

The Robots of Dawn Study Guide

The Robots of Dawn by Isaac Asimov

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Plot Summary

The Robots of Dawn completes a trilogy of detective novels set a thousand years in the future in which an Earth police detective, Elijah Baley, works with a humaniform robot, R. Daneel Olivaw, to solve bizarre murders. Here they work on the planet Aurora and determine that a second humaniform robot, R. Jander Panell, has been killed to prevent Earth from being frozen out of Galactic colonization.

The Robots of Dawn by Isaac Asimov is a futuristic detective novel in which Earth plainclothesman Elijah Baley is recruited to investigate a murder on Aurora. The mission is politically touchy and likely to fail. He is happily reunited with a former partner, the humaniform R. Daneel Olivaw. They are joined by the primitive-looking but in fact telepathic robot, R. Giskard Reventlov, whose abilities are easily overlooked. Baley's intense fear of being Outside erupts throughout the mission, complicating his activities.

On Aurora, Baley deposes a series of people about how the humaniform robot R. Jander Panell's positronic brain might have failed permanently. The only person technically capable of the crime is his creator, who vehemently denies involvement. He insists that it is a chance occurrence, despite the astronomical odds against it. Dr. Han Fastolfe, who has also summoned Baley to the planet, has powerful political enemies, who are pushing the Legislature to abort the investigation. Among the interviewees is Gladia, a woman whom Baley has defended on murder charges in an earlier novel. She is Jander's owner at the time of his demise and reluctantly admits to their being married (against taboo). Gladia's physical resemblance to Fastolfe's estranged daughter Vasilisa complicates matters and suggests possible additional culprits, as Baley picks at straws.

After he interviews Fastolfe's rival, Dr. Amadiro, Baley is stranded in the woods in a sabotaged vehicle and comes to the realization that Daneel could be the key to Amadiro's learning the secret behind humaniform robots. Rescued, Baley enjoys sex with Gladia and while falling asleep utters the subconscious words that break the case. Gladia helps him remember. Baley testifies before the Chairman of the Legislature, suggesting that Amadiro has motive, opportunity, and means. Before returning to Earth, Baley and Gladia share a touching farewell, and Giskard reveals that he reads and influences minds. He has been subtly behind everything, and is convinced that Earth humans are capable of forming a Galactic Empire.



Chapter 1, Elijah (Parts 1-5)

Chapter 1, Elijah (Parts 1-5) Summary

Plainclothesman Elijah Baley leads an Outside work party, preparing to colonize another world. He needs permission to visit the world Aurora for authorization and technical backing. A police robot fetches him to Police Headquarters in (Part 2) the center of the climate controlled City reached via the Expressway, avoiding anti-robot gangs. In Part 3 Baley is warned by the Commissioner that the fame he has gained through a hyperwave drama about his triumph on Solaria will not save him if he fails in the sensitive mission ahead. In Part 4, Lavina Demacheck says that Baley has been invited to help a prominent, moderate politician on Aurora disprove a murder accusation. The chances of success are tiny but this alone can salvage Earth's relations with the Spacer worlds. In Part 5, son Ben goes with Baley to the Spaceport. The family does not know the slim chance of Baley's coming back except in disgrace—if at all.

Chapter 1, Elijah (Parts 1-5) Analysis

Part 1 establishes that Elijah Baley is preparing himself for a trip to the Spacing world Aurora to obtain permission and technical assistance to lead a colonization mission to another planet. His teenage son Bentley (Ben) is training to accompany him. Much of the training consists of overcoming acute agoraphobia, understood here as a disabling fear of being Outside the domed City, which in normal definitions would be the teeming place that would set off the condition. Baley has been away from Earth before and has endured the physical and psychological difficulties. Others under his command are acclimatizing to life Outside (always capitalized). The trainees are less efficient than robots, but are learning necessary skills. It is clear that humans on Earth have a profound prejudice against robots and those who use them take great care not to antagonize the general public.

Baley compares R. Geronimo, the somewhat-humaniform robot sent to fetch him back to Headquarters with the fully humaniform R. Daneel Olivaw, with whom he has twice partnered on police work in the past. Daneel will be directly introduced in the next chapter. Geronimo grows mentally blocked when Baley's order to return alone conflicts with Geronimo's original order. The possibility and means of such blockage forms a major theme, involving Isaac Asimov's famous Three Laws of Robotics, which begin to be laid out.

Ben jokes about his father's advanced age (45) and parrots his mother's concern that Baley wants primarily to go to Aurora to rekindle a relationship with a woman, Gladia, whom he meets on Solaria on his last mission away from Earth. Baley denies it. In fact, they will come together romantically later in the novel. Note Baley's preoccupation with clouds and rain on this excursion Outside. They play a major role in the book's climax on Aurora.



Part 2 strengthens the feeling of popular hostility towards robots as Baley and R. Geronimo make their way to Headquarters. Roving gangs of teens appear often to attack robots, who are forbidden to ride the Expressway unless escorted by a human. The carefully controlled atmosphere inside the City is described in considerable detail as is the transportation system, which resembles a series of parallel moving sidewalks whose fastest sections reach highway speed. Baley is said to be a master of the system and hops from strip to strip without difficulty. Surprisingly, the robot does likewise.

Part 3 brings Baley to Police Headquarters and introduces his boss, with whom he shares a strong mutual dislike. Baley's role in the investigations that form the heart of the first two novels in the trilogy are summarized in a paragraph and the fact that his mission to Solaria has been made into a popular hyperwave dramatization is established. It has made Baley a household word throughout the inhabited Universe, much to his chagrin, for the actor who portrays him does not resemble him facially while playing him unnaturally as a superhuman sleuth. Baley is haunted by the drama throughout the novel. It has poisoned relations with his fellow police officers. The Commissioner observes that Baley has done nothing of note in years and warns that his reputation will not save him if he fails in the delicate assignment that he is about to be given.

Part 4 details the mission through a high official from the Terrestrial Department of Justice. Lavina Demacheck paints a depressing view of Earth-Aurora relations and the predicament of a rising political figure whom Baley has met once and to whom he has been petitioning for permission to visit Aurora and present his case in person. Note that Dr. Han Fastolfe's name is introduced not as a most prominent roboticist but as a politician, perhaps even a future Chairman of the Legislature. This mention and job description prepare the way for the crucial semi-judicial hearing at the end of the book.

Demacheck is subtle, baiting Baley by suggesting that only if he can prove Fastolfe innocent of murdering a humaniform robot will he be able to broach the subject of colonization. Note that Demacheck's failure to name the murdered robot panics Baley into assuming that it is Daneel, showing the depth of their relationship. Demacheck emphasizes that she does not understand Auroran society and doubts if Baley can succeed. If he does not try, however, the worst consequences will follow without challenge. She has him cornered and he can only submit. Pessimism follows Baley throughout the mission.

Part 5 ends the first chapter, with Ben seeing his father off at the Spaceport. It is desolate and largely limited to commercial traffic. Allusions to Baley's role in alleviating a crisis at the facility years ago are made, as well as to his mission to Solaria. Ben reiterates his mother's fear that Baley intends to resume his relationship with Gladia, reinforcing the reader's certitude that this will happen. Ben also asks why people pay him so little respect. Baley again blames the drama, now mentioned for the fourth time, reinforcing its critical importance, at least in Baley's mind. Note that Baley carries no luggage and explains that his clothing will be incinerated and his body disinfected before he is allowed to board the ship. Spacers' obsession with germs will be stressed throughout the novel.



Chapter 2, Daneel (Parts 6-8)

Chapter 2, Daneel (Parts 6-8) Summary

In Part 6 Baley boards a comfortable Auroran spaceship but is kept locked in isolation, attended by a primitive robot, R. Giskard Reventlov. In Part 7, he is joyfully reunited with his former partner, R. Daneel Olivaw, who advises him on proper etiquette vis-a-vis robots and explains how Spacer robots are better able to deal with conflicts among the Three Laws of Robotics than Earth models. It is hard to imagine one freezing up as has apparently happened to R. Jander Panell, whose inventor, Dr. Han Fastolfe, claims to be the only person capable of the crime but denies doing it. In Part 8, Baley studies book-films about Aurora and learns that robots are more important and accepted there than on Earth and humans live far longer, which lowers their need to cooperate with one another. A Jump hyperspace brings them to Aurora.

Chapter 2, Daneel (Parts 6-8) Analysis

Part 6 describes the spaceship that conveys Baley to Aurora. He takes for granted humiliating procedures required by Spacers to cleanse him of Earth germs. The Spacers' obsessions are described throughout the novel. Touching Earth humans is nearly taboo. Note how dismissive Baley is of R. Giskard Reventlov, the "normal" robot who attends his boarding. Compare this with his joy at reuniting, unexpectedly, with Daneel. Chapter 7 examines how he forgets himself and hugs the humaniform robot, who endures it in order not to violate the First Rule of Robotics: a robot may not harm a human, and making Baley sad would constitute harm. Daneel explains how treating robots condescendingly will harm his mission on Aurora and explains the proper etiquette, including generally dropping the R. prefix to names, designating robot. The supposed equality of humans and robots away from Earth is debated throughout the book. Note that by looking down on Giskard early in the novel, Baley misses the key to his entire investigation until the final pages.

Baley and Daneel discuss the disabling of R. Jander Panell, a humaniform robot. Baley follows an utterly logical line of questioning in order to conform to the robotic mindset. It is unnecessarily plodding for humans, who are capable of greater mental subtlety and abstractness. They debate what the crime (if a crime it is) ought to be called, settling on roboticide. This enables a long semantic debate about characteristics of biological vs. robotic life and the ending thereof. Daneel hints that Baley will run into difficulties because of his ignorance of Auroran customs. The shortcomings of the materials that Baley uses during the flight for self-education are regularly mentioned later in the book; writers in any culture do not dwell on the kinds of everyday things that outsiders do not understand but need to.

Chapter 8 summarizes the flight from Earth to Aurora, the first human-inhabited world outside the solar system, and the nature of the society that Baley is about to confront.



Baley again underestimates Giskard's intelligence as he studies what he considers adolescent-level book-films on history. These help him understand why Aurorans consider themselves nearly a species apart from Earth humans. Aurorans have none of Earth's prejudice against robots, because they are so dependent upon them, and are more independent of fellow humans because their life spans are immensely longer. Both factors will figure in the rest of the story.

Baley had been nervous about the flight, despite having traveled twice into space. He barely notices the Jump to hyperspace. Asimov describes in appropriately awe-filled, mysterious tones the incomprehensible mathematical system that makes possible interplanetary travel. This is much better than the usual assumption of such travel as common place. The chapter ends with Baley frustrated over being banned from the bridge as the ship nears Aurora.



Chapter 3, Giskard (Parts 9-13)

Chapter 3, Giskard (Parts 9-13) Summary

Part 9 Daneel reveals that his—and Giskard's—role includes guarding Baley against those who would capitalize on Jander's murder. Daneel is the only surviving humaniform robot anywhere and Fastolfe refuses to make more. In Part 10 Giskard provides a device to allow Baley to view space from his cabin, but the vivid illusion makes him feel disembodied. Later tries are comfortable. Daneel describes Auroran time measurements, convincing Baley to take nothing for granted on this planet. In Part 11 Baley views Aurora and finds it so Earth-like that it could be a trick. Feeling naked as he watches the ship's plunge toward landing, he panics and cannot call for help shutting off the viewer. In Part 12 Giskard comes to Baley's rescue, faster than Daneel can react. Suspecting that if there is a conspiracy, only Daneel will be a party, Baley seeks confirmation from Giskard that they are landing on Aurora. In Part 13, as Baley bristles at his imprisonment and various possible dangers, the ship lands and they exit through a guarded tube.

Chapter 3, Giskard (Parts 9-13) Analysis

Part 9 resumes Daneel's explanation of why he is sent on this mission: to provide something familiar for Baley during the flight, but also to get him away from Aurora, where forces alien to humaniform robots might seek to destroy him as well. He reveals that Fastolfe, oddly, refuses to make any more; he being the prototype and the late Jander being the only copy. These bald and enigmatic statements will be developed going forward. Daneel vouches for Giskard's abilities and dedication as a guard, and Baley finds himself willing to die defending Daneel's existence, so little does he think of him as merely a robot. One wonders at this point why Baley's attitude towards Daneel so frequently fluctuates.

In Part 10 Baley views space using a recent invention, the astrosimulator, which provides in his cabin a perspective of floating just outside the spaceship. It is similar to trimensional receivers, which are used in the Robots novels as communication devices that display flickering three-dimensional images of the speakers, similar in description to the effects portrayed in the Star Wars Movies. Asimov describes the panicky feeling of disembodiment that comes over Baley. In subsequent attempts to use it, Baley is comfortable and is amazed that his agoraphobia is not triggered.

Daneel explains at length Aurora's astronomical position and details of its orbit and revolution. He notes that only Earth refuses to use the convenient decimal division of the year, day, hour, and minute that is found on all Spacer worlds (differing by local conditions). Baley reflects on how Earth's system evolves from natural cycles and sees the wisdom of a common reference system. Refusal to conform to the galactic standards further isolates Earth's humans. Baley sees that he can take nothing for



granted on Aurora and will have to ask many, pointed questions. Note that Giskard provides the astrosimulator on his own initiative.

Part 11 ends with Baley panicking once again as he observes the spaceship's plunge through Aurora's atmosphere, as a sense of motion returns. Part 12 shows Giskard reacting from outside the cabin more quickly to rescue him than Daneel beside him. Aurora appears so Earth-like to Baley's untrained eye that he suspects they may be landing on Earth and he is caught in a hoax, in which Daneel might be a party. Reasoning that simple Giskard would not be in on it, Baley asks him for confirmation of where they are. The growing signs that Giskard is not just an appliance escape Baley. When Baley bristles at how he is being kept at bay from Aurorans, Daneel tells him that this will continue on the planet's surface. He will, however, meet Fastolfe in person. Baley arrives worried about potential dangers that the robots claim to have under control. It is an unheroic moment, marked by renewed agoraphobia.



Chapter 4, Fastolfe (Parts 14-17)

Chapter 4, Fastolfe (Parts 14-17) Summary

In Part 14, Baley and Fastolfe meet again, each remarking on his society's obsessions and the risks of this mission. Fastolfe whisks him away in a sealed airfoil, guarded by his robots, overreacting to potential danger, and denying that he intends to ruin his career. In Part 15, Fastolfe brings Baley home for lunch and, in Part 16, suggests that they talk over lunch about the roboticide. Fastolfe brags about his unique abilities vis-a-vis positronic brains, but maintains his innocence. His only explanation is that some extremely rare spontaneous event has occurred in Jander's brain. Baley must convince Aurorans that this is feasible. In Part 17, Fastolfe tells a famous tale about how Dr. Susan Calvin burns out a telepathic robot's brain by claiming that even white lies told to humans break the First Law. Modern programming has safeguards, but nothing is 100% sure. When Baley again wonders about his personal safety, Fastolfe hurls a large spicer at him.

Chapter 4, Fastolfe (Parts 14-17) Analysis

Part 14 introduces Fastolfe in person. He has prominent ears that make Baley smile with amusement and wonder why he does not get plastic surgery. As though engaged in tit-for-tat, Fastolfe recalls better the actor that portrays Baley than he does Baley from three years earlier. He promises not to bring it up again. Fastolfe confesses that he shares Spacers' inordinate fear of Earth-human germs and accommodates Baley—and most Earth human's—fear of being Outside by arranging uncovered excursions to be held to a minimum. To fulfill his mission, however, Baley often finds himself Outside through the rest of the novel and is amazed at how well he copes. The two robots form a close guard around Baley, heightening the perceived tension.

Part 15, which begins describing Fastolfe's luxurious home, staffed by 57 robots, and alludes to complex dining ceremonies on Aurora, provides background on the his two key robots: Giskard is his right-hand-man and trusted companion of a lifetime and Daneel is his pride. He and Baley need not mention the murder of Daneel's creator (Fastolfe merely provides the calculations to make him possible) because that is what brings them together three years earlier. It is a painful memory. This explains why their collaboration on Earth, the subject of *The Caves of Steel*, is decidedly downplayed here.

