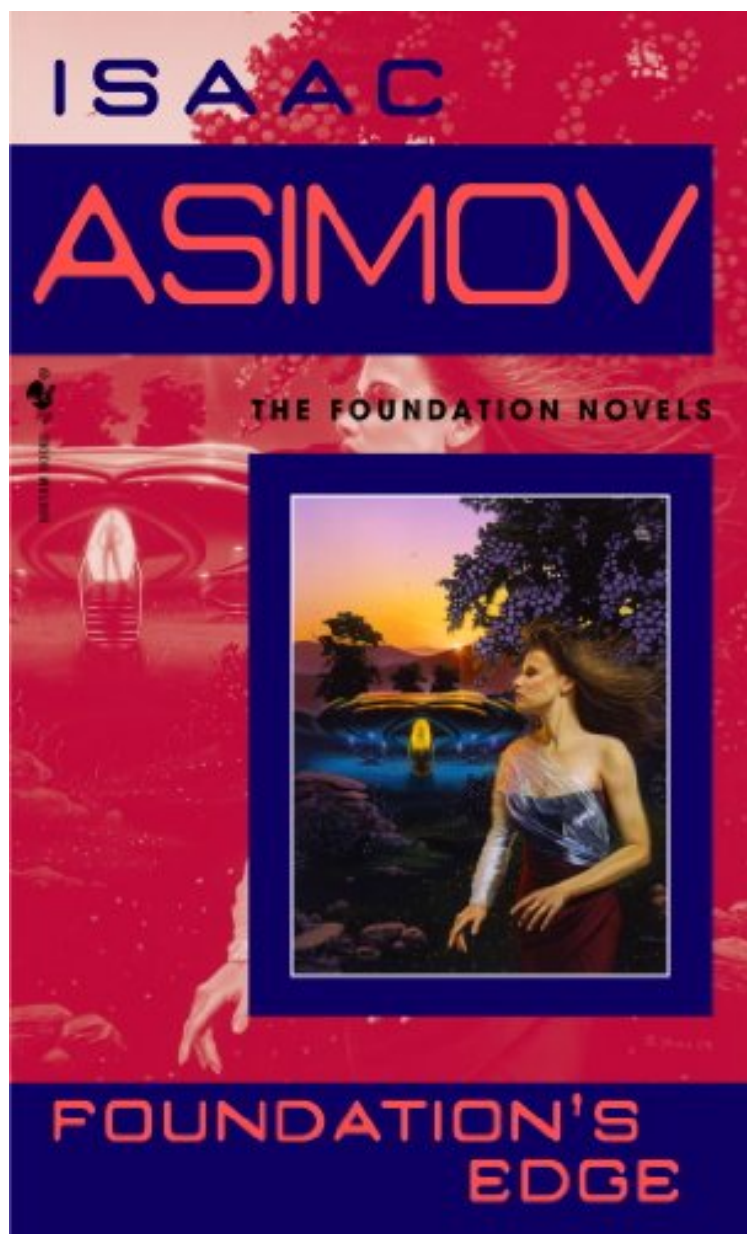


[FREE] Foundation's Edge

## Foundation's Edge

Von Isaac Asimov

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**Von Isaac Asimov : Foundation's Edge** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Foundation's Edge:

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen3 von 3 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Asimov

pulls it all together Von Paul O'Brian If you've already formed an opinion about Isaac Asimov's writing, FOUNDATION'S EDGE isn't likely to change your mind. The book has all of Asimov's earmarks, both good and bad: wooden characters who almost always know exactly how they feel and say exactly what they mean; dialogue-heavy scenes in which the exchanges are drenched with ideas and cerebral analysis but almost devoid of emotion or neurosis; an inventive setting replete with plausible details; and a propulsive, energetic plot that delivers lots of suspense and surprises. I already liked Asimov before I picked up the book, and it certainly didn't disappoint me, but it's not going to convert anybody who only wants to read about nuanced characters making subtle self-discoveries. Because the plot is one of the book's best features, to say too much about it would spoil the fun for too many readers, so I'll limit myself to one of its most interesting aspects, which is that it attempts to tie together a number of Asimov's works. Without giving too much away, it's fair to say that part of the book's project is to meld the fictional "universes" of the Robot stories, the Empire novels, and THE END OF ETERNITY with that of the FOUNDATION trilogy. Many Asimov fans have derided this decision, claiming that it marks the beginning of his decline as a science fiction writer. For myself, while I can't say that I find the attempt at retrofitting fictional consistency onto highly disparate works to be particularly compelling or convincing, I do find it interesting. Consider that Asimov was an atheist, who argued that in the absence of any persuasive evidence of a Supreme Being (of which he could find none), it was more rational to believe in God's nonexistence than in His existence. Yet for us to credit Asimov's notion of psychohistory, we must posit that certain characteristics are common to all humans. I would contend that the religious or spiritual impulse is such a characteristic, and that as people get older and their desire for comfort, security, and meaning increases, that impulse only gets stronger. I wonder: as Asimov aged, did he channel his own growing spiritual impulse into the project of forcing his fictional creations into an overall rubric, of imposing meaning where none previously existed? If you're an Asimov fan, FOUNDATION'S EDGE should be required reading. It did, after all, win the Good Doctor the 1983 Hugo award for best novel. On the other hand, if you're new to Asimov, this isn't the place to start. Instead, check out the FOUNDATION trilogy, or the Robot novels (THE CAVES OF STEEL and THE NAKED SUN -- the later ROBOTS OF DAWN and ROBOTS AND EMPIRE were part of Asimov's retrofitting project.) Better yet, read his short stories, collected in two excellent volumes titled THE COMPLETE STORIES I and II. It is those stories which cemented his reputation as a world class sf author, and I would argue that it is that reputation, rather than any particular virtue of this novel, that FOUNDATION'S EDGE's Hugo acknowledges.

