



My personality isn't just about Japaneseness. I'm a radical intellectual, which means that I prefer to be a "World Citizen" than to be part of some historical ethnic group. I stand not as just "being Japanese." I'm an Esperantist, Lojbanist, and Interlinguist. I'm an amateur astronomer. I'm a sci-fi fan. It's not about "being Japanese." Some of you still remember the 1980's when Japan was the focus of attention.

You're really small because the universe is truly vast. Many can't really fathom the huge size of the universe.

Though we many times like to wallow in the imaginary, we should note that fact is often stranger than fiction.

The strange things happening nowadays may someday have explanations that we can understand. Now, we rely on imagination.

I've heard of *conreligions*, constructed religions, as part of the hobby of *conworlding*, constructing imaginary worlds.

What kind of conreligion would you make?

I've always liked *geofiction*.

I've liked *conworlding* since childhood.

I recommend speculative fiction to you.

"Imagination is more important than knowledge," I quote Albert Einstein.

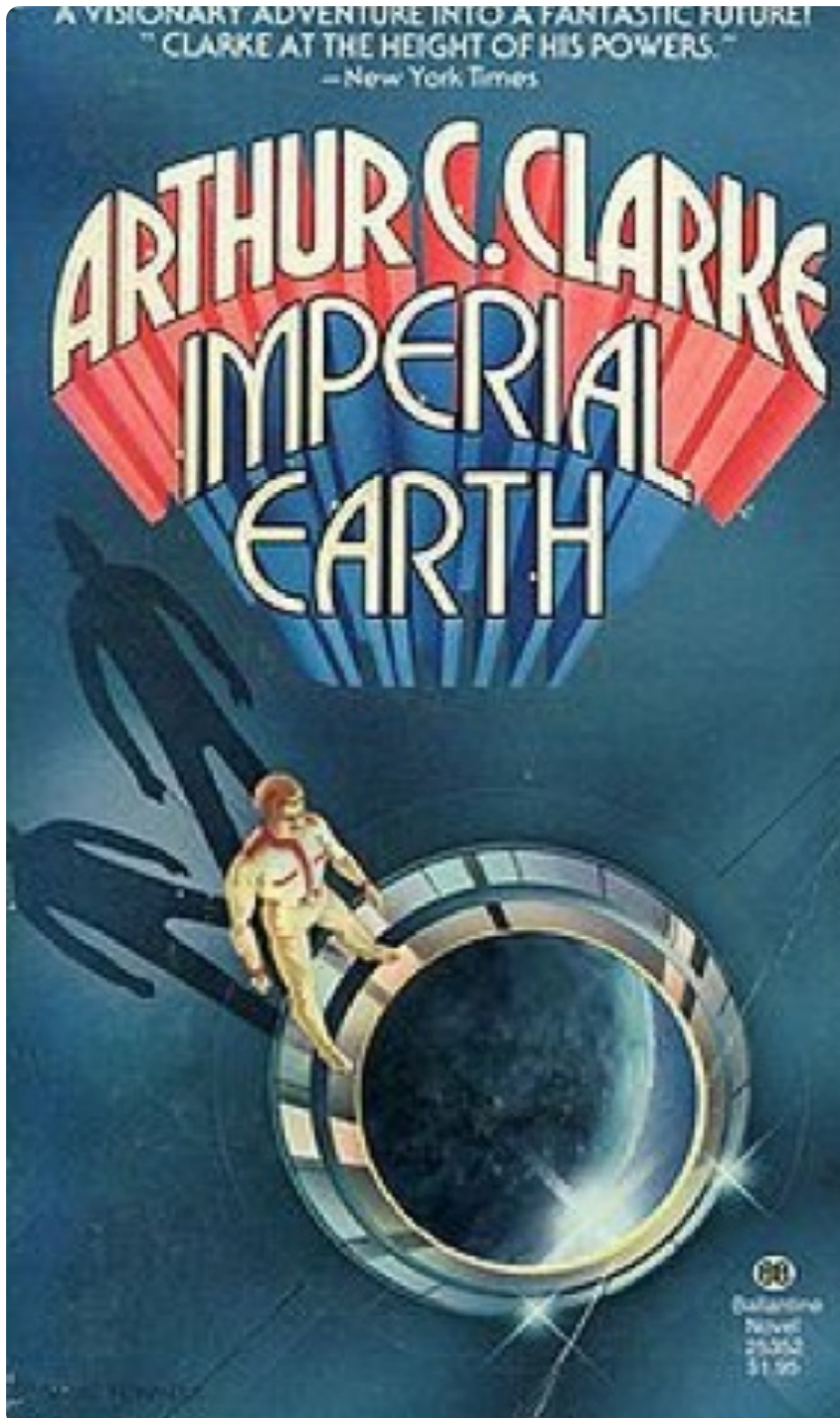
I think my learning Japanese improves my imagination.

