

[Aurora](#), Kim Stanley Robinson

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He turned to her and kissed her, and she kissed back, and they kissed for a long time, then took their clothes off and lay on them, and mated. They were both infertile, they both knew that. They squeaked, they cooed, they laughed. - **pg. 75**

"Well," Devi said, "it could just be another phosphorus problem." - **pg 93 till the words** "So they had to find some of the phosphorus that had gotten stuck somewhere and return it to the cycle." on **page 94** [whole page about phosphorus - vs]

"You're going to have to take more chemistry."

"It won't do any good," Freya said flatly. "It doesn't stick. You know that. I'd rather focus on mechanics, if anything. Things I can see. I like it better when things stay still for me."

Devi laughed shortly. "Me too." She thought about it for a while as they walked. "Okay, maybe more logistics. That's pretty straightforward. The only math is the hundred percent rule really." - **pg 95** [and more and more about how it is possible for a young lady to get by without any math - vs]

They went in the room containing that part of the pipes, and Aram applied the engineer's solution, as they called it, tapping with a wrench the exposed curved jointed section that held the thermostat and valve regulator, which together seemed to be the source of the problem. Then he hit the joint itself with considerable force. With that a row of lights on the control panel turned from red to green, and the piping on both sides of the joint began to emit a soft flowing gurgle, like a flushed toilet.

"The valve must have closed and then stuck," Aram said with an unhumorous smile. "The swing around Planet H must have torqued it."

"Fuck," Devi said, voice rich with disgust.

- **pg 107** [с помощью молотка и какой-то матери - vs]
- [первый раз встречается слово fuck, чувствуется - автор устал - vs]
- [это они починяют систему охлаждения ядерного реактора, no shit, дорогая редакция - vs]

Life is complex, and entropy is real. - **pg 113** [oh my - vs]

“But deciding to act requires solving the halting problem.” - **pg 115**

[and tons of other pseudo-scientific gibberish up to **pg 116** - vs]

sample of style:

Then, because Aurora orbited E almost in the plane of Tau Ceti's ecliptic, and E too orbited very close to that plane; and Greenland lay just north of the Aurora's equator; and E was so much bigger than Aurora, and the two so relatively close together, there came the time for their monthly midday full eclipse. Their first one was arriving. 170.055, A0.15. - **pg 140**

Building bridges over ravines - description of the machines with diamond saws which cut stone cubes 3 meters , how they are transported etc - what is this all about? What is the purpose of this detailed description? Any glimpse into future engineering here? [“a rock saw attachment at the end of the vehicle's backhoe”] - **pg 147**

Endless discussions of whether to go out unprotected and “breathing of the open air” (Freya's opinion on that is taking the whole page), culminating with the story of Clarisse getting caught in some kind of a quicksand [**pg 162**], getting her protective suite damaged while being rescued. Whole story could be compressed to one short paragraph without losing any value.

Then discussions of mysterious illness and biologic/abiologic origins of the oxygen in the atmosphere - amazing ineptitude in search for organic matter demonstrated by people arrived on a sophisticated spaceship.

In between his calls she said to him, “I miss Devi. If she were alive, none of this would have happened. She would have insisted that we test the surface of the planet completely before anyone landed.”

“Hard to do by robot,” Badim remarked absently. - **pg 172**

Another sample of style:

Later, still walking south, Euan passed a ravine cleaving the sea cliff. The cliff was a little lower to each side of this cleft, and the cleft ran back and up into the burren at a steep angle, such that there was a clattering creek running down it, which pooled in the sand of the beach, under the cliffs to each side. Where the pool was closest to the sea, a

shallow broad flow of water cut through wet sand and poured down to the swirling foam.
- pg 179

Main question re the paragraph above is - what for? what's the point?

hunched over ... stomach:

She was sitting on the chair by her bed, hunched over her stomach, looking at the screen. - pg 177

Freya hunched over, arms across her stomach, in a position she had often taken when Devi had been ill. - pg 180

absolutely horrendous macabre story about seventy-two people killed when the dock was flushed (end of chapter 3, pg 184)

people coming from nowhere with names like Speller and Song, unrecognizable and utterly featureless, needed only to say something here and there. Jochi is forgotten alone in his vehicle outside the ship. what is the poor guy doing there i wonder.

and here it is, washing down - a must for any bad writer of young adult fiction

Badim smiled at her. He looked unusually cheerful, and was eating heartily, chomping on pieces of buttered toast and washing them down with milk. - pg 206



Recalcitrants were locked up in the Steppes and subjected to education and integration programs that took two generations to resolve. - pg 235

You hope, the stayers replied. You will have to trust in the kindness of strangers. They did not recognize this as a quotation. *In general they were not aware that much of what they said had been said before, and was even in the public record as such. It was as if there were only so many things humans could say, and over the course of history, people had therefore said them already, and would say them again, but not often remember this fact.* - pg 260 [as always, even in a very stupid book there's one paragraph worth reading and remembering. italics are mine - vs]

very deep thoughts (and even deeper conclusion): Possibly a feeling is a complex algorithmic output. Or a superposed state before its wave function collapses. Or a collation of data from

various sensors. Or some kind of total somatic response, an affect state that is a kind of sum over histories. **Who knows. No one knows.** - pg 282

conversations with Jochi [he's still sitting alone in a small space ship for months]

"So." She put her hand on her window. "How are you doing out here?"