Part 16 continues a descriptive tour of the house, whose decorations, no matter how beautifully executed, seems slightly repellent to Baley. Every room contains recesses—niches—into which robots silently back and stand ready instantly to serve. Auroran food is also unfamiliar but not unpalatable. Fastolfe suggests that they talk over lunch about the roboticide, a neologism that he finds amusing. Fastolfe brags about his unique abilities and maintains his innocence. He would know about any up-and-coming geniuses in the field or experts from other worlds. He assures Baley that no one stands



on his level, including the advanced roboticists on Solaria. The conversation serves to introduce the Solarians' manic fear of personal contact with any form of humans, a factor that comes to bear when Gladia is introduced in Chapter 6. Aurorans limit visits even by fellow Spacers. His only explanation is that some extremely rare spontaneous event has occurred in Jander's brain. Note that Baley requires interviewees to state their already well-understood positions in their own words for the record. The interview with Fastolfe suggests an open and shut case. In the end, this stiff-necked pride, which Fastolfe has in common with his colleagues, proves crucial to the settlement of the case.

Most of Part 17 is given over to Fastolfe's telling of a famous story of Dr. Susan Calvin burning out a telepathic robot's positronic pathways by telling it that no matter what lie it tells a person to avoid hurting her/his feelings, it will break the First Law. Fastolfe. While this seems to resemble Jander's case, Fastolfe notes that modern robots, particularly the humaniform ones, have special programming to prevent such conflicts. Still, nothing can be 100% sure, so a spontaneous failure, analogous to a human stroke, is possible. He has gotten Baley invited to Aurora to convince people that this is feasible. Baley wonders if his being murdered might suggest a conspiracy against this being proven and exonerate Fastolfe. Seizing a large spicer whose use, dispensing condiments, he describes and demonstrates in the previous chapter, Fastolfe strikes suddenly at Baley, ending the chapter most dramatically.



Chapter 5, Daneel and Giskard (Parts 18-22)

Chapter 5, Daneel and Giskard (Parts 18-22) Summary

Part 18 shows that this is a demonstration of how rapidly and fully the robots obey commands to protect Baley—far more effective than words—as Fastolfe is instantly disarmed without being harmed. Baley resumes examining means, opportunity, and motive. Jander had been in another's possession but Fastolfe lacks an alibi for the time of death. There need not have been physical contact and the means would be too intricate to be triggered accidentally, even if it gradually build-up to the point of catastrophe. In Part 19, to discuss a possible motive, Fastolfe suggests that they go Outside, offering first that Baley visit the Personal (bathroom). En route, Daneel confides his surprise in Fastolfe claiming a motive to kill Jander and fears that he might also be a target. At the door Daneel explains that robots may not enter and tells how to use the facilities. Baley discovers that the facilities are camouflaged by illusory images from Outside. After fumbling to complete his business, Baley emerges to learn that this can be switched off. Baley sees that this too is a test—if he can endure the Outside without panic. Part 20 they go Outside, with the robots scouting ahead. In Part 21, Baley finds the Outside tamer than on Earth. Fastolfe explains Auroran population control and looks forward to a science of psychohistory, to know what to do to better the failing human race, rather than just guess. He says this, taking Baley to the establishment where Jander's body lies. It has to do with his motive for killing, he says. Giskard continues irrationally to annoy Baley.

In Part 22, Baley meditates on how everything alive on Aurora has its origins on the now-despised Earth and is depressed to think that some day humans will forget that they have a single planet of origin. Fastolfe brags about achieving results that have eluded his hostile colleagues who have formed the Robotics Institute to get around his refusal to create any more humaniform robots. While Fastolfe wants to colonize new planets using humans from Earth, inspired by horrible conditions there, the Institute wants to send humaniform robots to prepare a comfortable environment so like Aurora's as to attract complacent immigrants. Fastolfe's enemies charge that Jander is the first killing of a humaniform robot to prevent this and that Fastolfe is developing a means of wiping them out en masse. No amount of political pressure will make him kowtow. Having crossed a long meadow without discomfort, Baley is utterly bewildered by whom he sees.

Chapter 5, Daneel and Giskard (Parts 18-22) Analysis

Chapter 5 develops the portrayal of Fastolfe's chief robots. Part 18 shows Daneel and Giskard springing instantaneously into action to repel the feigned attack on Baley to demonstrate what Fastolfe has been saying about the operation of the Three Laws.



Fastolfe has given Giskard particularly strong orders to guard Baley's life. Baley then resumes examining the three criteria by which guilt is established in Earthly courts: means, opportunity, and motive. Fastolfe shows he has the first two and proclaims that he has the third, but this is put off until they go Outside. In Part 19, Baley visits the Personal (bathroom), which is decorated with illusory images of Outside as a test of whether he will panic there. It is the second of Fastolfe's "scurvy" tricks; in Part 20 Fastolfe apologizes and promises no more. The peculiarities of Personals on various worlds is discussed as an aside, with references to Daneel's differing behavior on Earth and Aurora, according to local customs.

Part 21 turns philosophical, with Fastolfe describing how humans on Aurora have achieved perfect conditions of comfort and privacy, which are equally wanting on overcrowded Earth and underutilized Solaria. Humans have swept indigenous species aside into zoos. The scientist longs to understand the human brain as well as he does the much less complex positronic brain. Going forward, this interest is considered as a motive for his supposedly killing Jander. Fastolfe looks forward to developing a science of psychohistory to help guide humanity out of the dead end in which it finds itself. No humans on any planet have followed the impulse to explore and colonize for centuries. Fastolfe sees this as a sign of fatal stagnation. He and Baley discuss how other intelligent civilizations may have evolved in the Galaxy and what their meeting with humanity might be like. They are probably too advanced to care about humans. Baley hearkens back to the opening of the novel, to his hopes that his son will be a colonist (assuming that he personally will be too old). Baley takes offense at Giskard's concern over his comfort level, recalling problems on the spaceship. Baley believes that he detects in Giskard a certain pride in getting him to explain duty, but dismisses this impression as the human tendency to personify. Finding the primitive robot repellent, Baley misses another clue to who is truly running this operation.

Part 22 brings out the conflicting views on Aurora about how to colonize new worlds. Fastolfe believes that humanity is doomed if it does not face challenges. He meditates on how scientific conclusions must be poetically balanced to be true—and notes that he has achieved results that have eluded his hostile colleagues. An intuitive leap similar to the one that results in the positronic brain may result in psychohistory.

Declaring that a humaniform brain requires a humaniform body to function properly, Fastolfe reveals that Giskard is a precursor to Daneel, his understandings retarded by his robotic body. Readers of *The Caves of Steel* will find puzzling Fastolfe's discussion of his partner Sarton's murder on Earth, as though that event had not brought him, Baley, and Daneel together for the first time. It does, however, allow the scientist to talk about how necessity brings about inventions. He then segues into how Aurorans cannot be as easily fooled by a humaniform robot as Earth humans and further into a discussion of his project to renew exploration of other worlds, with Earth people in the fore. A crowded world and short life span make them ideal candidates.

Fastolfe refers back to conversations three years earlier, which Baley rather suddenly recalls well. Baley next acts as though he has not been writing Fastolfe regularly for years, seeking help in mounting space missions; he over-explains himself, much to the



reader's benefit in terms of information. He looks for City culture to make up certain deficiencies in what humans have planted on Spacer worlds. There are few specifics mentioned.

Fastolfe states that that Aurorans fear and adamantly oppose Earth humans leaving their horrible planet. Instead, because Aurorans are too complacent to explore, they want to send humanoid robots to do the colonizing and preparing situations identical to those at home. Fastolfe comes to the crux of the matter: his enemies charge that he is killing humanoid robots to prevent this. Note that Baley insists that he explicitly deny the charge. Fastolfe has to admit that he has considered in passing that things might be better had he not invented a humanoid brain. He is also adamant about not cooperating in any way with robot colonization, even if politically pressured. He introduces the Robotics Institute, established by his enemies. Baley will, of course, have to visit it in good time. Fastolfe rather laughs at Baley's idea that the Institute might use Earth-style violence to get what it wants. That is not the Auroran way, and no roboticist could admit to having to force the information out of him. Excessive pride seems to be a common factor among Auroran roboticists. The Chapter ends dramatically with the pair arriving at their destination and Baley, no worse for wear, being Outside for an extended period, dramatically exclaiming his trademark "Jehoshaphat!"



Chapter 6, Gladia (Parts 23-26)

Chapter 6, Gladia (Parts 23-26) Summary

In Part 23, Gladia knows that "Jehoshaphat!" will be Baley's first word upon seeing her again. He has often dreamed of her since leaving Solaria, where he investigates her husband's murder. There they shared a brief, intimate moment, which both still savor. Gladia explains that she is the only human in the house when Jander dies, but is not physically present. She and Fastolfe, who is somehow responsible for her, discount the idea that a human could sneak in undetected by the robots. With Fastolfe gone and the robots dismissed, Part 24 sees Baley questioning Gladia without distraction. He concentrates on her relationship with Fastolfe, whose current marriage to Falya is ending. He has two daughters by previous wives, one a roboticist and the other a politician. Gladia denies that she and Fastolfe are lovers.

Gladia tells of her unfulfilled sex life on Solaria, where it is at most an occasional obligation. She had never touched a man, except her husband, and him rarely, before touching Baley. The possibility of love opens a door and she moves to Aurora hoping to meet a million Baleys. Auroran men accept her offers, but blankly, and she gives up. Fastolfe befriends and protects her. Baley reads from this that if that long ago touch reminds her of orgasm, she must have experienced it with someone. When he asks if it is Jander, she announces firmly that he had been her husband. In Part 25, Gladia confronts Baley's shock by explaining marriage on Aurora, which exists officially for procreation and is otherwise recreational and non-exclusive. Baley insists that she must have felt some shame about the marriage, because she keeps it secret.

When Gladia objects that humaniform robots are in a different class, Baley asks how she comes to possess Jander. Realizing how lonely she is, Fastolfe gives him to her as a companion. Whether Fastolfe knows of the relationship, Gladia does not know. A designer of robot clothing, Gladia creates a wardrobe for Jander and takes an interest in his functioning penis. There is no taboo about touching robots. The First Law demands that Jander not disappoint her, and she experiences orgasm. Baley switches to the rumors that Fastolfe is the murderer and asks to examine Jander's body.

In Part 26, Gladia takes Baley to Jander's room, where the body lies serenely. To be thorough, Baley examines the body, front and back, as Gladia looks sorrowfully away. He feels guilty at invading the robot's privacy. As Baley prepares to leave, Gladia begs him to find out who has killed Jander and why.

Chapter 6, Gladia (Parts 23-26) Analysis

Chapter 6 introduces a surprise new character with whom Baley has a history, which forms the substance of the novel, *The Naked Sun*. Part 23 begins alluding to how Gladia is there the only suspect in the murder of her husband and Baley comes to the



rescue. She sees irony in having Jander on loan at the time of his death. She has no alibi, human or robot, for the time of Jander's death and denies vehemently that she is involved. Note that she seems emotionally overwrought and Fastolfe, her neighbor, feels special responsibility for her. Baley sees that his presence prevents her being fully honest in her answers to his typically pointed questioning.

Gladia in fact stands at the center of a variety of hypotheses about the murder that Baley, in desperation, tries out in the chapters ahead. From their meeting it is clear that Jessie's fears are not unfounded: there is a spark between them, which must be investigated. The Solarians' phobia about human contact begins to be explored.

Part 24 is, for Isaac Asimov, amazingly frank in its treatment of sexuality. Gladia describes sex on Solara as something wrong, as a result of taboos against touching others or oneself. It is done only for procreation, when ectogenesis is not used instead. On Aurora it is so casual as to be boring. She experiences it a few times and gives up. She claims never to have experienced orgasm, although touching Baley's face two years ago convinces her that it is possible. She mentions that Fastolfe has been serially married three times and denies that they are lovers or will marry, as he has his quota of children. Gladia talks about metaphorical books about sex on Solara and a prohibition about discussing sexual matters. She has learned the mechanics. Baley is uncomfortable with the discussion, but presses his questioning out of duty. He insists that if touching him makes her think in terms of orgasm, she must at some point have experienced one, in order to have a point of reference. Her mourning, partly expressed in the inability to look at Daneel because of the physical resemblance to Jander suggests to Baley that they had been lovers. Gladia announces firmly that it is deeper than that: Jander had been her husband.

In Part 25, Gladia explains to Baley the facts of life on Solara, her birth planet, and Aurora, where she has sought refuge from a frustrating life which culminates in the murder of her husband, for whom she has no affection. In brief, Gladia defines sex on Solara as a joyless, occasional obligation and on Aurora a boring entertainment. Touching Baley, however fleetingly, at the end of his earlier mission, awakens in Gladia the hope that she can find what in Earth book-records is called Love. Gladia describes rather exhaustively the differing sociologies of marriage on the two planets, answering Baley's pointed questions about how sex with a robot—even a humaniform one—would be viewed. Gladia simply does not care about appearances. She describes frankly how she discovers Jander's functional penis and, because he is not a human, experiences no taboo against touching. His programming obliges him to please her and she is happy for it. Baley is decidedly queasy. Note how Gladia's description of how on Aurora men and women offer themselves casually to prospective sexual partners sets up the investigation of several interrelationships going forward. Baley asks to see Jander's body. Part 26 describes how the body is somewhat schematized and simplified in structure but highly detailed. With no sign of corruption, it leaves Baley queasy, violating its privacy. It seems more human than human corpses.



Chapter 7, Again Fastolfe (Parts 27-30)

Chapter 7, Again Fastolfe (Parts 27-30) Summary

Part 27, Baley and the robots walk to Fastolfe's at dusk. Gladia's field robots also guard Baley, who refuses to admit discomfort at being Outside. Questioning the robots about Jander, he realizes that he cannot draw out useful answers, and does not pursue why, surprisingly, they no longer see Jander after he enters Gladia's service. Greeting Fastolfe, Baley announces that he may have found the key to an answer. In Part 28, Fastolfe registers no reaction as he leads Baley to a private dinner, with no robots present. A visit to the Personal, stripped of illusions and ultra-hygienic, makes Baley rue conditions on Earth to which he must return. The delightful dinner causes the same reaction.

Over dessert, Fastolfe asks about Baley's new optimism, but balks at stating why he gives Jander to Gladia. Baley insists that he, as the client, cooperate fully. Fastolfe insists that sympathy on Aurora need not lead to sex. He talks next about his two daughters, one of whom, Vasilia, he bucks tradition to bring up personally. Once fond of each other, they are no longer close. Baley is shocked to hear that inexperienced Vasilia repeatedly offers herself to Fastolfe and he offends her by refusing. Incest is not a concept on Aurora. She moves out and establishes herself as a roboticist. She and sister Lumen are Globalists on the question of who may colonize the Galaxy, and Vasilia works for the Robotics Institute of Aurora (RIA). They regard Fastolfe, a leader in the Humanist party, as a demon.

In Part 29, Fastolfe resents being bullied about why he loans Jander to Gladia, but accepts the scenario that it is to provide her sexual satisfaction without offering himself. They never explicitly discuss this and only now does he realize that he may have had this subconsciously in mind when building Jander. Fastolfe heatedly rejects the idea of a secret marriage. Baley suggests that as a Solarian, Gladia might have been ashamed of the relationship and when Jander senses this the conflict produces a freeze-out, as in the Calvin story. Fastolfe disputes the comparison on the grounds that modern robots weigh matters qualitatively, preventing freeze-out. He refuses to submit Gladia to shame on top of sorrow and believes that his enemies would still hold him ultimately responsible by lending Jander to her. Baley is ashamed at trying to find an easy way out, but Fastolfe congratulates him on finding clues that he had not seen.

In Part 30, Baley, as he goes to bed, asks Daneel if he is disturbed by humans lying, but then realizes that he cannot get a robot honestly to declare someone—particularly his programmer, Fastolfe—a liar. Alone, Baley cannot sleep and thinks ruefully about his dramatic reputation. He thinks about Gladia's protective shell and how he might have helped her by remaining with her two years ago. As his mind quiets, he notices that a web of clues is forming, but fails to grasp an important idea that appears and vanishes. He sleeps, troubled that it might not return.



Chapter 7, Again Fastolfe (Parts 27-30) Analysis

Part 27 reiterates Baley's difficulties at being Outside and his determination to conquer the problem. The Auroran landscape at dusk is captured and how darkness alleviates Baley's discomfort is described. This prepares for the nighttime ordeal at the end of the book. Baley fails, as Fastolfe has predicted, at cross-examining the robots about Jander. None of the usual police tricks work on them. He is surprised to hear that they lose contact with Jander after he enters Gladia's establishment. This will be investigated going forward. Having in the last chapter told Gladia that he has little to go on, Baley now tells Fastolfe rather dramatically that he may have found the key to an answer.

