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| Cover Image | *The Hitchhiker’s Guide to the Galaxy tuhgttg-1, The Hitchhiker’s Guide to the Galaxy* Douglas Adams  Random House Publishing Group |

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# *10 notes/highlights*

*Created by Tarang Shah*  – Last synced January 29, 2016

## *Douglas Adams The Hitchhiker’s Guide to the Galaxy*

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| |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | |  | *two to the power of two hundred and seventy-six thousand to one against*  January 26, 2016 | [75](http://play.google.com/books/reader?printsec=frontcover&output=reader&id=1qpKBwAAAEAJ&source=books-notes-export&pg=GBS.PA75.w.0.0.0.4) | |

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| |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | |  | *The Encyclopaedia Galactica defines a robot as a mechanical apparatus designed to do the work of a man. The marketing division of the Sirius Cybernetics Corporation defines a robot as “Your Plastic Pal Who’s Fun To Be With.” The Hitchhiker’s Guide to the Galaxy defines the marketing division of the Sirius Cybernetics Corporation as “a bunch of mindless jerks who’ll be the first against the wall when the revolution comes,” with a footnote to the effect that the editors would welcome applications from anyone interested in taking over the post of robotics correspondent.*  January 27, 2016 | [82](http://play.google.com/books/reader?printsec=frontcover&output=reader&id=1qpKBwAAAEAJ&source=books-notes-export&pg=GBS.PA82.w.0.0.0.1) | |

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| |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | |  | *“It is most gratifying,” it said, “that your enthusiasm for our planet continues unabated, and so we would like to assure you that the guided missiles currently converging with your ship are part of a special service we extend to all of our most enthusiastic clients, and the fully armed nuclear warheads are of course merely a courtesy detail. We look forward to your custom in future lives… thank you.”*  January 28, 2016 | [104](http://play.google.com/books/reader?printsec=frontcover&output=reader&id=1qpKBwAAAEAJ&source=books-notes-export&pg=GBS.PA104.w.0.0.0.4) | |

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| |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | |  | *“Hey this is terrific!” he said. “Someone down there is trying to kill us!” “Terrific,” said Arthur. “But don’t you see what this means?” “Yes. We’re going to die.” “Yes, but apart from that.” “Apart from that?” “It means we must be on to something!”*  January 28, 2016 | [105](http://play.google.com/books/reader?printsec=frontcover&output=reader&id=1qpKBwAAAEAJ&source=books-notes-export&pg=GBS.PA105.w.0.0.0.2) | |

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| |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | |  | *“Are we taking this robot with us?” said Ford, looking with distaste at Marvin who was standing in an awkward hunched posture in the corner under a small palm tree. Zaphod glanced away from the mirror screens which presented a panoramic view of the blighted landscape on which the Heart of Gold had now landed. “Oh, the Paranoid Android,” he said. “Yeah, we’ll take him.” “But what are supposed to do with a manically depressed robot?” “You think you’ve got problems,” said Marvin as if he was addressing a newly occupied coffin, “what are you supposed to do if you are a manically depressed robot? No, don’t bother to answer that, I’m fifty thousand times more intelligent than you and even I don’t know the answer. It gives me a headache just trying to think down to your level.”*  January 28, 2016 | [112](http://play.google.com/books/reader?printsec=frontcover&output=reader&id=1qpKBwAAAEAJ&source=books-notes-export&pg=GBS.PA112) | |