What do you do to improve your imagination?

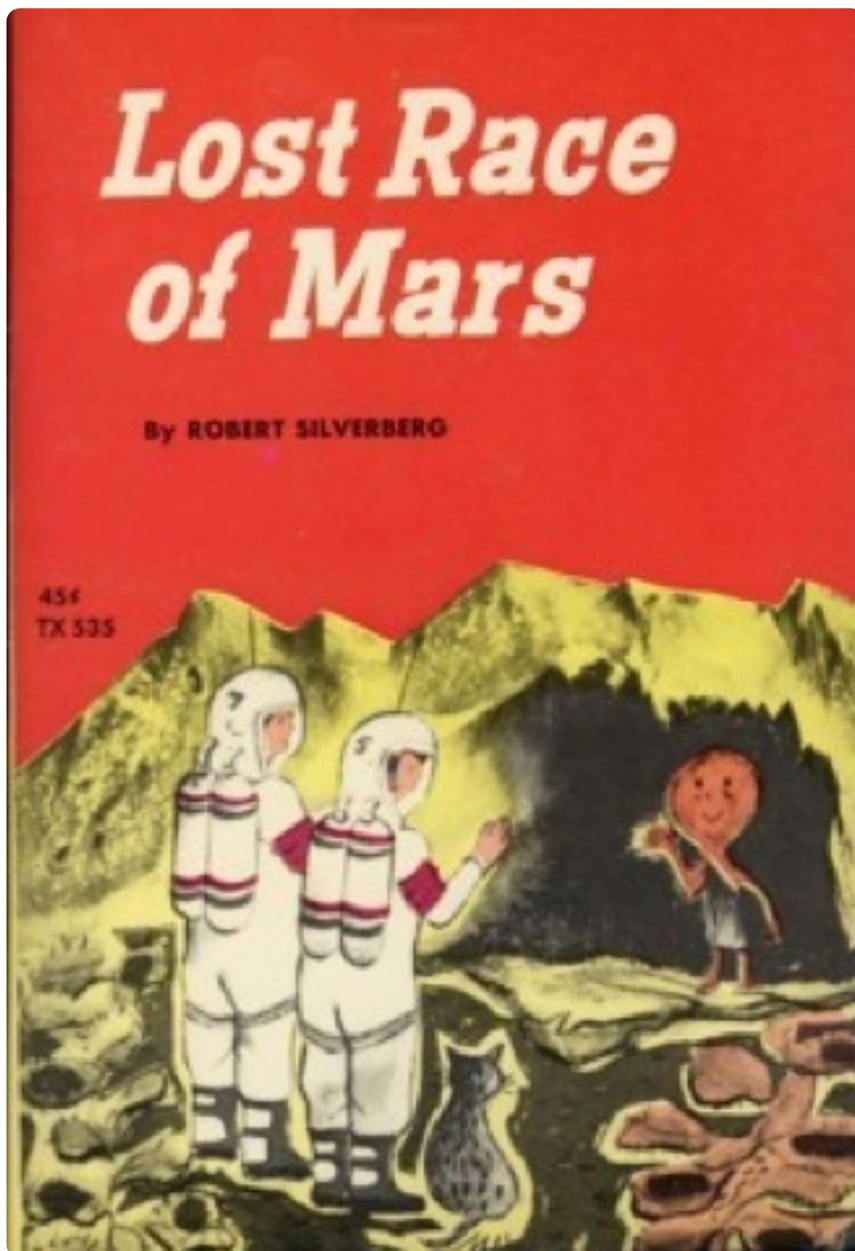
This book is the French translation of *Triton*, named after Neptune's moon. I brought it to the Philippines on my vacation in 2003. I read it at my grandparents' verandah.