Part 28 introduces the names of Fastolfe's daughters, Lumen and Vasilia and how they stand at odds with their father politically. Both are Globalists on the question of who may colonize the Galaxy: only Aurorans or all humans (including those from Earth). Globalists fill the Robotics Institute of Aurora (RIA). This revelation leads to a new trail for Baley to follow. Fastolfe provides background on how most babies have their sex chosen before artificial conception and are raised in nurseries. Fastolfe bucks tradition—and incurs professional animosity—by raising Vasilia personally. His view of the outcome is quite different from Vasilia's, when Baley gets around to interviewing her. Fastolfe seems quite naïve on the subject of parenting, which will not be Vasilia's view. He resists, Baley's sharp questioning, however. Note that Aurora has no concept of incest, which shocks Baley.

Part 29 brings Fastolfe and Baley into conflict as Baley suggests that Jander freezes up when he senses Gladia's guilt about their relationship. Fastolfe readily admits that he has sensed more than he had realized about the situation, having heard it starkly laid out, but will not use a tactic that would harm Gladia and not help his case before a judgmental public. Fastolfe picks up the Calvin allusion and skillfully disputes it. Baley is increasingly frustrated.

Part 30 concludes the chapter with another description of illusory effects in Fastolfe's home that annoy Baley. He also senses that Fastolfe is lying, but cannot get Daneel to consider it, if for no other reason than Fastolfe may have forcefully ordered him to lie about lying. Baley falls asleep troubled and briefly sees some great truth that then fades. Connected with Gladia, it remains a motif until the end of the novel, when she as his lover helps him recall it—and solve the mystery of Jander's murder. Until then, Baley is additionally troubled.



Chapter 8, Fastolfe and Vasilia (Parts 31-35)

Chapter 8, Fastolfe and Vasilia (Parts 31-35) Summary

In Part 31, wake-up drugs bring Baley to. As the robots service his room and he uses the ornate Personal, he thinks about how hard it will be to readjust to Earth. Daneel reports that no threats have arisen but believes that he and Giskard should stay near Baley, to advise him on Auroran culture and to record conversations (Giskard's function). The opposition fears Baley and will try to return him to Earth. Baley talks sarcastically about the danger increasing should he discover anything useful. In Part 32 at breakfast, Baley is distracted about his idea lost in sleep. Fastolfe suggests submitting to a Psychic Probe, which Baley knows to be dangerous. Baley insists on interviewing Vasilia. Fastolfe agrees that no one's feelings can be spared.

Part 33 Baley returns to Gladia's as a storm approaches. Gladia is short with him as he asks about other men who have offered themselves to her. She names the polite but indecently persistent Santirix Gremionis. Baley suggests that he may have guessed about Jander and been jealous and, if Jander had learned of this, it might have caused his freeze-out. She rejects the Calvin fairy tale and that Gremionis knows anything about robots. Resenting being implicated even second-hand in Jander's death, she sends Baley away. In Part 34 a grim Fastolfe says that Vasilia will speak with Baley for five minutes, thanks to her fondness since childhood for Giskard. In Part 35 Baley faces Vasilia via trimensic channel. She rejects a face-to-face meeting for health reasons until Giskard breaks the ice. Baley says that he must question her about Gremionis before going public with certain information. It is a bluff, but earns him a meeting.

Chapter 8, Fastolfe and Vasilia (Parts 31-35) Analysis

Chapter 8 expands Baley's leads during his second morning on the planet. Brief Part 31 serves primarily to add detail to the picture of the opulent life that Baley knows that he will miss on Earth. His question about the need for guards shows that Daneel does not understand irony. Daneel reveals that he and (primarily) Giskard record every conversation. Watch for situations where this might seem crucial. Fastolfe fears that the opposition will send Baley home if he discovers anything useful. Part 32 finds Baley worrying about what his lost-in-sleep thought might mean, but when Fastolfe suggests submitting to a Psychic Probe, Baley rejects it as dangerous and possibly illegal. Fastolfe claims to be joking, until Baley insists on interviewing hostile Vasilia. Fastolfe agrees reluctantly, when Baley says that he will look guilty if he interferes, and says that if Baley gets nowhere on his own, the Probe will be necessary. In the beginning of the chapter, Baley eats unprocessed ham and eggs for the first time in his life and luxuriates in the experience. Life on Earth is being portrayed by describing all the privations he has endured and to which he will have to return.



Part 33 depicts a painful follow-up interview with Gladia that introduces a new name, Santirix Gremionis, and the theory that Jander could have locked up out of sexual jealousy. Gladia sends Baley away angrily. Note that a rain storm is brewing. It will rage during the novel's climax. Part 34 briefly shows Fastolfe's chagrin at his daughter's refusal to speak with him, but she agrees to a five-minute trimensic interview with Baley because of her fondness for Giskard. He explains the myth of Andrew Martin, a robot who supposedly takes on human form and has wondrous powers. He has a woman friend whom he calls "Little Miss" (pg. 200). Giskard and Vasilisa take on the roles and, beginning in Part 35, Giskard addresses her as Little Miss. This breaks down her barriers and earns Baley a face-to-face meeting. He is left breathless, having bluffed about needing to understand her relationship with Gremionis. Baley is clutching at straws, but maintains a strong front.



Chapter 9, Vasilisa (Parts 36-39)

Chapter 9, Vasilisa (Parts 36-39) Summary

In Part 36, Baley insists on seeing the Outside on the Expressway ride through Eos City to the RIA. Clouds promise rain, a phenomenon that Baley has experienced only once on Earth—and panicked. On Aurora there is no City in which to take cover. Under orders from Vasilisa not to talk about her separation from her father, Giskard cannot brief Baley. Nor can he describe the minor reprogramming that she has performed on him. Part 37 brings Baley and the robots midday to the RIA complex. The robots cannot discuss why Fastolfe is not a member. Baley yearns for the protection of Earth's Cities and suddenly panics at the thought that another robot could be substituted for Giskard without his knowing. Daneel reassures him that every robot has an infrared identification plate. As they enter a dark room, a woman's voice orders them to come no closer and the lights flash on.

In Part 38, Vasilisa greets Giskard, then Daneel, and then remarks that Baley does not resemble the actor in the drama. She admires his verbal fencing about Fastolfe, whom she acknowledges as father only genetically, and the various assumptions that Baley has drawn from interviewing him. She points out that they are political enemies and explains why he is wrong in rejecting the Dawn as promoted by the Globalists. Earth people, being wasteful and inefficient, cannot have a part in galactic expansion, while modern robots are versatile enough to do the exploration. A more fundamental conflict involves Auroran longevity, which discourages scientific cooperation. Fastolfe is infected with typical intellectual greed, refusing to publish his theory or to cooperate in producing humaniform robots. RIA is dedicated to cooperation and will, inevitably, duplicate Fastolfe's achievement.

Vasilisa changes subjects to Gremionis, threatening to have Baley sent home unless he answers quickly. As a result of her father, she has relentless enemies. In Part 39, Baley gambles by declaring that Gremionis has many times offered himself to her and that she uses this perseverance to pawn him off on sexually-troubled Gladia, through whom he will gain access to Jander, whose murder will implicate her father, giving her leverage to obtain his secret. Vasilisa replies that while Gremionis might have motive and opportunity, he lacks means of inducing mental freeze. Baley declares triumphantly that Gremionis is, through her, an agent of RIA.

Chapter 9, Vasilisa (Parts 36-39) Analysis

Part 36 describes the ride to the RIA headquarters, showing Eos City apparently to be largely unused countryside. Baley grows frustrated when Giskard hesitates to provide the briefing information he needs, claiming that he has been specifically prohibited. How a robot is ordered to do (or not do) something is significant. Giskard gives the appearance of being offended by being called "boy," the standard way of referring to



robots on Earth, but answers calmly. He merely alludes to having been reprogrammed by Vasilina. Baley is not looking forward to this first hostile interview, and the gathering physical storm makes him recall panicking on Earth the one time he is caught in one. This repeated detail portends badly for the visit to RIA.

Part 37 deepens Baley's frustrations and paranoia, the robots being unable to answer specific questions and Giskard blending in among many other robots in the RIA complex. Part 38 introduces Vasilina in person and she is quick to lay out the details of her conflict with her father. Baley perceives that she enjoys verbal fencing with him, which lightens the reading. Of particular interest is how longevity on Aurora (350 years) discourages scientific cooperation, as everyone expects to live long enough to make individual discoveries. RIA is determined to make roboticists cooperate. When Baley asks if RIA is using the Jander scandal to maneuver Fastolfe into cooperating, she demands to know what he knows about Gremionis. Being Fastolfe's daughter earns her enemies, so she must be careful about any rumors.

Part 38 again alludes to the fictional program made about Baley's breaking the Sarton murder case on Earth. Again, he is dismayed at the expectations it places on him. He and Vasilina fence verbally about parenting on Aurora and galactic politics, reinforcing earlier materials, until she reaches the heart of the case against Fastolfe. Auroran longevity has been several times mentioned as distinguishing them from Earth humans, but Vasilina now draws it out: scientists live long enough not to need to cooperate. They hoard their findings out of pride. When she hints that she and her colleagues are close to forcing him to cooperate, Baley sees an opening, but Vasilina shifts the subject to Gremionis. She then lets slip that she too has enemies looking for anything to use against her.

In Part 39, Baley sees that he will be thrown out unless he comes up with something convincing. Asimov shows him at his best, drawing on all he has learned about Auroran life, grasping at successive straws, and making leaps of faith. Most often in the earlier novels this goes badly when Baley does this, but here he connects, creating a chain that ends in RIA through Vasilina through Gremionis having the motive, opportunity, and means to kill Jander, implicate her father, and thus obtain his secret. The shifting moods and advantages are skillfully and dramatically depicted, leading to a mini-climax.



Chapter 10, Again Vasilia (Parts 40-43)

Chapter 10, Again Vasilia (Parts 40-43) Summary

In Part 40, Vasilia dismisses Baley, but he refuses to leave, telling her that her 20 robots will believe that Daneel is human and obey him. She believes that Giskard will side with her, but he states that he is under Fastolfe's orders. Daneel adds that he and Baley are partners and friends. Baley surprises himself by saying they are bound by love. He declares that all he wants is information to secure the future of Aurora and Earth. She must say whether she is an accomplice in Jander's murder. She reacts snidely to the idea that putting a robot out of commission is murder and denies any attempt to use Gremionis for this purpose. She doubts if anyone at RIA knows enough to do so and believes that only an Earth human would be stupid enough to invent this scenario. Baley replies that jealousy can exist on Aurora as an exception to the rule and Vasilia might have been jealous of Gladia, as her father's ward, and wished her harm. Vasilia reddens but refuses to discuss whether they are lovers. When she declares that he is free to make any public accusations that he wants, Baley realizes that he has missed her specific vulnerability.

In Part 41, Baley asks for Vasilia's help out of human decency, for the sake of what Fastolfe does for her as she is growing up. She calls on the robots to bear witness to her declaration: she had been nothing but an experiment to Fastolfe, a developing human brain to study as he develops psychohistory. She can tell that Fastolfe has expounded this obsession to Baley. Fastolfe calls in debts to be allowed to raise her personally, subjects her to subtle experimentation, and even introduces her to sexual stimulation, but when she turns to him, refuses her, stunting and distorting her sexual development. She makes excuses for him but eventually confronts him. He says that it would destroy his objectivity. Vasilia leaves to become a roboticist and works with Giskard. Vasilia declares Fastolfe guilty and will go public, if necessary.

In Part 42, Vasilia presents her theory: needing to study non-Auroran brains, Fastolfe is attracted to Gladia and Baley. She correctly guesses that Fastolfe has frightened and humiliated him and even proposed a Psychic Probe. She asks why Fastolfe has not undergone probing, if it is safe. Fastolfe gives Gladia six months to bond sexually with Jander and then studies her grieving process. In Part 43, Vasilia is delighted to have stunned Baley and suggests that he leave Aurora. She denies Baley use of a Personal, suggesting that his robots find him a public one. Baley bluffs about an indirect conspiracy with Gremionis and warns her to keep silent about Fastolfe's supposed guilt.

Chapter 10, Again Vasilia (Parts 40-43) Analysis

Part 40 resumes the investigation of how robot loyalty is ranked. Vasilia, who has never seen an operating humaniform robot, is surprised that Daneel and Baley are friends—and Baley is amazed to realize that they are bound by love. They have quarreled less



than in previous novels, but Baley has had to be sharp with Daneel several times and has regularly noted his inability to reason. Desperate, Baley dares Vasilia to deny that she is an accomplice in Jander's murder, which she does, indicating that no one at the RIA, herself included, has the knowledge to destroy such a high-level positronic brain. Something has gone wrong in Baley's chain of suppositions. Part 41, Vasilia describes at length her childhood as an experiment in mental development. Fastolfe insists on remaining objective, even at the expense of his daughter's well-being. She realizes this slowly and then breaks with him. Baley is able to make allowances for Fastolfe, but dares not speak. Vasilia pours scorn on Earth-based sentiments. Again the two worlds are shown incapable of understanding one another. With Vasilia willing publicly to accuse Fastolfe of Jander's murder, Baley appears to have lost completely.

In Part 42, Vasilia proposes that Fastolfe wants to experiment with both Gladia and Baley, who has to admit that she is right about how Fastolfe has bated him. Why Fastolfe does not undergo psychic probing will be raised again. Vasilia's conclusion is that studying Gladia's grieving process is the monstrous goal of Fastolfe's experiment. This is more convincing than any scenario that Baley has invented and, in Part 43, he swings wildly to ward off defeat on the Gremionis front. He assumes that he is denied use of a Personal because of hygienic concerns and the next phase of the investigation moves to a Public Personal on the RIA grounds.



Chapter 11, Gremionis (Parts 44-48)

Chapter 11, Gremionis (Parts 44-48) Summary

Back in the airfoil in Part 44, Daneel disagrees with Vasilias's depiction of Fastolfe as cruel. This opens a discussion of how robots process the First Law vis-a-vis lying and weighing acts of commission and omission. Admitting that if Fastolfe had instructed him not to consider him guilty he could not, Daneel maintains Fastolfe's innocence. Giskard also believes Fastolfe innocent but doubts that Vasilias would consciously lie about him, but her bitterness may believe her version. Human motivations are hard to judge. Baley admits to bluffing with Vasilias but refuses to give up, because it would prevent Earth's humans from expanding into the Galaxy. His and Fastolfe's damaged reputations would be minor consequences. Baley needs badly to relieve himself.

In Part 45 they quickly reach a small Community Personal, but the robots are worried about his safety using it until Giskard determines without entering that it is empty. Baley goes in, nervously. Part 46 describes the facilities, which could harbor assailants. Baley manages to relieve himself and is washing up when someone addresses him by name, breaking a strong Earth taboo. Gremionis introduces himself and tells of Gladia upsetting him with talk about his harming a robot. He denies it and worries about this affecting his relationship with Gladia. He has deduced that Baley will be here and come with one robot. Baley wants badly to talk continue the talk Outside. There, in Part 47, Baley is further thrown when a woman enters the facility, which is unisex, breaking an even stronger Earth taboo. He despairs of solving Jander's death if he understands so little about Auroran society. In Part 48 Baley suggests that he and Gremionis talk over lunch and is invited to Gremionis' nearby establishment. Gremionis behaves like an Earth teenager and the robots know nothing about him.

Chapter 11, Gremionis (Parts 44-48) Analysis

Part 44 consists of a long discussion of how human and robotic motivations differ, touching on the classic consideration of sins of commission and omission. There can be no mathematical analysis. Baley knows that Fastolfe could order his robots not to consider his guilt, but still values their opinion. For the first time he takes Giskard's view under advisement because he has known both principals longer and more intimately. Part 45 brings them to a Community Personal and weighs the robots' need to protect Baley versus the prohibition of their entering. Baley considers how much space the Spacer worlds waste before being allowed in. He enters nervously. Part 46 takes place inside the Personal and introduces Gremionis in person. The nervous man breaks the Earth taboo on talking in Personals. Baley considers the taboo at length, including how males and females differ on the subject. So intense is his reaction to the situation that Baley prefers to be Outdoors. Openly humorous Part 47 continues Baley's shock as a woman enters the facility. Another contemplation of bad taste leads him to realize how

little he has learned about Aurora, which limits his ability to function as a detective. In Part 48 Gremionis leads Baley and the robots to his home to talk privately.