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| |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | |  | *“Yeah,” said Zaphod, “and we heard the voice, right?” “OK, so I’ve bought the fact that it’s Magrathea—for the moment. What you have so far said nothing about is how in the Galaxy you found it. You didn’t just look it up in a star atlas, that’s for sure.” “Research. Government archives. Detective work. Few lucky guesses. Easy.” “And then you stole the Heart of Gold to come and look for it with?” “I stole it to look for a lot of things.” “A lot of things?” said Ford in surprise. “Like what?” “I don’t know.” “What?” “I don’t know what I’m looking for.” “Why not?” “Because… because… I think it might be because if I knew I wouldn’t be able to look for them.” “What, are you crazy?” “It’s a possibility I haven’t ruled out yet,” said Zaphod quietly. “I only know as much about myself as my mind can work out under its current conditions. And its current conditions are not good.” For a long time nobody said anything as Ford gazed at Zaphod with a mind suddenly full of worry. “Listen old friend, if you want to…” started Ford eventually. “No, wait… I’ll tell you something,” said Zaphod. “I freewheel a lot. I get an idea to do something, and, hey, why not, I do it. I reckon I’ll become President of the Galaxy, and it just happens, it’s easy. I decide to steal this ship. I decide to look for Magrathea, and it all just happens. Yeah, I work out how it can best be done, right, but it always works out. It’s like having a Galacticredit card which keeps on working though you never send off the cheques. And then whenever I stop and think—why did I want to do something?—how did I work out how to do it?—I get a very strong desire just to stop thinking about it. Like I have now. It’s a big effort to talk about it.”*  January 28, 2016 | [118](http://play.google.com/books/reader?printsec=frontcover&output=reader&id=1qpKBwAAAEAJ&source=books-notes-export&pg=GBS.PA118.w.0.0.0.1) | |

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| |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | |  | *It is an important and popular fact that things are not always what they seem. For instance, on the planet Earth, man had always assumed that he was more intelligent than dolphins because he had achieved so much—the wheel, New York, wars and so on—whilst all the dolphins had ever done was muck about in the water having a good time. But conversely, the dolphins had always believed that they were far more intelligent than man—for precisely the same reasons. Curiously enough, the dolphins had long known of the impending destruction of the planet Earth and had made many attempts to alert mankind of the danger; but most of their communications were misinterpreted as amusing attempts to punch footballs or whistle for tidbits, so they eventually gave up and left the Earth by their own means shortly before the Vogons arrived. The last ever dolphin message was misinterpreted as a surprisingly sophisticated attempt to do a double-backwards-somersault through a hoop whilst whistling the “Star Sprangled Banner”, but in fact the message was this: So long and thanks for all the fish. In fact there was only one species on the planet more intelligent than dolphins, and they spent a lot of their time in behavioural research laboratories running round inside wheels and conducting frighteningly elegant and subtle experiments on man. The fact that once again man completely misinterpreted this relationship was entirely according to these creatures’ plans.*  January 29, 2016 | [128](http://play.google.com/books/reader?printsec=frontcover&output=reader&id=1qpKBwAAAEAJ&source=books-notes-export&pg=GBS.PA128) | |

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| |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | |  | *“O Deep Thought Computer,” he said, “the task we have designed you to perform is this. We want you to tell us…” he paused, “… the Answer!” “The answer?” said Deep Thought. “The answer to what?” “Life!” urged Fook. “The Universe!” said Lunkwill. “Everything!” they said in chorus. Deep Thought paused for a moment’s reflection. “Tricky,” he said finally. “But can you do it?” Again, a significant pause. “Yes,” said Deep Thought, “I can do it.” “There is an answer?” said Fook with breathless excitement.” “A simple answer?” added Lunkwill. “Yes,” said Deep Thought. “Life, the Universe, and Everything. There is an answer. But,” he added, “I’ll have to think about it.”*  January 29, 2016 | [137](http://play.google.com/books/reader?printsec=frontcover&output=reader&id=1qpKBwAAAEAJ&source=books-notes-export&pg=GBS.PA137.w.0.0.0.4) | |

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| |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | |  | *The aircar rocketed them at speeds in excess of R17 through the steel tunnels that lead out onto the appalling surface of the planet which was now in the grip of yet another drear morning twilight. Ghastly grey lights congealed on the land. R is a velocity measure, defined as a reasonable speed of travel that is consistent with health, mental wellbeing and not being more than say five minutes late. It is therefore clearly an almost infinitely variable figure according to circumstances, since the first two factors vary not only with speed taken as an absolute, but also with awareness of the third factor. Unless handled with tranquility this equation can result in considerable stress, ulcers and even death. R17 is not a fixed velocity, but it is clearly far too fast.*  January 29, 2016 | [168](http://play.google.com/books/reader?printsec=frontcover&output=reader&id=1qpKBwAAAEAJ&source=books-notes-export&pg=GBS.PA168) | |