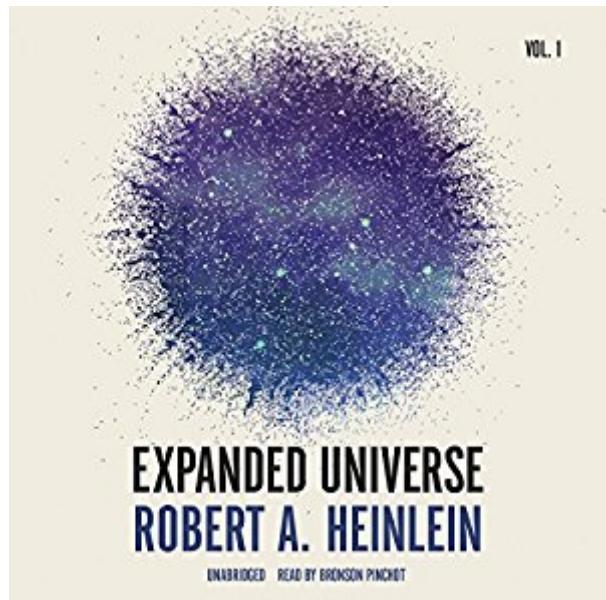


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# Expanded Universe, Vol. 1



## Synopsis

Robert A. Heinlein has been hailed as one of the most forward-thinking science fiction writers of all time, and *Expanded Universe* (presented in two volumes) offers the perfect collection of his works to provide listeners with true insights into his uniquely creative mind. Heinlein personally selected each story or essay for inclusion in this collection, which is ordered chronologically, starting with his first sale in 1939 of "Life-Line" to *Astounding*. This remarkable collection highlights the development of Heinlein's writing style and his philosophy on life throughout his career. More importantly this collection is as close to an autobiography as anything Heinlein wrote during his life. Heinlein was an extremely private person who never wrote much about himself. In this exclusive collection, he offers forewords to most of his stories and essays (and an occasional afterword), giving listeners a rare glimpse into the inner mind of the master. *Expanded Universe* is a must-have for any Heinlein enthusiast and any fan of science fiction.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

OK, let's be plain-spoken as Heinlein would've preferred. The transfer is fine, as far as that goes. The problem is, it is "volume one". which was very much obscured on the page I bought it from. I thought it was the whole *Expanded Universe* book. And this *volume one* includes most of his political stuff, not his stories. Look... maybe I agree with Heinlein in his political view and maybe I don't. In fact, it's some of both. But here is an example of *someone* doing what Heinlein would have, probably, hated. Taking gross advantage of the reader. I never knew Mr. Heinlein. Except two fan letters, which he very generously responded to, I have no connection. Somebody out there is

milking the cow, on this. If you advertise that this is the book "Expanded Universe", it needs to be that. This isn't. It's a very much abbreviated version, that doesn't include... well, everything that we Heinlein fans expect from an eBook of his named "Expanded Universe". We know what the original contained. And to be honest... maybe painfully so, to his family or whoever is responsible for this travesty... we never read Heinlein to get his political views. We read him to be entertained and educated on other topics. It doesn't make any difference if I, or anyone, personally, agree or disagree with his political views. This was sold as his stories. And it basically isn't. It's a lie perpetrated by whoever has control of this original work. To milk as much money as they can from the legacy. Expanded Universe should be an eBook, unto itself, and absolutely not broken down into parts. It was a REAL book unto itself, that Heinlein himself authorized. Breaking it down into "parts", or "volumes" is just milking the cow for more money. I don't think I've never given Heinlein a bad review, and I haven't still. I'm giving whoever the selfish cash-centric person who decided to release Expanded Universe this way a bad review.

This was OK. Much of it is repetitive, and I'm afraid it displays more of Heinlein's weaknesses than his strengths as an author. His characters are thin. They tend to sound like (and be) mere mouthpieces for the author's views. They're closer to ideological tracts in the guise of short stories. It's somewhat interesting to look back at this period in science fiction and to read what Heinlein thought of his own work. The stories themselves, I'm afraid, aren't all that satisfying.

As a collection of Heinlein's previous works with along with the author's comments I found it disappointing. I was hoping to find more material in the book, either in comments or stories. It did give a good perspective of Heinlein's writing career and shows how he managed to start in the industry.

I first discovered Heinlein when I was in the fifth grade. I found a copy of *Have Spacesuit, Will Travel* in the classroom I was in and could not put it down. That was over 50 years ago and I am still as fascinated by his writing as I was then. This collection has many stories I haven't read before and some . I haven't seen for a long time, but all are welcome in my library.

This was a good book... Heinlein is a master, of course... but this book delves more into the master's thoughts about World War 3 and Armageddon and how to survive - and could be a bit dry at times... Heinlein was way ahead of his time relative to knowledge of the dangers of Atomic

warfare... his ideas on how to deal with the upcoming war seem a bit dated now but we still live in a nuclear armed world and we are not safe yet, so who knows? The brief introductions, updates and thoughts from the master regarded each story were wonderful. They gave some insight to his current thinking without changing the original story.

This is a great introduction to Heinlein. Most of these are hard to get without spending a lot of money. One word of caution though: Heinlein wrote more than science fiction. Along with some truly great science fiction stories are some other stories that made Heinlein a somewhat controversial figure at the time. The Atomic Age is featured prominently in the latter part of the book and the stories are either really dated or fairly prescient depending on your view of the world. I certainly understand why so many authors were concerned about the nuclear age but this book features maybe one or two too many stories on this topic and it gets a bit repetitive.

Of Course I like Heinlein as a Writer, My favorite SF writer in fact. This is a book of some of his short stories. If you like SF and haven't read HEINLEIN, you should give him a read. I think you will enjoy his writing style. What better way to introduce yourself to him than with a few shorts?

If you know Heinlein, you know what this is. I'd recommend starting with his more known/traditional books before deep diving here, but I doubt you found this novel if you didn't already know his work. Cheers!

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