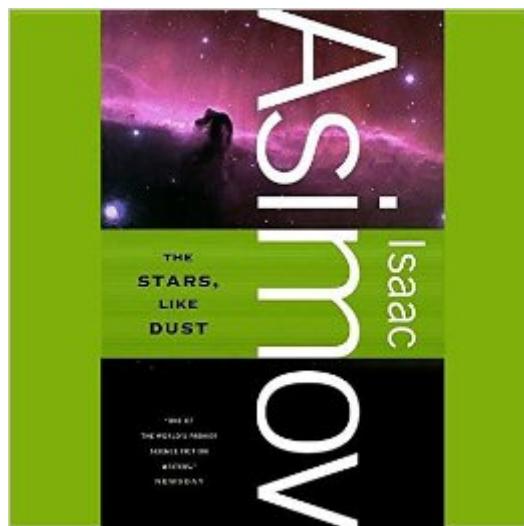


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# The Stars, Like Dust



## Synopsis

Biron Farrell was young and naive, but he was growing up fast. A radiation bomb planted in his dorm room changed him from an innocent student at the University of Earth to a marked man, fleeing desperately from an unknown assassin. He soon discovers that, many light-years away, his father, the highly respected Rancher of Widemos, has been murdered. Stunned, grief-stricken, and outraged, Biron is determined to uncover the reasons behind his father's death and becomes entangled in an intricate saga of rebellion, political intrigue, and espionage. The mystery takes him deep into space, where he finds himself in a relentless struggle with the power-mad despots of Tyrann. Now it is not just a case of life or death for Biron it is a question of freedom for the galaxy."

## Book Information

Audio CD

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Shipping Weight: 10.4 ounces

Average Customer Review: 4.0 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (114 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #6,053,764 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #11 in Books > Books on CD > Authors, A-Z > ( A ) > Asimov, Isaac #4060 in Books > Books on CD > Science Fiction & Fantasy > Science Fiction #4774 in Books > Books on CD > Science Fiction & Fantasy > Fantasy

## Customer Reviews

With "Pebble in The Sky" (first published in 1950) awaiting publication, Asimov was asked by Walter Bradbury of Doubleday to come up with another idea for a novel. After a couple of non-starters, the premise for "The Stars, Like Dust" was agreed to. As Asimov was working on the novel, Frederik Pohl (acting as Asimov's agent at that time) informed him that Horace Gold was interested in publishing the novel as a serial in his new magazine "Galaxy". The one condition was that Horace Gold wanted to add a subplot about a mysterious document which had disappeared from Earth. Walter Bradbury also wanted to include the subplot in the book version of the story, and Asimov went along with it, although he clearly wasn't happy with the idea. The general plot of the story (without the subplot) has potential, however, Asimov's loss of interest in the story becomes clear, and ultimately the story itself suffers greatly. Asimov considered this his worst novel, and it would be

difficult to argue otherwise. The story was published under the name "Tyrann" from January through March of 1951 in "Galaxy" magazine, and was published in book form in March. The story is set a few hundred years after Earth becomes radioactive. The hero is Biron Farrill who is the heir to the ruler of one of the planets which have been taken over by the Tyranni. Biron is also a student on Earth when he learns that his father has been executed for treason. He is convinced by a friend to seek refuge with the Hinriads on Rhodia (another of the planets). There he meets Artemisia, the Director's daughter, and Gillbret, a cousin of the Director. Each of them has a reason for trying to get off of Rhodia, and so they find themselves together out of need.

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