Notes on the Big 3

Robert Heinlein: “Grand Master” Author of *Starship Troopers¸Stranger in a Strange Land, Moon is a Harsh Mistress*

Critics say he is fascist. Instead, supporters say he is patriotic but not jingoistic.

RH supports Man becoming perfect, but he gets weird in some stories.

Isaac Asimov wrote so much: books about every subject, from the Bible to zoology. He is most famous for writing *I, Robot* and the Foundation series.

Asimov’s 3 Laws of Robotics are:

Arthur C. Clarke wrote *2001: Space Odyssey* and *Rendezvous with Rama*.

He wrote of space travel, aliens, and advanced technology.

Clarke’s three rules of Sci Fi:

1. When a distinguished but elderly scientist states that something is possible, he is almost certainly right. When he states that something is impossible, he is very probably wrong.
2. The only way of discovering the limits of the possible is to venture a little way past them into the impossible.
3. Any sufficiently advanced technology is indistinguishable from magic.

Sci Fi Stories by the Big Three:

***Starship Troopers* by R. Heinlein**—Juan Rico of Earth joins the Starship Troopers to fight big insectoid aliens called “Bugs” to save the human race.

***Nightfall* by Isaac Asimov**—A planet that never knows darkness because it has 3 suns, prepares for a night of darkness in which civilization is destroyed once every 5,000 years.

***Rendezvous with Rama* by A.C. Clarke**—Astronauts investigate the inside of a massive ship that appears outside Earth, to find marvelous machines but no aliens—just a countdown.