Chapter 12, Again Gremionis (Parts 49-51)

Chapter 12, Again Gremionis (Parts 49-51) Summary

In Part 49, the robots move into niches inside Gremionis' small, drab home as he remarks on the drama and keeps his distance from Baley, who feels too overburdened by his responsibility for Earth's humans to care about local hygiene taboos. Gremionis talks with passion about his art and facial hair on various planets and is defensive when Baley asks why, if he is not a roboticist, he lives on the RIA grounds. He insists that he never meets Jander or knows anything about robotics and charges that Baley has poisoned Gladia's mind against him. He intends to lodge slander charges, for every life on Aurora is valuable, unlike on overcrowded Earth. Baley takes note of the name of the RIA head, Kelden Amadiro, before asking questions intended to clear Gremionis' name. Gremionis is chagrined to hear that Vasilisa admits his affections prior to Gladia. She helps him get appointed as a personnel artist at RIA. He denies offering himself to everyone and demands that his privacy be respected. He believes in monogamy and, hearing that Vasilisa is a virgin, wants to be with her for life. When she makes clear that this will not happen, he switches his attention to her lookalike, a non-virgin but opposed to promiscuity. Gremionis is offended at the thought that Vasilisa might have set them up, but admits it is true, deeming this mind-reading as in the drama.

In Part 50, Gremionis admits that he is offering himself exclusively to Gladia, whom he loves, like in historical novels. Vasilisa encourages him to keep trying. He has learned to enjoy walking with Gladia in nature, as she had on Solaria, which she otherwise describes as a terrible place. Vasilisa encourages this too. He never sees Jander, discusses him, or realizes that they are having sex. When Baley suggests this as a motive for jealousy, Gremionis lunges. In Chapter 51 Daneel and Giskard seize Gremionis, while the latter's robot, Brundij, aids Baley. It is done with instant coordination. Gremionis apologizes for reacting in an adolescent way to a word that is highly offensive on Aurora. They explain how the education system weans them from aggression and competition. As requested, Baley agrees to tell Gladia that in his opinion Gremionis is innocent. He advises Gremionis, the next time he sees her, to be more demonstrative, less formal. She is not Auroran. Since he wishes he could embrace Gladia, this is hard advice to give.

Chapter 12, Again Gremionis (Parts 49-51) Analysis

Chapter 12 shows desperate Baley at his contentious worst, facing down a rather likable young man. Part 49 paints Gremionis as an enthusiastic youth on subjects of his liking, but defensive about Baley's invasion of his privacy by questioning Vasilisa and Gladia. He insists that he will take legal action, which proves not to be an idle threat on a planet where everyone in the tiny population is valued. Gremionis has read novels



about Earth and jabs home his points about its alien culture. For his part, Baley is kept busy apologizing for unintentional insults while moving stridently forward, pursuing clues. Gremionis paints a romantic picture of monogamous marriage and how his attention shifts from Vasilia to Gladia. In Part 50, Gremionis admits Vasilia's role in encouraging him to pursue Gladia and to join her on nature walks. He denies consistently and vehemently any knowledge of Jander and accepts the possibility of sex as not unnatural. The temper that he shows throughout the interview finally flares when Baley suggests a motive for jealousy, and Gremionis lunges. Part 51 makes clear that "jealous" is a particularly offensive word on Aurora, usually not fully spelled out in books. Baley's cultural ignorance has again backfired. What he has read simply is not geared towards preparing Earth people to visit Aurora. Much of the end of the chapter is devoted to explaining how aggression is removed during adolescence. The final words show that Baley has a crush on Gladia.



Chapter 13, Amadiro (Parts 52-54)

Chapter 13, Amadiro (Parts 52-54) Summary

In Part 52, Baley makes a trimensic call to Kenden Amadiro, head of the RIA, but reaches only his contemptuous assistant, Maloon Cicis. Baley claims to want to give Amadiro a chance to defend himself before accusations are made about Jander's murder. After warning about weighty penalties for slander, Cicis talks with his boss, who agrees to come to the trimensic unit. Baley announces that he will be at his office instantly and breaks the connection. He tells Gremionis that he will do his best to keep him out of trouble and reminds him of his advice about Gladia. In Part 53, Baley is chilly as sunset and a storm both near. Daneel assures him that everything is normal and tries to distract him. Baley explains how playing long shots on the conspiracy aspect has enabled him gain interviews. Vasilia's nervousness shows that something is up involving a third person, and Amadiro is a good place to look, although he is likely too intelligent to give anything away.

Part 54 brings them to the Administrative Building, typical of human officialdom on any planet. Daneel halts them before an invisible—and painful—"tingle field" until a robot attendant checks Giskard's serial number and escorts them to a ramp, which transforms into an escalator. Amadiro in a rather over-jovial manner remarks on intending to destroy Fastolfe's political power. He has taken the precaution of talking with both Gremionis and Vasilia and has forwarded Gremionis' protest to the Chairman. He expects Baley to be expelled by morning.

Chapter 13, Amadiro (Parts 52-54) Analysis

Part 52 finds Baley nearly a madman in his dealings with Maloon Cicis, gatekeeper to Kenden Amadiro, the head of the RIA, whose name he has gotten in passing from Gremionis. He places the call on Gremionis' equipment and makes clear that he has learned a great deal of sensitive information from him. The unfortunate youth watches, dumbfounded. Badgering on, he gets Amadiro to agree to talk and heads to his office. Cicis reminds him of Aurora's slander laws, which are indeed invoked when Gremionis files a grievance. It is a level of manic behavior beyond anything in the trilogy and quite inexplicable in context.

Part 53 builds suspense as the storm approaches. Baley again recalls being caught Outside in a storm and hearing from his son about playing in snow. He briefly discusses with the robots how he is playing hunches, hoping to provoke answers and doubts that Amadiro will give them anything new. Giskard confirms that he is taping every conversation, can play back anything on demand, and that this can be entered as evidence in court but he as a robot cannot testify to anything. Part 54 strongly suggests that nothing will go to court and that Baley's investigation will soon end with his expulsion from Aurora. As can be by now expected, Baley's dramatic depiction again



precedes him. The RIA Administrative Building is described in detail, including its security provisions and an escalator system whose operation rather defies depiction. Otherwise, Baley notes, it is the first place on the planet that could equally well exist on Earth. Humanity seems united on the trappings proper to officialdom. Amadiro proves a jolly soul, but is, as Baley had feared, too sharp to be drawn into implicating himself. He is determined to show Fastolfe an erring villain and destroy his political power.



Chapter 14, Again Amadiro (Parts 55-59)

Chapter 14, Again Amadiro (Parts 55-59) Summary

Part 55 finds Baley off balance, lacking background information on Amadiro from Giskard. Amadiro stresses that Baley is an uninfluential Earth person who will get a hearing with the Chairman before being expelled. Amadiro laments Jander's loss, does not rise to Baley's mentioning Fastolfe's doubts about his ability, and mocks the idea of a random freeze-out. To amuse himself, Amadiro agrees to answer Baley's questions, taking the precaution of taping the conversation, as he assumes Baley is.

After sketching the RIA's 15-year history and how Aurorans descend from true individualists who escape overcrowded Earth, Amadiro develops how independence retards scientific advancement. Fastolfe has for 26 years kept secret details of his system of "intersectional analysis" (pg. 309), forcing colleagues to pool efforts to work out the details themselves. Fastolfe naturally fights funding of this "conspiracy of inferiors" (pg. 310) but fails. Fastolfe also opposes the RIA/Globalists' intended use of humaniform robots settling the Galaxy. Believing Aurora to be the best of the Spacer worlds, Amadiro wants only its society reproduced.

Amadiro confesses that the RIA program is a mere embryo, but he envisions it produces humaniform robots of all ages and both sexes to establish human society on other planets. He plays down Baley's fear that these could intermingle with human family groups, saying that his fear is based on Gladia and Jander—and Gladia is a Solarian. Baley asks if, once rooted, the robots will resent human immigrants as intruders and reinterpret the Three Laws to protect themselves as humans. Baley believes that the current shape of Auroran society favors a human Galactic Empire rather than a robotic one; while claiming human/robot equality it restricts robots, for example, making them stand in niches. Amadiro is astounded at Baley's stupidity.

In Part 56 Amadiro assures Baley that the Legislature knows of his plans and Aurorans, deeply prejudiced against Earth people, will not stand for them swarming the Galaxy. Robots are common and accepted. Baley disputes that Fastolfe will eventually join the RIA. The tense interview ends with Amadiro supposing that Aurora, given a Globalist victory, might help a non-threatening Earth, while a conquering Earth would invite war. In Part 57, Baley accepts the offer to use the Personal but takes his robots with him for safety. In Part 58, Daneel assures him that bugging the room is unthinkable. Baley objects that Amadiro's threat to expel him is hardly civilized. Having taken long enough for Amadiro to leave if he wishes, Baley leads them out.

Part 59 finds Amadiro waiting patiently, remarking only that he wishes he could have used the time to reacquaint himself with Giskard. Amadiro strenuously insists on giving a reluctant Baley a tour and, as an aficionado of Earth culture, chitchats to the point that has Baley stalling. Only when a rumbling noise occurs does Amadiro relent and lead



them out into a dark anteroom. Outside a storm rages, forcing Baley back indoors, whimpering.

Chapter 14, Again Amadiro (Parts 55-59) Analysis

In Part 55 Amadiro agrees to answer Baley's questions, largely to entertain himself, knowing that he can quash the investigation. He offers a concise history of the RIA's formation and a longer explanation of the need for roboticists to consolidate efforts in the face of Fastolfe's refusal to share his unique discoveries. Amadiro understands professional pride—which Fastolfe has already show he has in abundance—but insists that it retards scientific progress. He then enters upon a long explanation of his and Fastolfe's opposing views on expansion into the rest of the Galaxy, considerably clarifying the concept of Globalism as an essential quality control. The far future of robotics is debated as Baley plays the devil's advocate for Fastolfe's (and Earth's) interests as humaniform robots continue to evolve and form family groups that may resent true humans displacing them upon arrival. Amadiro haughtily dismisses Baley's analysis.

Part 56 continues the debate, as Amadiro describes fellow Aurorans' deep-seated stereotypes of Earth people, including germs, smell, and amoral behavior. Assuring him that he does not share the views, Amadiro is quite confident that Aurorans will not stand for Earth people swarming the Galaxy. He believes that Baley should be his ally, for Earth will benefit from a Globalist victory and suffer if Fastolfe's ill-conceived ideas prevail. Baley observes that Amadiro's smile has turned wolf-like. It sounds much like the old Cold War doctrines of containment and appeasing foreign aid.

Part 57 is a transition, with Baley taking the robots into the Personal, quaintly called "facilities" by Amadiro from old novels he has read. It examines the usual taboos before turning to the question, in Part 58, of whether it might be electronically bugged. Privacy is so highly valued on Aurora that this is unthinkable. Daneel points out that the silence taboo on Earth stems from the same value under crowded conditions. Primarily, Baley wants to learn what Amadiro's driving force is, which makes him waste so much valuable time on him. Part 59 includes much interesting babbling about Earth culture, language, and literature, all of which leads Baley to believe that he is being stalled. Indeed, Amadiro changes as soon as he hears the rumble of thunder. He gives the robots a visual order not to hear it, suggesting his mastery of command. When hit with wind and rain, Baley is immobilized. This sets up the climactic crisis.



Chapter 15, Again Daneel and Giskard (Parts 60-65)

Chapter 15, Again Daneel and Giskard (Parts 60-65) Summary

In Part 60, Daneel tries to calm Baley, who has never experienced such a thing. He will be dry in the airfoil en route to Fastolfe's for consultations. Baley knows that Amadiro, who has vanished, has delayed him to face this. Part 61 Baley lies about being alright and envies the robots' ability to cope fearlessly with the storm. After two days Outside without discomfort, he is again gripped by agoraphobia. Shame of appearing weak before the robots makes him move, but they must carry him to the airfoil, where he recovers. He longs for the protective City. Daneel explains how the Chairman will probably handle the ticklish situation. His word will probably sway the Legislature. Daneel agrees that Amadiro hopes to keep Baley from finding anything to influence the Chairman to Fastolfe's side. Baley insists on traveling with the windows clear, so he can face the storm.

In Part 62, the ride is rough in the wind. As Daneel explains the airfoil's dynamics and praises Giskard's skills, Baley recalls running the strips on Earth, which he had mastered. When Giskard announces that the airfoil is not responding properly—probably the result of sabotage at the RIA—Baley understands why he had been delayed and also realizes that Daneel, not he, is the target. The robots, not he, must be gotten to safety. In Part 63, as the ride gets rougher, Baley wonders how to explain the situation in terms of the Three Laws. Surprisingly, Giskard finds words to convince Daneel to flee. As he insists that he faces no danger and Giskard prepares to land, Baley worries that Daneel's brain will snap. Once they land and the doors pop open, the robots vanish. For the first time since leaving Earth, Baley is alone. In Part 64, Baley realizes that he has not asked where they will go or how to control the doors or heat. He waits for Giskard to return as ordered, thinking about the tampering. Amadiro might want him back dazed and defenseless—if he were the quarry, but he is not.

Two robots open the door and ask not about his health but about his robot companions. This affirms Baley's suspicions. When he declares himself well they return to the RIA, where Baley says his robots have been summoned by Amadiro. His claim also to be under orders to remain is enough to convince the RIA robots, after some hesitation. Baley puts his foot in the door to prevent its sealing and is relieved when it is not shattered. In Part 65, Baley decides not to wait for Giskard—or the searchers—to return. As he moves away from the airfoil, Baley is quickly soaked and disoriented. He worries about lightning hitting trees and his never being found. He sits and sleeps.



Chapter 15, Again Daneel and Giskard (Parts 60-65) Analysis

Chapter 15 puts human and robots under extreme stress to examine how their reactions compare and contrast. In Part 60, Daneel comforts Baley, who realizes why Amadiro has delayed him. Baley has read about storms, but never experienced such terror. In Part 61 he briefly envies the robots fearlessness but then decides that human thought and reason, while sometimes debilitating, is worth the price. He finds many motivations for shaking off his crippling fear, but in the end it is shame that works. For a second time riding with the windows clear is a sign of his determination to master his fear. Part 62 brings the airfoil's breakdown, which is clearly the result of tampering at the RIA. Baley suddenly realizes that Amadiro wants to get his hands on Daneel, the sole surviving humanoid robot, to study. Part 63 finds Baley wondering how to convince the robots to obey the Third Law over the First. He has repeatedly observed that robots are incapable of good reasoning.

Surprisingly, Giskard understands in Part 64 that Daneel must flee and helps convince him of his duty. Baley notes that it is the less sophisticated machine that gets the point, but does not immediately reflect on the significance. Baley will later recall this and form his theory about telepathy. Once the decision is made, the robots act instantly, leaving a badly shaken Baley to think about his predicament and wonder about Amadiro's intentions. Baley proves far more insightful into machine thought than usual when RIA robots approach. Their opening question, not about his health but about his companions' whereabouts, betrays that they are under very strict orders, able even to impinge on the First Law. This would require a roboticist of Amadiro's caliber. Baley relies on Fastolfe's orders to his robots being at least as powerful, in order for him to be rescued in time. In Part 65, however, Baley is too confused and distraught to remain in the crippled airfoil and ventures out, blindly. His various fears, drawn from Earthly literature, are vividly portrayed, until finally he falls asleep. Note the second occurrence of Baley's frustrating vanishing vision or idea.



Chapter 16, Again Gladia (Parts 66-69)

Chapter 16, Again Gladia (Parts 66-69) Summary

In Part 66, Baley is vaguely aware of a woman and Giskard being involved in his rescue. He feels himself transported somewhere and warmly bathed. He is reassured that Daneel is safe. It is like being an infant again. In Part 67, Gladia tells him that Daneel has been under guard by her and Fastolfe's robots. Giskard finds Baley within half an hour by infrared. His leaving the airfoil is an illogical risk. Baley puts off seeing Fastolfe until morning. After eating a bit of soup, he answers Gladia's questions about the investigation and coming hearing. He doubts if he can convince the Chairman of his theory about Jander or suspicions that Amadiro is behind the sabotage. She begs Baley not to let Amadiro get away with it and weeps when he says he cannot work miracles.

