

# I, ROBOT ANALYSIS

The trailer: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rL6RRIOZyCM>

I, Robot: a collection of short stories by Isaac Asimov:

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/I,\\_Robot](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/I,_Robot)

## 1- The beginning

### a- the credits

- The basis of the plot: the three laws of robotics (Asimov laws).  
They appear right at the beginning.
- dreamy sequence
  - 2 people (a little girl and a man) are stuck in 2 different cars and can see each other
  - they are drowning
  - The man is saved by a robot
  - It was a nightmare: the main character (played by Will Smith) wakes up sweating.

### b- the main character

- His name is Spooner (played by Will Smith)
  - He sleeps with a gun (police officer? bandit? psychopath? scared? paranoid?)
  - He has had an accident
    - . he has a nightmare about it at the beginning of the movie.
    - . he has scars on his left shoulder.
    - . he does specific exercises for rehabilitation (physiotherapy)
  - He seems old-fashioned
    - . wears vintage Converse shoes / vintage clothes in 2035
    - . listens to 20th century music: Stevie Wonder, "Superstition"
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wDZFf0pm0SE&feature=kp> (groovy stuff actually)
- . his stereo, his alarm clock are also vintage / out-of-date

- He seems to hate robots

. he is rude to the mail delivery robot (he calls it “canner”, a reference to cans of Coke or baked beans for exemple: lifeless metal objects)

. he bumps into a robot in the street but doesn’t apologise

c- Futuristic setting: Chicago 2035, lots of robots

Pros	Cons
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Robots do painful jobs / hard-labour jobs<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- clean, collect rubbish</li><li>- deliver mail (<i>like Amazon drones</i>)</li><li>- carry people’s shopping</li><li>- walk packs of dogs on a leash</li></ul></li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- They may have taken some people’s jobs (<b>unemployment</b>):<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- cleaners</li><li>- binmen, garbage men</li><li>- postmen</li><li>- synthetic pizza (disgusting): <i>a 3D printer which can synthesize pizza is currently being developed</i></li></ul></li></ul>

## 2- Spooner chasing an NS-4 robot in the street

Why is Spooner chasing the NS-4 robot? What happens?

Because Spooner (a police officer) thinks the robot has stolen the handbag it is holding. The robot doesn’t stop when ordered by Spooner to do so because it is on an emergency mission to save its owner, so Spooner finally tackles the robot to stop it.

Actually, the robot’s owner (a middle-aged woman) was having an asthma attack, so the NS-4 robot was bringing her the life-saving inhaler which she had forgotten at home in her bag.

Spooner is shamed publicly for his prejudice against robots.

Robots’role: taking care of people (sick people/old people/ babies?)

This extract shows that **robots can save lives**.

3- Sonny, the clever NS-5 robot's police interrogation (watch:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=05bGPiyM4jg>)

What do you find out about Sonny? He has **human characteristics** / he is **self-aware** (conscious of his own existence)

- He is curious for a robot: he is interested in finding out what winking means (human interaction). Spooner says that it's a sign of trust between two human beings.

- Sonny pretends he was frightened. That's why he hid at the crime scene.

- Sonny reveals he has dreams.

Sonny feels guilty: he wonders if he is responsible for Dr Lanning's death.

- He answers smartly, cheekily, wittily to Spooner's questions. He has got a sense of humour.

- He also feels anger when he is accused of his designer's murder (he calls Dr Lanning his father).

- He has a name he revendicates. That's his personal identity (not a number). Which word does this name recall?

***What is your impression? Do you think "he" is guilty?***