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Home
Shadow Kiss
The Iron King
Frostbite
Spirit Bound
Midnight Sun [2008 Draft]
New Moon
Eclipse
Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows
Nick & Norah's Infinite Playlist
The Summoning
The Notebook
Wings
The Awakening and The Struggle
Nevermore
The Initiation / The Captive Part I
Blood Promise

Posted on 14 April 2019 By Seth Fried

@Download Book ã The Municipalists ? eBook or E-pub free

Love this book Great themes A mid level bureaucrat can save the world If you re concerned about yet another tech thriller with an AI character, so am I But this is mostly smart and

funny, and good light entertainment, quite different from my memories of *The Great Frustration*. There are somewhat lengthy digressions into urban and transit planning, and handling social injustice but these are issues that I care about. Also probably action thriller mechanics than I care for, but with some clever tricks. Light skimming can help those less tricksy moments breeze by. I wouldn't be surprised if this has been optioned for a movie already. The conversations and ruminations in the last two chapters are actually quite nuanced and thoughtful. Why did it take so much shooting, explosions, and general running around to get there? On the whole, this has been a frustrating novel for me.

@Download Book *The Municipalists* - A Novel About An Unlikely Pair Of Lonely Outsiders One Human, One AI On An Adventure To Save The Great American City Of Metropolis Written By One Of The Most Exciting New Voices In Fiction Charles Yu Named One Of The Best Books Of The Month By Library Journal Debut Of The Month, The Verge, io, Books, Book Of The Month Club, Vol Brooklyn, NYLON, and Tor In Metropolis, The Gleaming City Of Tomorrow, The Dream Of The Great American City Has Been Achieved But All That Is About To Change, Unless A Neurotic, Rule Following Bureaucrat And An Irreverent, Freewheeling Artificial Intelligence Can Save The City From A Mysterious Terrorist Plot That Threatens Its Very Existence Henry Thompson Has Dedicated His Life To Improving America's Infrastructure As A Proud Employee Of The United States Municipal Survey So When The Agency Comes Under Attack, He Dutifully Accepts His Unexpected Mission To Visit Metropolis Looking For Answers But His Plans To Investigate Quietly, Quickly, And Carefully Are Interrupted By His New Partner A Day Drinking Know It All Named OWEN, Who Also Turns Out To Be The Projected Embodiment Of The Agency's Supercomputer Soon, Henry And OWEN Are Fighting To Save Not Only Their Own Lives And Those Of The City's Millions Of Inhabitants, But Also The Soul Of Metropolis *The Municipalists* Is A Thrilling, Funny, And Touching Adventure Story, A Tour De Force Of Imagination That Trenchantly Explores Our Relationships To The Cities Around Us And The Technologies Guiding Us Into The Future A New And Irreverent Take On Both Real World Politics And Sci Fi History The Wall Street Journal *The Municipalists* isn't a bad book it's actually a lot of fun But it's not a particularly good book either, a first novel from author Seth Fried which is both too thin and too reliant on exposition from its overly talkative and socially stunted biological narrator, Henry, an agent for the United States Municipal Survey, who finds himself teamed up with the artificial construct OWEN, the Object Oriented Database and Working Ekistics Network, and sent to Metropolis, the shining city of the future, to look into the mystery of an urban planner gone rogue. Fried's story of a machine helping its human counterpart become human feels familiar, as it has been done many times before and better. Data and Bender both immediately come to mind, along with a host of other lesser robots and androids. Nonetheless, the dynamics between OWEN and Henry make for good buddy hijinks in this futuristic world where urban planning seems a whole lot sexier than in the world where we live right now. There's a bit going on beneath the surface of this short

novel regarding urbanization and the inherent inequities that go along with regentrification and reclaiming urban spaces, and the author has a lot of fun with the figure of OWEN, but the book needs to it, and I kept thinking unfairly maybe how much of a better job someone like William Gibson would have done with the same story line. My husband to me as I finally sat down and read this book this weekend You must be pretty excited about that one Me, puzzled, since I half started it three weeks ago What do you mean Him It s a male author I know you don t read those unless you re really excited Lol.It was worth it Wish he had written Artemis instead of Andy Weir the man child This was funny, poignant and managed to be a buddy comedy without weird overt sexual innuendo and sexism. For me this was a really fun book It had a novel concept with some really interesting characters I loved the role reversal of the staid, boring human and the flippant, unrestrained OWEN The story was multi dimensional with humor, pathos and a bit of adventure It also gave me something to think about the where the future of AI is taking us.I won a copy of this book in a Goodreads giveaway for this honest review. So far, not so good I don t like the MC, the setup world building isn t plausible enough to keep my interest, the antic holographic AI is, well, weird The bureaucrats in Metropolis have turned thuggish OK, there s invention here, but the alleged humor is falling flat, for me, and the writing just isn t very good I m about 1/4 in and this is looking like an early DNF Do yourself a favor, if you are thinking of reading this one, take a look at the 2 star reviews here Mine and theirs are minority opinions but so what Abandoning p 75/264 It s been sitting on the shelf for about three weeks, and I don t have the slightest interest in resuming reading Not for me PLEASE WRITE A SEQUEL This story was so incredibly fun and well written Fast read, but a crazy fun adventure I am completely obsessed with OWEN and need of him The relationship between OWEN and Henry was fantastic Mr Reid, please please please write about these characters Read this as my March 2019 Book of the Month Club pick A fun, breezy adventure book in which straight laced suits set on upholding the current world order are battling armed rebels who see the destruction of civilization in the most complex city in the US, Metropolis, as the only way to redistribute opportunity and resources in a place that has become the playground for the rich In a somewhat surprising turn of events for a futuristic novel with a wiseacre AI with optical illusion capabilities, the rebels fighting for equality are the evil enemies who must be defeated Their motivations for turning violent are never really explained, but I suppose it s a bit like the Weathermen or the SLA The system refused to change, so the only option was to get rid of the system. There s a lot of summary rather than scene building, and like any police procedural, solving mysteries and violent clashes are the central plot devices I am a sucker for strong world building, and I would have loved some exposition and explanation for the structure of this alternative USA, in which a federal agency seems to be in charge of funding city level infrastructure.I enjoyed the author s voice, and the inventive pairing of an AI as the wild card with the straight man being his human partner was fun Toward the end there were some interesting twists that made me wonder if he might have a sequel in mind,

and which did throw some grey shadows over the black and white of the good guys versus bad guys structure of the book. I think this book would probably make a fun movie, as the author built a really strong visual imaginary experience I finished this book in an evening and would recommend it to anyone who wants a quick fun trip to a comic book world in which you sympathize politically with the protagonists opponents, but emotionally with the narrator protagonist.

"Seth Fried is one of the most exciting new voices in fiction."
—CHARLES YU

THE MUNICIPALISTS SETH FRIED

A NOVEL



I picked this for my March Book of the Month box, and if I get anything less than Hermes and Bender save the day I m going to be very disappointed.EDIT So, not quite Bender and Hermes, but not disappointing Quite enjoyable, and very fun to read aloud.

New Post

Night World, No. 1

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Leaving Paradise

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Torment

Night World, No. 2

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Twilight

Last Sacrifice

Beautiful Disaster

Angel

Shadow Kiss

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Clockwork Prince
Along for the Ride
Night World, No. 1