In Part 68, Baley tries to comfort Gladia without touching, until she asks him to. As they hug, she laments that no one cares about Jander because she is a Solarian. Fastolfe and Amadiro both want their way with the Legislature and Baley will be sent home to Earth, ruined. She begs him first to find Jander's killer. Worn out, Baley goes to bed. In Part 69, Baley again senses some enlightenment that quickly vanishes. He fights sleep to think longingly about Gladia. He thinks that he is dreaming until he feels her naked beside him. He lies still as ordered and shamefully accepts her advances. She sings softly as she tirelessly brings him to climax. Again he feels a baby's passivity as she thanks him and he clutches at a vanishing idea as he falls asleep.

Chapter 16, Again Gladia (Parts 66-69) Analysis

Part 66 deals briefly and impressionistically with Baley's rescue. It sets up his feeling of being an infant again. This recurs throughout the chapter. In Part 67, with Baley more alert, details come out and Baley has his feelings hurt when Giskard declares that leaving the airfoil is an illogical risk. Illogic is frequent in human behavior, Giskard often notes. Baley is pessimistic about the hearing before the Chairman or being able to work the miracle that Gladia wants. He tries, in Part 68, to observe the Solarian taboo against touching, but Gladia wants him. Part 69 finds them in bed together, with Gladia insisting that Baley be completely passive. He finds it humiliating but obeys. They will meet once more and get out their conflicted feelings. For a third time, he experiences a vanishing idea as he falls asleep.



Chapter 17, The Chairman (Parts 70-74)

Chapter 17, The Chairman (Parts 70-74) Summary

In Part 70, Baley is elated to see the robots at bedside and the storm past. He assures them that he is pleased that they had followed his orders, despite his obvious disorientation. Baley dismisses a touch of sexual innuendo in Daneel's remark about him being well cared for overnight. In Part 71, Baley notices after his shower that Daneel is wearing different clothes and is amazed that they are Jander's, given to him by Gladia. She leaves for Baley a traditional Spacer sash to wear to breakfast. As he dresses, Baley asks Daneel about the Chairman, but Giskard interrupts, claiming more knowledge of Auroran politics. Originally a ceremonial job, the Chairmanship has become an office of objective mediation for settling disputes prior to voting on by the Legislature. If the Chairman makes a decision and Fastolfe or Amadiro obstinately opposes it, that person will find few supporters, for if the Legislature votes against his decision, it spawns a governmental crisis. Baley wishes he could remember what he had seen, lying in Gladia's arms. It holds the meaning to all of the events on Aurora.

In Part 72, Baley and Gladia share an intimate breakfast in a no-robot room. Primly dressed, but erotic and carefree, she dismisses his embarrassment over having slept together. He worries that she has done it out of pity for a poor Earthman and, when she regrets her fall, will hate him. She declares that he has freed her again to feel desire and begs him to stay with her. Baley, though, has ties and obligations on Earth, where she could not survive. It is unlikely that he will ever be invited back to Aurora. He is sure that wonderful things lie ahead for Gladia. Noting the fame generated by the drama, he asks that she keep their tryst secret, lest word reach puritanical Earth. Gladia talks about being past the fear of contact that Solaria teaches, about her limited and unfulfilling sex life with her late husband, and then finding sex meaningless on Aurora - until she meets and begins using Jander. When that is taken away, she feels doomed, until last night, which is the first time she gives sexually instead of takes. Jander's spell is gone. As she begs him to stay or let her go home with him, Gladia mentions him startling, sitting up, and saying, "I have it," and then, "He was there first" (pgs. 385-386).

Walking to Fastolfe's in Part 73, Baley wonders about the meaning of his words. In Part 74, Fastolfe largely confirms Vasilisa's assessment of him as ruthlessly dedicated to his work, but denies killing Jander to advance his understanding of the human brain. He refuses a Psychic Probe not for fear of its danger but because his enemies would gain from it access to the secrets of humaniform robots. Fastolfe then asks about the robots who accost Baley the night before and notes that Baley's visit to Amadiro had not been wise, as it irritated him; his charges of slander will force the Chairman to end the investigation. When Baley is allowed to testify he must be polite.



Chapter 17, The Chairman (Parts 70-74) Analysis

Chapter 17 is primarily a debriefing on what has just happened to Baily and is notable for the subtle changes in the robots. Note in Part 70 how Baley thinks that he detects a touch of sexual innuendo in Daneel's remark about him being well cared for overnight, but then swiftly rejects this as impossible. In Part 71, Giskard interrupts Daneel to explain Auroran politics, based on his greater knowledge. A rather long explanation of the history and practice of the Chairmanship is given, with Baley rolling his eyes at Giskard's pedantry. Baley is preoccupied with recalling what he has now seen three times but which has escaped his consciousness. The answer, still unclear, comes in Part 72, after a long and, for Baley painful, discussion about why last night refocuses her sex life after the miseries she has endured on Solaria and Aurora. It fills in detail beyond what has been given earlier and is couched in a rather pathetic attempt to stay with Baley. Neither understands the other's cultural experience. How their relationship on Solaria is treated in the drama adds to Baley's need for discretion. Note that Earth is in a puritan phase of the continuing cycle of sexual mores. They are both clearly pained to think about parting forever. As Gladia muses about them lying together in bed, she provides Baley's eureka moment: the words he sits up and says aloud. He still does not know what they mean, but knows they are significant. Finally, Parts 73 and 74 show Baley and Fastolfe preparing for the crucial meeting with the Chairman. Fastolfe reveals why his daughter wants to use the Psychic Probe on him, which has nothing to do with the truth in the Jander murder case. It is growing clearer that the conflict has little to do with the late robot and more to do with the political rift. Fastolfe's warning to Baley to be on his best behavior colors the next chapter, which is simply a continuation.



Chapter 18, Again The Chairman (Parts 75-79)

Chapter 18, Again The Chairman (Parts 75-79) Summary

In Part 75, the overpowering Chairman wants brief, productive proceedings, focusing on who should explore and settle the Galaxy. Baley's behavior and Jander's destruction are secondary concerns. With both principals refusing meaningful compromise, they refocus on Jander. Amadiro points to Fastolfe's admission that he alone could disable the robot and calls the theory of fluke happenstance absurd. When Fastolfe points out that Baley is on Aurora to investigate the matter, the Chairman allows him to testify.

In Part 76, Baley opens with his theory that Amadiro masterminds the tampering of his airfoil and its pursuit by RIA robots. He admits to illness but insists that he had been lucid. He reasons that the pursuing robots' interest in Daneel and Giskard rather than in his well-being betrays intense orders to override the First Rule. In Part 77, the Chairman demands a motive for this and, nearly desperate, Baley points out that unless the RIA can produce humaniform robots, its plan for the Galaxy fails. With Fastolfe uncooperative, they need to question a humaniform robot closely to extract the information. Amazed, Fastolfe claims never to have thought of that. Baley attributes this to Aurorans' characteristic blinding pride and declares that Daneel had been the target. Amadiro objects, but the Chairman, now smiling, disagrees and allows Baley, in Part 78, to resume.

Baley talks of Gladia and her husband, Jander, to the Chairman an illegal and ridiculous idea, but Baley shows that despite Gladia's secrecy, Amadiro finds out about it. In Part 79, Baley states that in trying to stall him, Amadiro had unguardedly used the word husband, as a tape can show. Baley forces Amadiro over the edge by questioning something that could prove criminal intent is irrelevant. Cautiously, Baley suggests that Jander, who before his death also holds Fastolfe's secrets, uses the word husband while being tested by trimensional viewing during Gladia and Gremionis' long walks. Close to discovery when Jander fails, Amadiro needs Daneel. When Baley suggests that Amadiro's testing brings on accidental roboticide, Amadiro's denial confirms the testing. Convinced, the Chairman calls on the opponents to reach an agreement to prevent political chaos. Fastolfe agrees to join the RIA on condition that Earth is by treaty free to colonize without fear of retaliation. Amadiro accepts, subject to explaining his fears to the Legislature. The Chairman thanks Baley and orders him off-planet soon.



Chapter 18, Again The Chairman (Parts 75-79) Analysis

Chapter 18 closely scrutinizes the non-judicial hearing before the Chairman who is beginning to regret having authorized Baley's investigation. He wants it short and sweet, and is exasperated when this fails to happen. The pace is brisk and Baley is constantly hunting for a footing that will keep his case alive. In this, it is reminiscent of the final confrontation in *The Naked Sun*, in which Baley pressures a dangerous roboticist into killing himself, ostensibly clearing Gladia of murdering her husband. This is the subject of the drama to which Baley and others so often refer and whose machinations the Chairman wants kept out of his office.

In Part 75, the principals restate their polar-opposite programs for the Galaxy and refuse to compromise meaningfully. Both posture before the Chairman as they present summaries, useful to the reader, of arguments previously described in the novel. The Chairman ignores Baley, whom he always distinguishes condescendingly as being from Earth, until Fastolfe suggests that his three days of findings be heard. In Part 76, Baley summarizes his case against Amadiro in the events of the preceding day and evening, which in Part 77, he pulls together into a desperate theory that humaniform robots could match Fastolfe's knowledge. The Chairman slowly warms to his arguments, to Amadiro's chagrin. This grows in Part 78, as he introduces Gladia's marriage and declares that somehow, despite Gladia's caution, Amadiro knows about it. He blusters, but cannot deny it. In Part 79, Baley pushes further showing how Amadiro could have gotten access to Jander to study him and, by accident may have killed him. Amadiro's reactions above all convince the Chairman of the possibility.

In the end, Fastolfe and Amadiro reach the compromise that the poor Chairman had suggested at the beginning. Fastolfe is far more flexible, knowing that he has the upper hand, should it come to a fight in the Legislature. Baley has achieved his goal of securing Earth's future. The Chairman orders him home forthwith, lest Aurorans learn of the compromise and seek someone on whom to vent their wrath.

Seeing all of the pieces strung together is satisfying for the reader, for by keeping Baley guessing on what he might be discovering, Asimov does not give away the solution to the mystery. Neither does Baley yet discover what his thrice-seen and lost vision mean. This keeps the reader turning pages.



Chapter 19, Again Baley (Parts 80-84)

Chapter 19, Again Baley (Parts 80-84) Summary

In Part 80, a relieved Fastolfe tells Baley that thanks from the Chairman is a rare honor. He then thanks Baley and promises technological help in getting Earth colonists into space in his short lifetime. During lunch, "It was there first!" bothers Baley and he warns that the fight with Amadiro may not be over. Fastolfe agrees, but knows that he can outmaneuver him in the Legislature, now that Jander's case has been solved. Daneel will escort Baley home. First, Baley wants to say goodbye to Gladia and Giskard. He knows that the Chairman should have cut off his argument. Suddenly, revelation hits: his successful arguments have been irrelevant, as is Fastolfe's continuing belief that Jander had succumbed chance.

In Part 81, Baley rushes to Gladia for a last time. Giskard does not let down his guard. Daneel is at the spaceport, making travel arrangements. In Part 82, a subdued Gladia greets Baley. She is glad that he has won Fastolfe's case. Baley confesses to revealing her secret and the verdict of pure chance in Jander's death. He urges her to give Gremionis a chance, saying that together they may revolutionize sex on Aurora. She makes one more plea for Baley to remain and they vow never to forget one another and to stay in touch. Wordlessly they call one another love as he leaves.

In Part 83, Baley takes Giskard aside and bluntly asks how he disables Jander. In Part 84, Baley realizes that he has underestimated Giskard because of his appearance and missed clues to the fact that Giskard can read and influence minds. The three missed clues are proof. Mind-reading helps Giskard obey the First Law, but from Calvin's story he knows that it would not be long tolerated if known. Baley guesses that Vasilia gives him this power. Immobilizing Jander to deny Amadiro access, he then uses Fastolfe's predicament to bring Baley to Aurora to test him as a representative Earth human to see if his kind can settle the Galaxy free of robot help. He has implanted the idea of psychohistory in Fastolfe's mind to serve as a guide to establishing a Galactic Empire. Baley will remember this but not be able to repeat it. Baley's last wish is that Gladia and Gremionis be encouraged to get together. Giskard tells Baley that Earth is now the World of the Dawn.

Chapter 19, Again Baley (Parts 80-84) Analysis

The final chapter reveals the well-kept mystery, "It was there first!" In Part 80, Baley warns a relieved Fastolfe that Amadiro may not end his fight but Fastolfe, being vindicated, has no fears of ultimate victory. Baley knows that his arguments are irrelevant and ought not to have won the day. This comes as a relieving revelation whose meaning to the reader is still a mystery. In Parts 81-82, Baley bids farewell to Gladia in a truly touching scene. She cannot believe that she is losing him a second time and they go over again why neither can live on the other's world. Baley comes



clean about telling her secret. He urges her to give Gremionis—and herself—a chance. Jessie's emotional hold on him is tenuous, but realities pull him away.

In the concluding Parts 83-84, Baley confronts Giskard, to whom he owes his life, with his theory that Giskard is Jander's killer. Note that Giskard is concerned that they are Outside, even though Baley says only a few times during this trip his agoraphobia been bad. Baley guesses that Giskard can both read and influence minds and has shown obscure signs that he has done so. For the reader's benefit a series of these clues are reviewed. Calvin's story is referred to again as an explanation of why Giskard is secretive about an ability that helps him do his duty under the First Law. He anticipates problems and works around them. Giskard reveals that in addition to preventing Amadiro from learning Jander's final secrets, the controversy allows him to bring Baley to Aurora to test, through him, Earth humans' ability to meet the challenges of colonizing space. Baley has passed the tests. Giskard will make more robots like him, but these may help out only after Earth humans on their own have created a vast Galactic Empire. Fastolfe's psychohistory is Giskard's plan to guide this. Earth has become what Aurora has always aspired to be: the World of the Dawn.



Characters

Elijah Baley

The protagonist of *The Robots of Dawn* and the preceding novels (*The Caves of Steel* and *The Naked Sun*, incidents from which are referred throughout the novel), Baley is a 45-year-old, grade C-7 City homicide detective whose earlier exploits solving a murder on the planet Solaris have won him fame throughout the universe, thanks to a hyperwave dramatization. He hates the notoriety and false images that the drama instills in people. When excited or under great stress, Baley exclaims, "Jehoshaphat!"—so often that Gladia Delmarre/Solaria, upon seeing him again, declares that she is sure it will be his first word.

Baley is relentless when following a line of questioning and follows hunches in the absence of hard evidence. At times his temper flairs. On the Spacer world Aurora, where he is called to investigate a "roboticide," his questions are considered invasion of privacy and he is very nearly deported before completing his investigation. One of his interviewees is Gladia, whom Baley meets in the preceding novel and to whom he is strongly attracted sexually. Gladia's unexpected conquest of Baley leaves him strongly conflicted, for he has a strong loyalty to his wife Jessie and worries about his professional status once he returns home, should rumors follow. Baley wishes that he could remain with Gladia but realizes that the short life-span of earth-born humans would at any rate part them soon.

Another trait of most earthlings that Baley shares is intense agoraphobia. Most spend their entire lives in great domed Cities (always capitalized). As the novel opens, Baley is regularly enduring the discomfort of spending time Outside in order to prepare himself for a colonizing trip to another planet with his son Bentley and, if she is physically able, Jessie. Only if he successfully defends Dr. Han Fastolfe against his political rival, Dr. Kelden Amadiro, will humans be allowed to colonize additional worlds. This strengthens Baley's resolve. A non-humaniform robot, R. Giskard Reventlov, whom Baley prejudicially considers little more than a bodyguard, reveals at the end that he has used his power to influence human and robotic minds to further his plans to allow only humans to prepare a great Galactic Empire. Giskard needs to study a human closely under trying circumstances to see if this is feasible. Before saying goodbye to the Earth-bound Baley, Giskard puts a block in his mind to keep him ever from revealing the secret.

R. Daneel Olivaw

A humaniform robot—indeed, the first robot to be given realistic human form—Daneel is designed by Auroran roboticists Dr. Roj Nemenuh Sarton and Dr. Han Fastolfe, but constructed on Earth by Sarton. There, his appearance is so convincing that he is teamed with the protagonist, plainclothesman Elijah Baley, in solving homicides. Sarton



is the first victim and the case, depicted in *The Caves of Steel*, is mentioned in flashbacks in this novel, as is their next meeting in *The Naked Sun* on the planet Solaria, investigating the murder of Rikainne Delmarre, husband of Gladia Delmarre/Solaria. In *The Robots of Dawn*, they team up to investigate the murder—roboticide—of Daneel's lookalike, R. Jander Panell.