My favourite book by Arthur C. Clarke is *Imperial Earth*. There's a family of recursive clones, who get rich by extracting natural resources on Saturn's moon Titan.

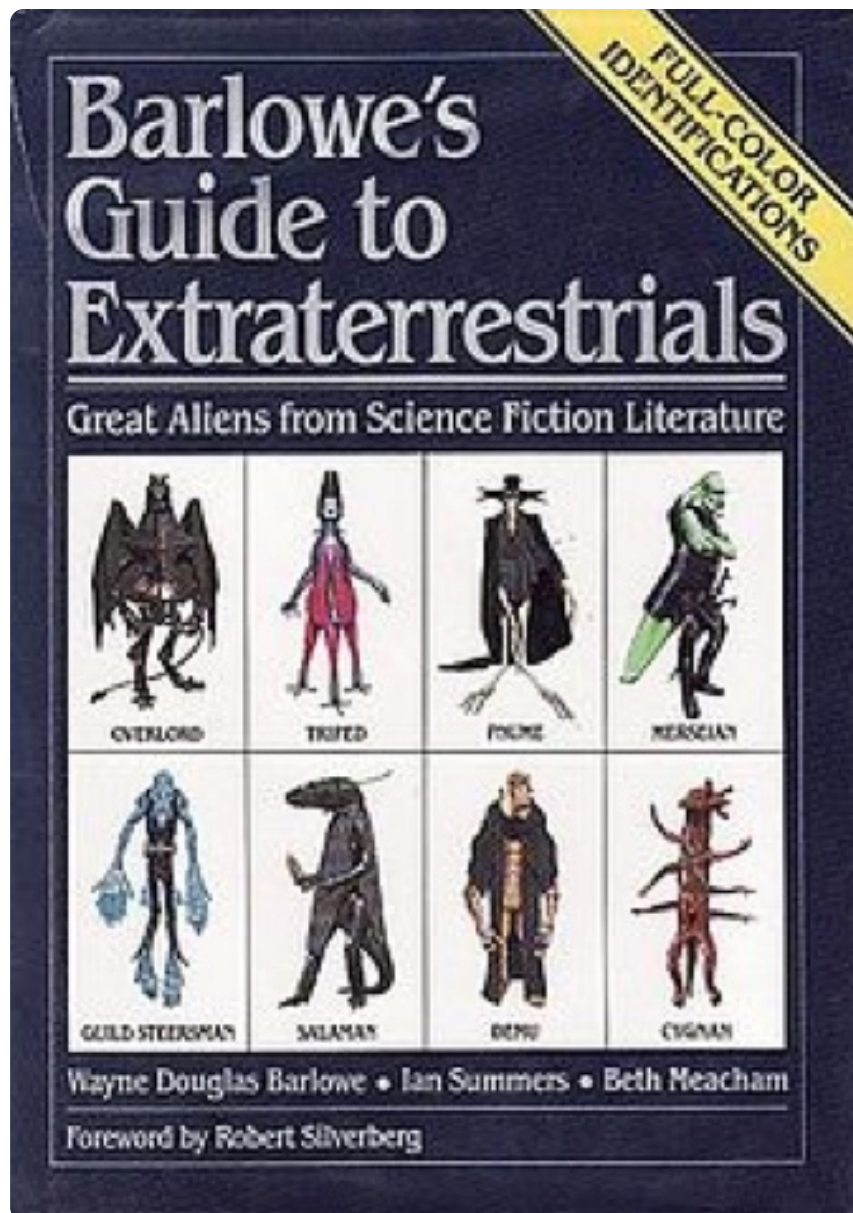


*Lost Race of Mars* by Robert Silverberg is a childhood favourite of mine.