3 von 3 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Asimov's Foundation's Edge Von Osher Doctorow, Ph.D. This is as good as any of the original three books of the Foundation Trilogy, and is in my opinion a work of Creative Genius. Some readers have commented on the seeming non-religious philosophy of the book, but although the philosophy is somewhat strange (not to give away the ending), I think that it is compatible with either a religious or non-religious viewpoint, and furthermore Asimov intended further books to follow to develop his themes further. Others have indicated that his characters are psychologically or emotionally lifeless, but the main characters Trevize and Gendibal and Sura Novi and Mayor Branno and Pelorat are as alive as most of Shakespeare's characters without the unnecessary violence. In this book, Asimov reveals himself to be a master of surprise, characterization, conflict and its resolutions, and an openness to ethical and even environmental questions. Most of all, perhaps, he is the ultimate opponent of bureaucracies in this book, whether academic, political, or any others. His conclusion is a bit confusing on this matter, but I do not think it was intentional but rather was dictated largely by the element of surprise and telling a good and entertaining story.

1 von 1 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. A Worthy Continuation of the Foundation Saga! Von Ein Kunde Isaac Asimov continues the Foundation Story in this 4th installment of the series, published around 30 years after the original trilogy. In Foundation's Edge, Asimov does a great job of continuing and expanding the Foundation story without missing a beat, despite the amount of time between this book and the first 3 books. The novel's style is somewhat different from the original trilogy in that it has somewhat more depth and more sophistication. This is only expected, however, considering this novel was published in the 1980s, and the original trilogy was published 50 years ago in "pulp" monthly magazine format. Foundation's Edge is also close to 500 pages, whereas the entire original trilogy, combined, wasn't much more. The book follows members of both the 1st and 2nd Foundations who believe that some force in the Galaxy, besides either of the Foundations, is at work controlling the Seldon Plan and causing it to proceed a little perfectly. But who or what is controlling it nobody knows, nor what their ultimate intentions are. Not knowing if the mysterious third party means good or bad for the Foundations (and the Galaxy, in general), the characters must discover the truth, or else it could mean the end of both of the Foundation's as well as Hari Seldon's vision for a new empire. This was a very enjoyable book to read and flowed well from cover to cover. As with many of Asimov's novel, this sci-fi reads like a mystery in which characters are missing major pieces of the puzzle, but must seek to uncover the truth. The ending may be considered a little disappointing by some in that it basically winds up heading the galaxy in a completely different direction than the original trilogy. It's always a bit disappointing when an author basically contradicts what readers believed from reading previous books in a series. However, all in all, I strongly recommend the entire series to be read (and in the order published, I might add!)

Kurzbeschreibung Now, 498 years after its founding, the Foundation seemed to be following the Seldon Plan perfectly. Too perfectly. Now an impossible planet -- with impossible powers -- threatens to upset the Seldon Plan for good unless two men, sworn enemies, can work together to save it! From the Paperback edition. Pressestimmen` Isaac Asimov was one of the great explainers of the age... It will never be known how many practicing scientists today, in how many countries, owe their initial inspiration to a book, article, or short story by Isaac Asimov' Carl Sagan ` Asimov displayed one of the most dynamic imaginations in science fiction' Daily Telegraph ` Asimov's career was one of the most formidable in science fiction' The Times Kurzbeschreibung Now, 498 years after its founding, the Foundation seemed to be following the Seldon Plan perfectly. Too perfectly. Now an impossible planet -- with impossible powers -- threatens to upset the Seldon Plan for good unless two men, sworn enemies, can work together to save it! From the Paperback edition.