Daneel has a typical Spacer appearance: broad face with high cheekbones and bronze hair combed straight back. He dresses conservatively. Daneel believes that he experiences the equivalent of human pleasure upon being reunited with Baley, who finds it difficult to treat Daneel as a robot because of his human appearance. There are times when Baley grows frustrated, however, with Daneel's literalism and stilted patterns of speech. This is a remnant of Baley's typical Earth human prejudice against robots. The conflicts are fewer in this novel than earlier ones, but not overcome. Baley errs in considering Daneel more intelligent than the non-humaniform R. Giskard Reventlov, who joins the investigative team primarily as Baley's bodyguard and a recorder of conversations. As the novel closes, Daneel is making travel arrangements for Baley and himself back to Earth. Daneel appears in Asimov's *Foundation* trilogy and related novels, which show Fastolfe's science of psychohistory guiding the creation of a Galactic Empire, as envisaged in this novel.

R. Giskard Reventlov

A non-humaniform robot designed and built on the Spacer planet Aurora by Dr. Han Fastolfe, Giskard seems to the protagonist, Elijah Baley, a fairly primitive robot. His covering is metallic but somehow woven, shifting in color as he moves. Initially he addresses Baley as "sir" rather than "master," as is proper on Earth. He is, indeed, created on Aurora and comes to Earth with R. Daneel Olivaw to guard Baley as he comes to Aurora to investigate a murder. Daneel, a humaniform robot, rates Giskard as rugged and fully cognizant of the importance of his mission to protect Baley, even if it means being destroyed in the process.

In time it is revealed that Fastolfe's rebellious daughter Vasilisa, also a talented roboticist, unknowingly modifies Giskard to allow him not only to read human and robotic minds but also to influence them. Under normal conditions Fastolfe's majordomo and right-hand man, Giskard assists Baley and Daneel in investigating the murder (or roboticide) of a second humaniform robot, R. Jander Panell. Giskard cannot help letting slip his special ability, showing up too promptly to effect a rescue, for instance, and at the end of the novel explains to Baley how and why he has shut down Jander to protect Fastolfe's secret and has influenced key characters to summon Baley to Aurora.

Giskard's aim is to thwart Fastolfe's arch rival, Dr. Kenden Amadiro, in his plan to use humaniform robots to expand Auroran civilization to other planets and exclude Earth (if not other Spacer civilizations) from colonization. Giskard intends to have humans prepare a great Galactic Empire without aid of robots until such time as they may prove useful. Giskard needs to study a human closely under trying circumstances to see if this is feasible. Before saying goodbye to the Earth-bound Baley, Giskard puts a block in his



mind to keep him ever from revealing the secret. He has planted the idea of a science of psychohistory in Fastolfe, to guide the development of the Galaxy.

Dr. Han Fastolfe

A master roboticist on the Spacer planet Aurora, Fastolfe has succeeded in producing the theoretical calculations needed to assemble the Galaxy's first two—and only—humaniform robots, R. Daneel Olivaw and R. Jander Panell. Among his other creations is the "normal" robot, R. Giskard Reventlov, which his estranged daughter, Vasilisa, has unknowingly modified to be able to read and influence human and robotic minds.

On arrival at Aurora, protagonist Elijah Baley instantly recognizes the homely, 165-year-old (metric years; 124 earth years—still young by Auroran standards) Fastolfe by the enormous ears that stand out from his head. Tall, thin, and with thinning brown hair, Fastolfe looks much like three years earlier, when they first meet, investigating the murder of Fastolfe's partner and Daneel's actual builder, Dr. Roj Nemennuh on Earth. Fastolfe is behind Baley's being summoned from Earth to investigate the permanent disabling of Jander's positronic brain. Fastolfe proudly admits that he alone has the knowledge and skill to commit the crime of roboticide, but adamantly denies doing it.

Fastolfe refuses to cooperate Dr. Kenden Amadiro's Robotics Institute of Aurora (RIA), whose political goal is to allow only Aurorans to colonize the Galaxy. Amadiro proposes to use humaniform robots, which RIA has thus far failed to produce, for exploration, while Fastolfe wants humans from Earth to take the vanguard—if not the entire mission. Fastolfe convinces the Chairman of the Legislature of Aurora to summon Earth's famous detective, Plainclothesman Elijah Baley, to solve the mystery and to win approval for his vision of the future. This novel plays down the conflicts that Baley and Fastolfe have in *The Caves of Steel*. Baley here recalls him as being rather nice for a Spacer.

Baley learns that Fastolfe has risen to power in the planetary Legislature, to the point of being mentioned as a future Chairman. He is a moderate on the role of robots in society and is quite sympathetic towards the Earth, which most Spacers, hate, fear, and revile. Fanatics far outnumber him, but Fastolfe's charm and political sense sustain his position. Fastolfe employs 57 robots in his home and workshop. Giskard is his majordomo and right-hand man. They have been together for Fastolfe's entire adult life. Fastolfe is currently married to Fanya, whom he has asked to remain in her quarters during Baley's visit.

Beyond perfecting humaniform robots, Fastolfe desires to spend his remaining centuries of life examining the human brain and, hopefully, to developing Laws of Humanics, parallel to the Laws of Robotics, to establish perfect order, and moving towards a science of psychohistory in order to know what to do to better the failing human race, rather than just guess. His estranged daughter Vasilisa, also a roboticist, claims that he is a monster, devoted only to unraveling the human mind. He admits to having a tight focus but denies being a monster. In the end, he agrees to join RIA and help develop



humaniform robots, on condition that his plan for Galactic settlement is followed and Earth's safety is guaranteed by treaty. His statesmanship in this regard is hailed.

Dr. Kelden Amadiro

The Master Robotist heading the Robotics Institute on Aurora (RIA), Amadiro is dedicated to preventing humans from Earth (and perhaps all Spacer worlds other than Aurora) from further colonizing the Galaxy. This puts him in direct conflict with Dr. Han Fastolfe, the world's premier robotist, who has created the only humaniform robots and who refuses to share his secret with colleagues. The RIA's efforts to compete by pooling talent have been futile.

Amadiro accuses Fastolfe of deactivating R. Jander Panell, the second humaniform robot that he creates, and Fastolfe's pride makes him insist that he alone would be capable of doing so. Simultaneously, he strongly denies doing it. The protagonist, Earth Plainclothesman Elijah Baley, brought in to investigate, strongly suspects that Amadiro, whose smile goes back and forth between pleasant and wolf-like, has robots sabotage his airfoil during a visit to the RIA in order to kidnap R. Daneel Olivaw, the sole surviving humaniform, in order to study him sufficiently to build a copy. Baley presents his case before the Chairman of the Legislature of Aurora and angers Amadiro to the point of confessing—but also denying responsibility for the freeze-up. The Chairman suggests a compromise that will allow all humans access to space. Amadiro agrees but seems likely to renege. He repeatedly claims not to be a barbarian and, indeed, an aficionado of Earth's culture.

Bentley (Ben) Baley

Protagonist Elijah Baley's 19-year-old son, Ben appears in the opening chapters alongside his father, as he works Outside the City to conquer his intense agoraphobia. Baley intends for Ben to accompany him to colonize other worlds in the Galaxy. Ben has a round face and sparkling eyes like his mother but also the length and solemnity of his father's face. He shares his father's grave disposition and way of thinking. Ben light-heartedly teases Baley about his age and wanting to go to Aurora only to see Gladia Delmarre/Solaria, whom he had defended three years before on the Spacer world Solaria. This is Ben's mother's great fear. At the Spaceport, Ben asks Baley why, with all that he has done for Earth humans, he receives so little appreciation. He observes that Baley is not a hero type.

Jessie Baley

Protagonist Elijah Baley's wife, Jessie worries about Baley undertaking a murder investigation on the Spacer world Aurora because Gladia Delmarre/Solaria has moved there. Jessie is jealous—Baley insists without cause—of Gladia after Gladia and Baley grow close during the investigation of Gladia's husband on Solaria. When Gladia seduces Baley at the end of this novel, he feels guilty and insists that he must return



home to Jessie and the rest of his life on Earth. Early in the novel, Jessie refuses to accompany Baley to the Spaceport, fearing that he will die en route or be killed when he reaches Aurora.

Dr. Susan Calvin

A pioneer in robotics on Earth, Calvin is remembered for many legends, the most famous being about a robot in prehyperspatial days that develops the ability to read human minds. Rather than harm humans' emotions (thereby breaking the First Law of Robotics), the robot lies, telling each person what s/he wants to hear. When Calvin confronts it, the robot's positronic pathways burn out. Its last word is "Liar!" (pg. 87). Dr. Han Fastolfe, who says that Calvin is "a demigod to all Spacers" (pg. 86), is surprised that protagonist Elijah Baley has not heard the story, which bears a resemblance to the case of R. Jander Panell, whose freeze-up he is investigating. Fastolfe observes that robots in those primitive times might have been vulnerable, but programming on current models can deal with such conflicts involving the Laws. Still, nothing can be 100% sure, so a spontaneous failure, analogous to a human stroke, is possible.

Maloon Cicis

Dr. Kelden Amadiro's arrogant gatekeeper at the Robotics Institute on Aurora (RIA), Cicis tries to prevent the protagonist, Earth Plainclothesman Elijah Baley, from interviewing his boss concerning a roboticide. Only when Baley threatens to publish his assumptions does Cicis report to Amadiro, who overrides him, agreeing to give the policeman a few precious moments of his time.

Gladía Delmarre/Solaria

Tiny, almost childlike, with a pretty triangular face, Gladia first appears in *The Naked Sun*, where her reclusive husband is murdered on the Spacer planet Solaria, and she is the only viable suspect. Earth Plainclothesman Elijah Baley proves that she is indeed the killer—but not responsible by reason of the horrors that she has endured. Gladia then moves to Aurora, where she and Baley meet again in the present novel. R. Jander Panell, a humaniform robot, is on loan to her at the time of his death. She is not, however, in the room with him then. She owns 20 robots and shares back-and-forth freely with Dr. Han Fastolfe's 57. Fastolfe has taken special responsibility for Gladia.

Baley dreams of Gladia often, almost erotically, since they part two years earlier. Both cherish memories of a bold, single touch of his cheek after she remains fully veiled throughout the investigation to guard against contamination by Earth germs and in obedience to Solarian taboos. Gladia cannot bear to look at R. Daneel Olivaw, Baley's partner, because he too closely resembles Jander. Gladia tells her tale of woe: how on Solaria sex is considered a duty for procreation while on Aurora it is meaningless, mechanical recreation. She never experiences an orgasm until she has sex with Jander.



They come to consider one another husband and wife and his death has destroyed her emotionally.

Near the end of the novel, Gladia seduces an ailing Baley, learning for the first time to give pleasure. She wants him to remain with her, but he must return to his wife. He begs her to give Santirix Gremionis, who has been offering himself to her repeatedly, a chance. She can teach the young man to love properly and together they may bring about a revolution in sexual mores on Aurora. Gladia and Baley part poignantly, probably forever.

Lavinia Demacheck

A 45-year-old Undersecretary in the Washington, DC, based Terrestrial Department of Justice (TDJ), Demacheck comes to the City (probably New York) to recruit protagonist Elijah Baley for a sensitive investigation on the Spacer world Aurora. Although there are many females in high offices on Earth, Baley is surprised by Demacheck. She has cleanly-chiseled, regular features, dark hair beginning to gray, and prominent breasts. She reports to Vice-Secretary Albert Minnim, who had sent Baley to Solaria and whom Baley has been asking for help visiting Aurora about his colonization project. Demacheck describes the tense political situation on Aurora, centering on the moderate Dr. Han Fastolfe. She delicately mentions that Fastolfe is accused by extremist enemies of murdering a humaniform robot and has requested Baley's help. Earth will suffer if Baley refuses to go—or if he fails in his mission. She gives him six hours to be ready to depart.

Dr. Vasilia Fastolfe/Aliena

The estranged daughter of the famous roboticist Dr. Han Fastolfe, Vasilia, who who is named for his mother, is beautiful like her own mother and, vehemently rejecting Fastolfe's surname, has become a noted roboticist on her own. She is pretty, with curly golden hair and none of her father's homeliness. Her face shows a cold determination. She deeply resents her father having raised her personally rather than putting her in a proper institution as is normal on the Spacer planet Aurora, and using her as a test subject on how the human brain develops. She terms him a monster, dedicated only to developing psychohistory, a way of predicting the future. As a young scientist, Vasilia inadvertently gives R. Giskard Reventlov, a "normal" robot who serves as her childhood nanny, the ability not only to read but also influence human and robotic minds. She suggests that her father murders R. Jander Panell in order to investigate the responses of his grieving human "wife," Gladia Delmarre/Solaria, who resembles Vasilia physically.

R. Geronimo

The New York City Police robot sent Outside to summon protagonist Elijah Baley back to Headquarters during his time off, Geronimo is only recently activated to much fanfare. He is more humaniform than most robots on Earth. He has a resilient, dull-gray finish



and changeless, rather idiotic face, nowhere near as human-like as Baley's partner, R. Daneel Olivaw. Baley addresses him as "boy" and refers to him as "it."

Santirix Gremionis

A polite, eager, 35-year-old Auroran hair cutter/clothes stylist who is attracted (serially) to lookalikes Dr. Vasilia Fastolfe/Aliena and Gladia Delmarre/Solaria, Gremionis does not, as custom expects, give up offering sex once it has been rejected. Gremionis and protagonist Elijah Baley first meet in a Community Personal, where Gremionis breaks a strong Earth taboo by speaking, insisting that he had not known about the murdered robot that Baley is investigating. Gremionis is the first Spacer that Baley has met who sports a mustache, which he compulsively strokes whenever nervous. After a full interview, Gremionis reports Baley to the Chairman of the Legislature of Aurora for slander. Only when Baley suggests the possibility that Vasilia might have subconsciously manipulated him into falling in love with Gladia does Gremionis see the possibility, and he appears to accept Baley's advice to be more forthcoming in demonstrating his intentions to Gladia. Gremionis is a virgin who wants Earth-style monogamy in his life.

Rutilari Horder

The 331-year-old Chairman of the Legislature of Aurora, Horder is normally referred to exclusively by his title. Aurora prides itself on continuity in this office between incumbents, who serve up to two thirty-year terms. By the end of their rule, they tend, like Horder, to become ornery. He is a surprising short man with a reputation for being efficient and hard-working and he gets results. The Chairman is determined to hear both sides of the argument between Dr. Han Fastolfe and Dr. Kenden Amadiro about the future of human colonization of the Galaxy. He dismisses the importance of the immediate dispute over who has killed R. Jander Panell. The Chairman is less interested in truth than peaceful expediency, and his recommendations to the Legislature are likely to be adopted. Failing to get Amadiro to compromise, Horder sides with Fastolfe. R. Giskard Reventlov reveals that he has several times lightly nudged Horder's mind to obtain desired results.

R. Jander Panell

The victim in this bizarre roboticide mystery, Jander is Dr. Han Fastolfe's second successful humaniform robot. Jander is in the possession of Gladia Delmarre/Solaria when his positronic brain is permanently disabled. Fastolfe proudly insists that he is the only person who has the knowledge and skill needed to do this, but resolutely denies having done so. He considers it a fluke. Earth Plainclothesman Elijah Baley examines the body, which shows no signs of decay as would a human, and notes that the genitals are perfectly represented. He surmises that Jander is Gladia's lover and she confesses that it is more: they consider one another husband and wife. Jander cannot receive



pleasure but is dedicated to giving it to Gladia, thus helping her overcome a wretched sex life. Jander's loss leaves her desolate. In the end, it is determined that R. Giskard Reventlov, a normal-looking metallic robot that has the ability to read and influence human and robotic minds, disables Jander to thwart Dr. Kenden Amadiro's plans to use humanoid robots exclusively to colonize other worlds.

Roth Wilson

The Commissioner of Police for the City (most probably of New York), Wilson is a harsh man, hostile to protagonist Elijah Baley after taking over the office from Baley's old schoolmate and friend, Julius Enderby. Roth is a large-headed, sleepy-looking outsider, who will be unable to protect Baley if his mission to Aurora fails.



Objects/Places

Aurora

The largest and strongest of the fifty Spacer worlds established centuries ago by explorers from Earth, Aurora has not seen a visitor from Earth since that first generation until protagonist Elijah Baley is invited to investigate a case of roboticide that is disturbing the political scene. Like all Spacer worlds, Aurora has a mighty fear of Earth's diseases being introduced to its germ-free environment. Baley studies Aurora's history and culture en route to the planet, using book-films that he considers adolescent. Human colonists encounter few indigenous species and establish their own domestic plants and animals. Initially they call the planet New Earth but eventually rename it for the Roman goddess of dawn.