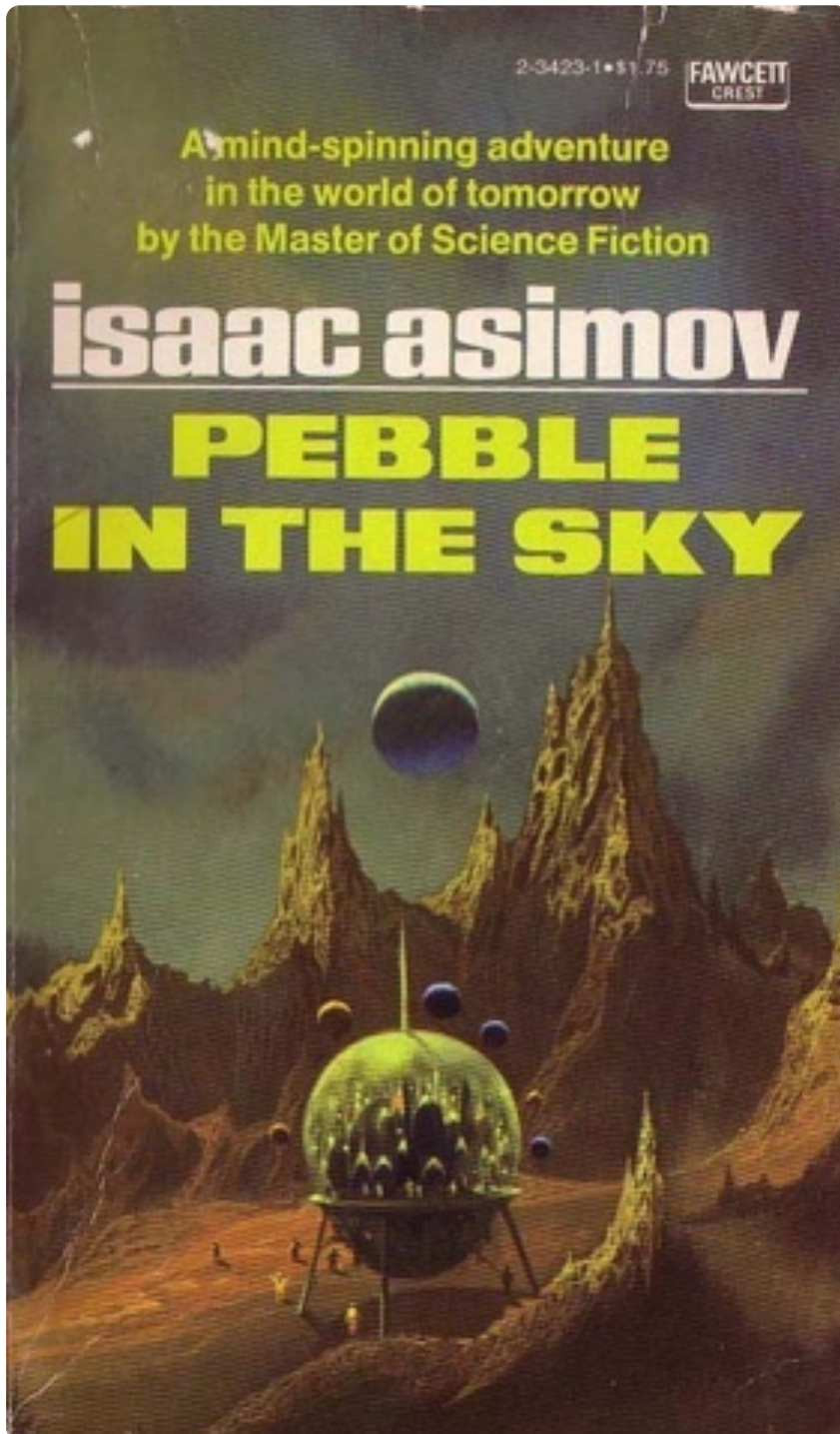
*Barlowe's Guide to Extraterrestrials* is a recent favourite of mine.



In childhood, I had a robot toy that's something like in the graphic. It's such nostalgia!



*Pebble in the Sky* is an intriguing book about the far galactic future, by Isaac Asimov. The Earth had become a distant legend for the galactic populace.



*Mushi-Shi* is a really spooky anime. My life increasingly is full of anime. Japan is still in my heart and mind, many years after having left its shores in 1994.





When I was in a bookstore in Madrid in 1998, I was almost going to buy the Spanish translation of Aldous Huxley's *Brave New World*, which is *Un mundo feliz*. I bought instead the big classic *Don Quijote de la Mancha*.



My pseudo-auntie, Tita Nedy, in the 1970's, used to babysit two blond children, a boy and a girl, the Harrisons, who had a swimming pool, in which my brothers and I were privileged to swim. In their library was an intriguing sci-fi book, *Cities in Flight*.