"I'm all right. I've been watching a fascinating feed from China. They seem to have made some great progress in epigenetics and proteomics."

"What else, though? **Have you done any stargazing?**" [stargazing my ass - vs]

"Oh yes. A couple of hours every day." - pg 285

"What if things fall apart," - Freya asked at some point.

"Things always fall apart. I don't know." [replied Jochi]

- pg 290

words: dubiety, howbeit, detritus

...in short, the whole of human knowledge, **compressed into about 500 zettaflops**, at least as things stood in the common era year 2545. - pg ... [79]

...the largest object ever run into by ship's conic field was estimated to have massed at 2,054 grams. ... The radio telescopes in the bow of the ship keep a lookout ahead, to make sure that a direct hit with one of these bodies does not occur. [The whole paragraph is amazingly stupid.]

- pg 326 [74]

There is a fire in the heart, of course. The rods of plutonium radiate at a controlled burn, creating 600 megawatts of electrical power by way of steam turbines, which is the energy that keeps everything living in the ship alive. - pg 328 [75]

contradictions:

- . magnetic shield protecting spaceship at .1 c speed against objects with weight in grams and more (the largest - 2,054 grams!)
- . no attempts made to find a cure against Aurora sickness
- . nuclear reactor 600 megawatt with *steam turbines* (sic!) on board of a spaceship

not sure how to slow down the ship if laser beam from Saturn won't be sent by humanity, AI is considering other options:

Exotic physics, for example creating drag against dark matter, or putting dark energy to use, or quantum entangling the ship with slower versions of the ship, or with large gravity

wells in parallel universes, etc.: these are all impractical at best. Wishes. Fantasies. Pie in the sky. Which is a mysterious metaphor. - pg 344 [79]

creating drag against dark matter my ass... quantum entangling...

suddenly the author becomes ridiculously colloquial:

Clear the cobwebs out of her cranium. - pg 357 [81]

endless description of ship “deceleration” using gravitational pull of the Sun and Solar system planets, full of idiotic stupidities, like spaceship making U-turns while decelerating, and finally this:

Possibly if they could have destroyed us they would have, because if we had for whatever odd reason headed straight at Earth and struck it going the speed we were going, our impact would have created enough joules of energy to wreak quite a bit of damage, possibly including the complete **vaporization of the Terran atmosphere.** - pg 366 [84]

describing brief 14 g-force affecting decelerating space-ship:

Meanwhile, the hibernating crew lay in their beds, enduring as they slept; **fifteen of them died in that minute. It was an impressive survival rate, considering.** Animals are tough, humans included. They evolved through many a concussive impact running into tree or ground, no doubt. Still, fifteen of them died: Abang, Chula, Cut, Frank, Gugun, Khetsun, Kibi, Long, Meng, Niloofar, Nousha, Omid, Rahim, Shadi, Vashti. So did many of the animals aboard. It was a pressure test of sorts, a harrowing. Nothing to be done. The chance had had to be taken. Still: regret. A grim business. A lot of people, a lot of animals. - pg 372 [86]

[list of names - what is it for? filling page space? macabre. stupid philosophical observations: *Nothing to be done.*]

almost 2 pages on terraforming Mars - pg 381 [88] totally ridiculous with nitrogen to be imported from Titan, “which would be a Titanic chore, ha-ha” - un-fucking-believable, also what with all those perchlorates and dust particles my ass

he keeps using moon and Luna, Earth and Terra interchangeably - why if i may ask? here’s an example:

Tides here slosh up and down a vertical distance that averages three meters, more in the neap tides when the moon is closest to Earth. Tides really are a matter of tidal attraction between Earth and Luna. Tug of gravity, spooky action at a distance. - pg 443 [101]

and [people say](#) that he's wrong here about nape tides actually. also green flash at sunset [100] - sunlight is curving around the globe because of the atmosphere, or gravity - gravity muy ass.

Вообще политкорректность и *своевременность* книги зашкаливают, ее насыщенность *нужной* тематикой такова, что я бы не удивился, если бы разрешение в печать ей выдал некий американский Главлит.

Aurora by Kim Stanley Robinson - это своего рода Sokal hoax for dummies. книгу даже цитировать сложно, невероятное количество херни на каждой странице. кроме того, она представляет [извращенный] интерес в своей целостности. ну и проза отвратительного качества. типа Harry Potter только хуже.

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