Inhabitants of the World of Dawn forget their Earth-born heritage. Major factors include: 1) the integration of and dependence on ever more complex robots into society; and 2) a vast elongation of the human life span to 400 metric years, which brings about a slowing and homogenization of history. Aurora's population of 200 million has been stable for three centuries. This affords each citizen an ample share of resources and privacy. Some 20,000 live in Eos, the administrative center and largest city in the Spacer worlds. Every family has at least a couple of household robots, but there is a shortage of robots for farm work. Aurorans use selective breeding to keep the human population healthy, strong, and attractive. Everything substandard has been eliminated. Aurora's goal is for all humans to observe the Three Rules of Robotics.

Aurora's sun, Tau Ceti, is located in the constellation Orion, 3.67 parsecs (12.9 light years) from Earth. Tau Ceti is smaller and cooler than the Sun. Its light appears orange. Aurora revolves more rapidly than Earth, so it has a 22.3-hour standard day. Hours are divided metrically into minutes and seconds. Aurora circles Tau Ceti in 0.95 Earth days and counts ten 30-day metric months.

The City

A vast domed structure covering 5,000 square kilometers in which 20 million humans live, the City is to its residents the entire Universe. The City is never named in this novel, but in the earlier volumes in the trilogy it is New York City. Around the globe virtually all humans live in underground "caves of steel" (pg. 62), whose eternal humming and smells go unnoticed within minutes of coming in from Outside. Light, temperature, humidity, and air circulation are carefully controlled to values optimal for comfortable human existence. Being inside produces feelings of safety and permanence, a near addiction that makes protagonist Elijah Baley fear that he will not be able to leave the City at the head of a colonizing expedition to another world if that is ever authorized. Dr. Han Fastolfe of Aurora, who has visited the City, describes it as a "hive" (pg. 106) compared with Spacer worlds, where everyone enjoys ample space,



resources, and privacy. Particularly lively is the description of the hundreds of kilometers of Expressway and Feederway connecting all points of the City on eight levels. These sound like the moving sidewalks used in 21st-century airports, running in parallel at various speeds, the fastest approaching 60 mph. Skill and experience are needed to navigate them safely and smoothly.

Earth

The planet of origin of the human race, Earth has spawned fifty Spacer worlds whose populations look down upon it as a filthy, overcrowded, disease-ridden place. Earth currently houses eight billion people, almost entirely in vast, contained Cities. No spacecraft may leave Earth without Spacer permission and commerce with the Spacer worlds is regulated. The Globalist party on Aurora wants to restrict Earth humans from colonizing empty planets throughout the Galaxy, fearing that they will overwhelm everyone else in numbers. The opposing Humanists argue that the impetus to escape overcrowding will make them more mature colonists. Protagonist Elijah Baley is brought to Aurora partly to test him as a representative of Earth humans to see if the race is up to the task.

Eos City

Named for the Greek goddess of the dawn, Eos is the largest and most important city on the Spacer world Aurora. Even at its center, Eos is largely made up of private parks and estates. It houses the Auroran World Legislature. There is little traffic on the Expressway and buildings are not meant to be seen from the road. Communication is largely carried out by trimensional connections. People walk a good deal for business and pleasure.

Globalists and Humanists

Warring parties on Aurora, Globalists look after the interests of Aurora alone, particularly seeking to exclude Earth people from expanding throughout the Galaxy. Humanists insist that all humans have equal rights in this regard. Dr. Han Fastolfe is a leader of the Humanists, while his daughters, Lumen and Vasilisa, adhere vehemently to the other party. It is headed by Dr. Kelden Amadiro, founder and head of the Robotics Institute of Aurora (RIA). By decision of the Chairman of the Legislature of Aurora, Fastolfe and Amadiro are told to make peace, with Fastolfe joining the RIA but with the Globalist position prevailing and Earth humans being guaranteed peace by treaty.

Personal

The apparently universal term for bathroom at the time the Robot Series is set, Personals have a number of taboos built up around them. Male humans are not allowed to speak at all inside a Personal, while females engage in gossipy chatter. Robots are



strictly forbidden from entering Personals, which are the one place that humans can feel completely alone. Personals on earth are unisex and crowded, while those on Aurora are mostly one-person and project an illusion that varies with the occupant. Protagonist Elijah Baley's in Dr. Han Fastolfe's Guest Personal projects Outside nature—waterfalls, for example. Baley finds it disheartening and only after emerging from stumbling around is told that it can be easily dimmed or switched off. He is shocked when a young man recognizes him and begins a conversation in a Common Personal—and even more dismayed when a woman enters it after they leave. Later, Baley breaks the taboo against bringing robots inside and is able to converse with them because they are not strictly speaking humans.

Robotics Institute of Aurora (RIA)

A think tank located some 40 km beyond the outskirts of Eos City on the Spacer world Aurora, RIA is a "self-contained political entity" (pg. 209) consisting of homes, laboratories, libraries, and gymnasia. The massive Administrative Center does not conform to the usual Auroran fashion of hidden structures. It has a carved façade and high-technology security.

RIA is established by approximately one third of the roboticists on Aurora to duplicate Dr. Han Fastolfe's unique achievement of creating humaniform positronic robots. About half of them reside in the RIA complex. Headed by Dr. Kelden Amadiro, RIA wants to use these robots to colonize other worlds and recreate on them an environment closely enough resembling Aurora's to attract humans. Opposing them is Fastolfe, who wants to colonize using humans from overcrowded Earth. He refuses to cooperate, even if ordered by the government or forbidden to work on his own. He believes that RIA is claiming that he disables R. Jander Panell in order to thwart their plans and is spreading false rumors that he is developing a method for rapidly disrupting positronic brains. While scientifically impossible and ridiculous, the rumors are swaying public opinion and influencing legislators, because it plays into anti-Earth sentiments.

Protagonist Elijah Baley visits RIA to conduct interviews. The second time he is delayed until a fierce rain storm blows in and his airfoil fails, having been sabotaged. Baley understands that R. Daneel Olivaw is the object of the RIA's interest, to study him closely and learn Fastolfe's secrets. He overlooks that primitive-looking but telepathic R. Giskard Reventlov holds the vital information. Amadiro and Fastolfe are pressured by the Chairman of the Legislature of Aurora to make peace along the lines of Fastolfe's vision.

Solaria

One of the fifty Spacer worlds established centuries earlier by explorers originally from Earth, Solaria has a population of only 20,000 human, but a human-to-robot ration of 1:10,000. Solarians are perhaps the best roboticists in the Galaxy but know nothing about humaniform robots, which would surely activate Solarians' neuroses about



approaching or touching humans in any way. Solarians communicate electronically (by trimensional viewing) and reduce sex to an occasional obligation to produce children, who are strictly rationed and brought up by professional services. Ectogenesis—nurturing fetuses outside the womb—is the rule on Solaria. Solaria is the setting of the second novel in the Robot trilogy, *The Naked Sun*, but is important here because a major character from the novel has relocated to Aurora and has to cope with the very different society.

Spaceship

A towering metal cylinder far taller, more graceful, and more powerful than the Solarian ship that carries protagonist Elijah Baley on his last voyage into space, the Auroran Spaceship offers more comfort and luxury. Baley is ready for the standard procedures for dealing with Earth passengers: confiscation (and probably disintegration) of his clothing, thorough (and humiliating) washing, examination, fumigation, sterilization, and injection, followed by complete isolation. His new clothing is intended to protect the Spacers, who have an intense phobia about Earthy germs, rather than to be fashionable. They are, however, temperature-controlled, which is an expensive luxury on Aurora. Baley's room is kept locked from the outside. It contains a hyperwave screen for entertainment. Baley is almost unaware of the initial acceleration away from the Earth or entry into Aurora's atmosphere, except that he is viewing an astrosimulator, a special unit that gives him an Outside perspective, which sets off an intense agoraphobia attack.

Terrestrial Department of Justice

A Washington, DC, based governmental agency, the Terrestrial Department of Justice dispatches Undersecretary Lavinia Demacheck to the City to recruit protagonist Elijah Baley for a sensitive investigation on the Spacer world Aurora. The TDJ had been behind Baley's mission to Solaria three years earlier, which had won him fame throughout the Galaxy. The City Police Commissioner refers condescendingly to agents of the TDJ as "terries," suggesting that they demand many perks.

Three Laws of Robotics

Featuring prominently in all of Isaac Asimov's works, robots at the deepest level of their positronic brains are absolutely subject to the Three Laws of Robotics. These state that: 1) "A robot may not injure a human being or, through inaction, allow a human being to come to harm"; 2) "A robot must obey any orders given to it by human beings, except where such orders would conflict with the First Law"; and 3) "A robot must protect its own existence as long as such protection does not conflict with the First or Second Law" (pg. 42).

Robots are stronger, faster, and have more finely tuned actions than humans. They are always aware of human beings. Without these abilities, robots would not be able to



carry out their tasks. Earth robots are more conflicted by gray areas among the laws than Spacers, who magnify the third law. The latter tend to be "more complex, versatile, and valuable" (pg. 42). They can immobilize humans without harming them. Their minds, however, can freeze out, either by conflict with the First Law or as a freak occurrence, chances of which are "infinitesimally small" (pg. 43). This happens to R. Jander Panell, and solving his roboticide is protagonist Elijah Baley's task. Two factions on Aurora differ violently on whether humaniform robots should explore and preliminarily settle other worlds on Aurorans' behalf, or whether Earth humans should undertake the task without robotic help. Robots predate hyperspace flight and are, indeed, essential to humans leaving the Solar System to establish the fifty Spacer worlds. An ancient story associated with Dr. Susan Calvin talks of a robot that attains telepathy and is mentally destroyed when the lies it tells to humans all break the First Law. At the end of the novel it is revealed the R. Giskard Reventlov has been modified both to read and affect human and robotic thought. Giskard plans on making more versions of himself to help Earth humans once the Galactic Empire is in place.



Themes

Sex

The theme of Sex in *The Robots of Dawn* is approached primarily through the character of Gladia, a native of Solaria currently living on Aurora. Both Spacer worlds originally colonized from Earth centuries before, Solaria and Aurora are at polar opposites in their views (and taboos) on Sex. Protagonist Elijah Baley represents contemporary Earth humans' point of view: Sex ideally is limited to marriage and marriages are intended to be exclusive and forever. Procreation is not its sole purpose. Gladia summarizes the situation succinctly: Sex is taboo on Solaria and boring on Aurora.

On Solaria, Sex is taboo because humans touching flesh is taboo. Couples engage in Sex only occasionally, as an obligation to reach the two-child quota, and then gladly—so the official line goes—abandon the distasteful practice. Sex is not discussed even by women in the Personals (public bathrooms), where everything is discussed on Earth, and such books as are available—published off-planet—are heavily metaphorical. When Gladia's late husband finds one that is more frank in her possession, he destroys it. Still, she has a knowledge of the mechanics of sex, including the fact that female orgasm is possible. She claims never to have experienced it, because she cannot bring herself to masturbate.

Gladia experiences a hint of passion and love when she impulsively touches Baley on the cheek with a bare hand at the end of his mission to Solaria, two years before they meet in this novel. This inspires her, upon moving to Aurora, to offer herself to many men, as is the custom, but none satisfies her and she quits looking. On Aurora, Sex retains as its official purpose the bearing of two children, which is the only reason for marriage. Otherwise, it is entirely recreational and non-exclusive. Anyone may offer his or herself to anyone of either sex and that person is entirely free to accept or decline without stating a reason. It is good form, if rejected, not to ask again. Gladia has recently attracted a would-be suitor who will not take no for an answer. Baley is particularly aghast to hear that Fastolfe's estranged daughter, Vasilisa, once offers herself to him. Aurora has no taboo against incest because few children are raised at home and thus do not know their parents.

Frustrated by human lovers, Gladia turns to the humaniform robot R. Jander Panell, and they cohabit long enough (three months) to be considered married. Baley cannot get Gladia to admit that this is unnatural and agrees that it could be considered a special instance of using sex toys. Gladia sees it as true marriage and mourns Jander deeply. She denies a sexual tie to Jander's creator and her benefactor, Dr. Han Fastolfe, who is thrice married and quite straight-laced. Having spoken in the course of his investigation with the man who continually offers himself to Gladia, Baley recommends that she give him a chance. Santirix Gremionis is a virgin who holds Earth-like ideals of finding an exclusive mate.



Gladia seduces Baley late in the novel, as Baley's wife on Earth had feared. She begs him to remain with her on Aurora, but he cannot. He loves Jessie and values his reputation. He begs Gladia not to talk about their affair. He is also glad that they have consummated a passion that each has felt and cherished for years, and disclaims the guilt that he obviously feels. They part, silently calling one another Love.

Prejudice

Prejudice runs through Isaac Asimov's *The Robots of Dawn*, as it does through the preceding novels in the trilogy, on two remotely interconnected levels. Human beings are prejudiced against positronic robots, which they create centuries ago and which are the key to their escaping overcrowded Earth to found fifty Spacer worlds. Each of these worlds views the home planet and the helpful robots in its own particular way and as time passes the views harden into stereotypes and prejudices.

Some 80 billion humans remain on Earth, living their whole lives enclosed in massive underground Cities. Most share a phobia against being Outside. Protagonist Elijah Baley, who suffers an intense case, cannot conceive how people can stand to live exposed to the sun and nature rather than surrounded by fellow humans and the comforting noises that they make in the course of their meager existence. The humans that he meets on other planets cannot conceive how anyone could live in such a beehive, and as he experiences creature comforts on Aurora, Baley wonders how he will readjust to bland food and surroundings.

The Spacers share in common the belief that Earth humans are disease-ridden. Their short lifespans seem to confirm this. One of the first thing that the Spacers do is to sterilize Earth bacteria and practice selective breeding to eliminate hereditary degenerative diseases. As a result they tend to live for centuries. Earth humans are rarely allowed to travel to Spacer worlds and, since Spacers control all travel, their ability to visit is effectively controlled. When Baley is summoned off-planet on assignments, he is thoroughly decontaminated, inoculated, and ultimately quarantined. This humiliation is required of him because Spacers are wary of any skin contact. Solarians are the extreme here, finding the touch of flesh repellent. They allow it only to conceive children. Baley tries not to offend offworld sensibilities.

After working two missions with the humanoid robot R. Daneel Olivaw, Baley still retains his anti-robot bias. Like many prejudices, it is revealed subconsciously in his language, referring to robots as "it" and addressing them as "boy." The parallel to racial prejudice is obvious here. Baley also assumes that Daneel is more intelligent than R. Giskard Reventlov, a "normal," metal-cased robot, whose abilities are easily overlooked, much to Giskard's pleasure, as he proves to be the brains behind the major plot of *The Robots of Dawn*. Auroran humans claim to live in equality with robots, but have them trained to retreat into niches that line the walls of every establishment, waiting to serve the humans instantly. They do not see Baley's point when he mentions this anomaly.



On Aurora, whose humans consider themselves superior to all others, there rages a controversy over who should be allowed to explore and settle additional worlds and begin forming a Galactic Empire. Globalists want it restricted to Aurorans and favor having humaniform robots do the actual set-up. This will ensure that the cream of Auroran society will not be siphoned off, as happened when Earth undertook the earlier enterprise. In particular, Globalists want to restrict Earth humans to their planet and fear that otherwise a horde of filthy Earth humans will fill all habitable worlds and dominate. Opposing the Globalists are Humanists, led by Dr. Han Fastolfe, who see only Earth humans as having the proper incentive to spread out and look for whatever shortcomings their ancestors had when they went into space to being corrected. The novel ends with this plan appearing to be adopted.

Politics

Politics is dealt with in Isaac Asimov's *The Robots of Dawn* in several ways. Protagonist Elijah Baley, a homicide detective on Earth, two years after solving a murder on Solaria, is awaiting permission to visit Aurora, the most powerful of the fifty Spacer worlds established centuries earlier by emigrants from overcrowded Earth. He is frustrated at receiving no answer and knowing that he cannot simply show up. Spacers control trade and transport in space and have a history of violently suppressing any uprisings. Sociologists predict that Spacer fears of being massively outnumbered by Earth humans will lead to the latter's violent extinction within a century. Note in passing that Earth in this era appears to have a single government, seated in Washington, DC.

