lasts for many years until it is learned that Friday is not human but rather an Artificial Person. Friday is ousted from the family.

On her journey Friday meets Captain Ian Tormey. Friday goes with Tormey to his home in Stonewall, Canada. While in residence, the group learns that civil disorder has occurred and Friday is now in jeopardy. Friday must make her way to safety in anyway she can. Friday manages to escape Earth and to live out her days with a family of her choosing on a space colony.



Quotes

"So I had been edgy even before I left the shuttle from Ell-Five at Stationary Station to board the beanstalk capsule...But, damn it, being edgy isn't reason to kill a man" (Chapter 1, p. 1).

"I looked back at Boss. He was a welcome sight. Same old unstylish eyepatch - why wouldn't he take time to have that I regenerated" (Chapter 3, p. 17).

"Friday, one of your weaknesses is that you lack appropriate conceit. An honorable hatchet man does not kill by reflex: he kills by planned intent" (Chapter 4, p. 28).

"At that point he could adjourn it with no hurt feelings or he could elect to invest in goodwill against a possible future encounter. He chose the latter" (Chapter 5, p. 39).

"I was a combat courier in a quasi-military organization" (Chapter 6, p. 47).

"Presently freefall went away and we entered the incredibly thrilling sensations hypersonic glide" (Chapter 9, p. 78).

"After a while I was just as busy showing them how happy I was to be home, the unwelcome interruption forgotten" (Chapter 6, p. 54).

"Special decree; the manufacture of pseudo-people will stop at once. Also called artificial people and or living artifacts withhold themselves ready to surrender to the nearest reform authority when notified" (Chapter 11, p. 104).

"The recruits were all supposed to be veterans...But I was certain that some of them were farm girls run away from home and in some cases about 15 years old" (Chapter 18, p. 173).

"At one time there really was a man known as "the world's greatest authority." I ran across him in trying to nail down one of the many silly questions I kept coming at me from an odd source" (Chapter 22, p. 223).

"I thought about it. A requirement that I prove my identity was not unreasonable. Fingerprint identification is a joke, at least inside the profession" (Chapter 28, p. 294).

"Wildcat that you are, it is already been proved that one man can grab you and hold you: we both know that" (Chapter 32, p. 346).

Topics for Discussion

List three main differences between a human and an Artificial Person. Also discuss the difference between an AP and a Living Artifact.

Describe Friday's personality. How does it affect her job? How does it affect her personal relationships?

What is Friday's relationship to Dr. Baldwin?

Discuss the relationship between Friday, Ian, Janet, and Georges.

Why would anyone will ever go looking for Friday on Botany Bay?

Why was Friday implanted with the First Citizen's child? Who was behind the plot?

What became of the Council for Survival, the Stimulators and the Angels of the Lord?