Baley is summoned to Aurora by the Chairman of its Legislature at the request of one of its leading politicians, Dr. Han Fastolfe. He heads the Humanist party, which advocates Earth humans resuming the lead—if not the entire program—of exploring and settling new worlds. The humanists are gaining ground on the opposing Globalists, led by Dr. Kelden Amadiro, who insists that because Auroran civilization is the most perfect it alone should be allowed to expand. Fastolfe and Amadiro are both master roboticists. Fastolfe, a loner, has perfected the humaniform robot that would enable the Globalist project to succeed but refuses to cooperate. When one of Fastolfe's two humaniforms mysteriously freezes, Amadiro helps blame fall on Fastolfe, who convinces the Chairman to summon Baley to investigate.

The Chairman within three days hears reports that Baley is slandering Aurorans—a grave charge on this planet—and summons Fastolfe and Amadiro to a hearing to resolve the conflict. It is tradition on Aurora for the Chairman to mediate disputes, with an eye less to truth than to peaceful expediency. His recommendations to the Legislature are likely to be adopted, because if they are overruled the Chairman must resign and a crisis ensues until a successor is named. Baley is allowed to testify and his chain of hunches, forcefully presented, bluff Amadiro into an admission of having tampered with the late R. Jander Panell. Baley later realizes that the Chairman ought to have thrown out his testimony, but accepts the victory, which will benefit Earth. It seems that Aurora's political system, focused on one individual, is particularly prone to control

by an unobtrusive telepathic robot, R. Giskard Reventlov, who wants the Humanist program to succeed.



Style

Point of View

The Robots of Dawn is told in the third person, past tense, with all of the action concentrated on a single character, New York City homicide detective Elijah Baley, who undertakes an investigation on the Spacer world Aurora, where he is entirely out of place culturally. This allows the author to develop the differences between various separated branches of the human race. The anonymous narrator reveals the characters' minds without the need for dialogue, although dialogue is frequent. Baley is assisted by two robots, one humanoid, R. Daneel Olivaw, with whom he has worked several cases and enjoys a friendship that makes it hard to consider Daneel non-human; and R. Giskard Reventlov, a "normal," metal-cased robot, whose abilities are easily overlooked. Dialogue among them is stylized and brisk, as the robots are highly literal and precise.

Baley is a veteran investigator skilled at interrogation and ferreting out clues. He knows that the time allotted to him on Aurora is limited and the consequences of failure—for his own career and for Earth—are dire, so he is meticulous. Most of those whom he interviews are scientists, roboticists, and several are at the top of the profession. They are jealous of one another and not forthcoming. Baley has, therefore, frequently to summarize what he suspects and asks them to accept or deny his theories. This allows the reader to keep up to date in often complex passages. Baley's frustration comes across at times crushingly. Baley also interviews a woman whom he defends in an earlier novel and of whom he holds tender memories. She explains how a touch helped her break out of sexual frigidity and, as they end up in bed together, sex with him liberates her further. These passages are both frank and tender.

The novel ends with the Chairman of the Legislature hearing arguments beyond the murder case at hand, but dealing with the future of human colonization of the Galaxy. Baley offers testimony, including his string of presumptions, which satisfy the Chairman. After the decision, Baley confronts Giskard with why he suspects that Giskard reads minds and is told that Giskard also influences minds and has arranged everything as a test of whether humans under stress are up to colonization. Baley has passed with flying colors.

Setting

Isaac Asimov's The Robots of Dawn opens on Earth, in the dread Outside, some distance from the City. Protagonist Elijah Baley is working at overcoming his intense agoraphobia, which most inhabitants of Earth share. He is summoned to police headquarters, affording a description of the massive overcrowding that inhabitants of Earth endure and the intricate system of expressways in the City. Assigned to travel to the Spacer planet Aurora to investigate a bizarre murder, Baley travels to the spaceport on the eastern outskirts, where he is reunited with his partner on two previous missions,



R. Daneel Olivaw and another primitive-style robot, R. Giskard Reventlov. Baley undergoes mandatory, routine decontamination—introducing the idea that Earthlings are considered unclean by Spacers—and told the specifics of the mission ahead. During the voyage, the lion's share of which is accomplished in a flash of time by hyperspace transport, Baley experiences space through the disorienting astrosimulator.

Arriving on Aurora, Baley and the robots visit Dr. Han Fastolfe's rather gaudy establishment (home), then Gladia's much more austere one, then the Robotics Institute of Aurora outside the city limits of Eos. It is rather more built up than the largely unspoiled countryside at the center of Eos, thanks to special dispensations obtained from the Chairman. Fastolfe's daughter Vasilgia greets Baley coldly in her office. When she refuses him access to a Personal (bathroom), the robots find him a communal one. There he meets Santirix Gremionis, who takes them to his drab, newly-built home for a private talk, then back to the RIA's ornate Administrative Building for a meeting with Chief Amadiro. Baley leaves there in an airfoil in the middle of a terrifying storm and is forced to abandon it to hide in some trees. He is rescued and taken back to Gladia's house. Next morning he testifies in the office of the Chairman of the Legislature. A final visit to Gladia and a walk Outside with Giskard complete Baley's visit to Aurora. He later recalls sitting against a tree with Giskard as his best moment on the planet.

Language and Meaning

Isaac Asimov's 1983 *Robots of Dawn* is told in straight-forward American English, purged of the occasional contemporary slang that marks the earlier volumes in the trilogy, produced in the 1950s-60s. Elijah Baley returns as a middle-aged, accomplished police investigator, who has had the misfortune of becoming famous in a dramatic telling of his case on the planet Solaria. He is frequently reminded that he is not as handsome or as talented as the actor who portrays him. He rues hearing the words and knows the burden this places on him. A tough veteran, Baley nevertheless rarely uses the faintest of foul language, relying on his exclamation "Jehoshaphat!" The name of a biblical king, it seems to draw no meaning from them but suggests an old-fashioned personality. It could be rendered "Oh crap!" today. The novel opens with him dealing with the Police brass. He knows how to behave and quickly adapts to each person whom he addresses, matching their style and attitude. It is easy to see why he has detractors in the department.

Baley interfaces most often with two robots. R. Daneel Olivaw throws him by his human appearance, but his "somewhat stilted way with the language" (pg. 33) and inability to handle figurative speech and deductive reasoning keep them somewhat apart. Baley has no feelings for R. Giskard Reventlov, a more conventional robot, until the end of the novel, when he realizes that Giskard reads minds and has been controlling events. Baley shares Earth human's prejudice against robots early in the novel, but this evolves into sympathy for them as he sees how they are treated on Aurora.

Other characters on Aurora include highly-trained roboticists and artisans. At one point, Baley is complemented on his excellent handling of Interstellar, the common language



of all humanity, both on Earth and throughout the Galaxy. It appears to be based on English but Shakespeare, Dickens, and Tolstoy are virtually incomprehensible. Earth humans are considered to speak it very poorly in general. Asimov makes no attempts at rendering dialog in *Interstellar*. Baley often listens to discussions that are over his head and tries to make sense of particulars. Several times he hears about a developing theory of psychohistory that is difficult to understand. In the end it is merely hinted that this will play a major role in the development of a Galactic Empire. Baley has to deal with hostile and reluctant witnesses, constantly forming hunches to try out on the next person in line. His fear of failure is emphasized throughout.

The woman whom he helps avoid a murder conviction on Solaria in *The Naked Sun* returns in this novel as Baley's love interest. Asimov handles well both eroticism and tenderness, subjects that he normally avoids.

Structure

The Robots of Dawn is the third novel in Isaac Asimov's *The Robot Series* (following *The Caves of Steel* and *The Naked Sun*) and links through the humaniform robot R. Daneel Olivaw with the *Foundation* cluster of novels. Protagonist Elijah Baley, a plainclothes homicide City detective (from New York City, according to the first two novels) has successfully concluded cases on Earth and Solaria, with Daneel's assistance, before being summoned to Aurora to determine who or what has permanently disabled another humaniform robot, R. Jander Panell.

The futuristic detective novel consists of nineteen numbered and titled chapters, which subdivide into eighty-four parts, consecutively numbered throughout the work. The titles indicate the character(s) primarily in focus in the chapter. When a character subsequently becomes the focus, the title prefixes the name with "Again." As a result of this tight focus, both the chapters and the parts vary considerably in length.

The first part occurs on Earth as the protagonist Elijah Baley is working at overcoming his agoraphobia in order to some day to lead a colonizing mission to another planet. He is summoned to police headquarters and is informed that his services are needed on Aurora. It is a politically touchy mission and likely to fail, which will ruin his career. He is not allowed to refuse. His consolation is being reunited with Daneel. Asimov is busy setting up Earth with its enclosed Cities, means of transportation, and anti-robot culture. The second part shows Baley, Daneel, and R. Giskard Reventlov, a "normal," metal-cased robot, whose abilities are easily overlooked en route to Aurora. Baley's agoraphobia is sorely tested but he survives. As he begins having suspicions, the level of tension rises.

In the third part, which constitutes the bulk of the novel, after landing on Aurora, Baley conducts his investigation. He is shown to be a skilled interrogator, able to find clues where there seemingly are none. He deposes a series of people of interest—there are no witnesses—concerning the humaniform robot R. Jander Panell, whose positronic brain has been permanently destroyed and the only person on Aurora technically



capable of the crime is his creator, who vehemently denies involvement. Dr. Han Fastolfe, who has summoned Baley to the planet, has plenty of powerful political enemies, who are pushing the Legislature to abort the investigation. Clearly Baley will be granted minimal time and failure will be catastrophic, not only for himself and Fastolfe, but also for the Earth.

Baley interviews Gladia, a woman whom he has defended on murder charges in an earlier novel. They developed a strong emotional attachment. She is Jander's owner at the time of his demise and reluctantly admits to their being married (against taboo). Gladia's physical resemblance to Fastolfe's estranged daughter Vasilia complicates the plot and suggests possible additional culprits, as Baley plunges forward, always picking at straws. After he interviews Fastolfe's political rival, Dr. Amadiro, Baley is stranded in the woods in a sabotaged vehicle and comes to the realization that Daneel could be the key to Amadiro's overcoming the difficulty of making a humaniform robot. He orders Daneel into hiding. Rescued, Baley enjoys sex with Gladia and while falling asleep utters the subconscious words that break the case. Gladia helps him remember them.

The finale has Baley testifying before the Chairman of the Legislature after Fastolfe and Amadiro can reach no compromise. He tersely summarizes how he comes to his conclusion that Fastolfe is not responsible for Jander's death and suggests a motive for Amadiro eliminating him. The text reads like a court verbatim as Baley strings together suppositions that cannot be substantiated but which fit together plausibly. The Chairman thanks Baley for his service and orders him back to Earth post haste. Baley and Gladia bid a touching farewell before Baley asks robot Giskard if he reads minds. Instances are reviewed, Giskard admits he can, and adds that he can influence minds. He explains how he has steered the entire proceedings and why: he had needed to study an Earth human under pressure to be sure that they are capable of colonizing other planets without help from robots. Baley has passed the test. Psychohistory, which fills Asimov's Foundation novels, is free to develop.



Quotes

"There would be the isolation—the fact that no one would see him or have anything to do with him, with the exception (perhaps) of a robot. There would be the constant medical treatment—the fumigation and sterilization. (No other way of putting it.) There would be the attempts to make him fit to approach the disease-conscious Spacers who thought of Earth-people as walking bags of multifarious infections." Chapter 2, Daneel, Part 6, pg. 27.

"He was being sent to Aurora for the specific purpose of demonstrating that Fastolfe was innocent of roboticide—and success in that was required for Earth's continued security and (much less important but equally dear to Baley's heart) for the continued prospering of Baley's own career—yet, even before reaching Aurora, he had discovered that Fastolfe had virtually confessed to the crime." Chapter 2, Daneel, Part 7, pg. 45.

"Well, then, no one committed the crime. It was a spontaneous event in the positronic flow along the brain paths that set up the mental freeze-out in Jander.'

"Is that likely?'

"No, it is not. It is extremely unlikely—but if I did not do it, then that is the only thing that can have happened.'" Chapter 4, Fastolfe, Part 16, pg. 83.

"Perhaps, though, there may come a day when someone will work out the Laws of Humanics and then be able to predict the broad strokes of the future, and know what might be in store for humanity, instead of merely guessing as I do, and know what to do to make things better, instead of merely speculating.'" Chapter 5, Daneel and Giskard, Part 21, pg. 113.

"Our last meeting on Solaria—I hope you remember it, Elijah—taught me something. I touched you! I removed me glove, one that was similar to the glove I am wearing now, and I touched your cheek. The contact did not last long. I don't know what it meant to you—no, don't tell me, it's not important—but it meant a great deal to me.'" Chapter 6, Gladia, Part 23, pgs. 140-141.

"He was really not getting anywhere and, as Dr. Fastolfe had indicated earlier, there is not really much use in cross-examining a robot. They would not knowingly say anything that would harm a human being, nor could they be badgered, bribed, or cajoled into it. They would not openly lie, but they would remain stubbornly—if politely—insistent on giving useless answers." Chapter 7, Again Fastolfe, Part 27, pgs. 160-161.

"I have the impression that just before falling asleep, in the free-association limbo between sleep and waking, it seemed to me that I had something.'

"Indeed? What?'

"I don't know. The thought drove me into wakefulness but didn't follow me there. Or else some imagined sound distracted me. I don't remember. I snatched at the thought, but didn't retrieve it. It's gone. I think that this sort of thing is not uncommon.'" Chapter 8, Fastolfe and Vasilisa, Part 32, pgs. 188-189.



"Baley's heart sank. So far he had questioned only Dr. Fastolfe, Gladia, and the two robots, all of whom had overriding reasons to cooperate. Now, for the first time, he would be facing an unfriendly subject." Chapter 9, Vasilia, Part 36, pg. 209.

"Baley turned away. It had not been many minutes before that he had thought that open conversation in a Personal was the acme of bad taste, of Things Not Done.

"If he had tried to think of something worse yet, he would have completely failed to dredge up the possibility of encountering a woman in a Personal." Chapter 11, Gremionis, Part 47, pgs. 257-258.

"Vaguely, he thought of Daneel trapped between his perception of Baley's ill-being and the urgency of the order—and of his brain snapping under the conflict.

"Baley thought: No, no, Daneel. Just do as I say and don't question it.

"He lacked the strength, almost the will, to articulate it and he let the order remain a thought.

"The airfoil came down with a bump and a short, harsh, scraping noise." Chapter 15, Again Daneel and Giskard, Part 64, pg. 343.

"Then don't let them do that, Elijah."

"And he said, 'Jehoshaphat, Gladia, I'm going to try not to, but I can't lift a planet with my bare hands. You can't ask me for miracles.'

"Gladia nodded and, eyes downcast, put her fist to her mouth, sitting there motionlessly, as though in thought. It took a while for Baley to realize that she was weeping soundlessly." Chapter 16, Again Gladia, Parts 67, pg. 362.

"Gladia said thoughtfully, 'I do not mean to tease you, Elijah. You have been kind to me and I would not be unkind to you, but'—she threw her arms up hopelessly—'your Earth ways are so nonsensical.'

"Undoubtedly. Yet I must live with them—as you have lived with Solarian ways.'

"Yes.' Her expression darkened with memory. Then, 'Forgive me, Elijah. Really and honestly, I apologize. I want what I can't have and I take it out on you.'" Chapter 17, The Chairman, Part 72, pg. 380.

"He was not conscious of the manner in which the thought—the memory, the interpretation—came to him or at what speed. One moment it did not exist, the next moment it was full-blown in his mind, as though it had been there all the time and needed only the bursting of a soap-bubble veil to show it.

"Jehoshaphat!' he said in an awed whisper." Chapter 19, Again Baley, Part 80, pg. 418.



Topics for Discussion

In what ways does Elijah Baley embody Earth humans' prejudice against robots and how has working with Daneel and Giskard changed him?

How do Aurorans manifest prejudice against robots while claiming to live with them in equality?

How does the televised drama about Elijah Baley's previous work on Solaria affect his ability to carry out his duties as an investigator? Discuss possible pros and cons, centering on a single instance of your choice.

How do Elijah Baley's views on City living change as he forces himself to endure the Outside? How might he be expected to be different when he returns to Earth?

What part does overweening pride play in this novel? Does there appear to be any escape for those afflicted with it. Select one character for close analysis.

Describe the institution of marriage as understood and practiced by humans on Earth, Solaria, and Aurora. What factors (if any) are held in common? In what ways do they most diverge?

Describe Elijah Baley's approach to police work. What are his most effective traits on the job and what are his least? Pick one character whom he interviews and discuss how he handles him or her—and how you would do otherwise, stating what you would seek to accomplish by your method.