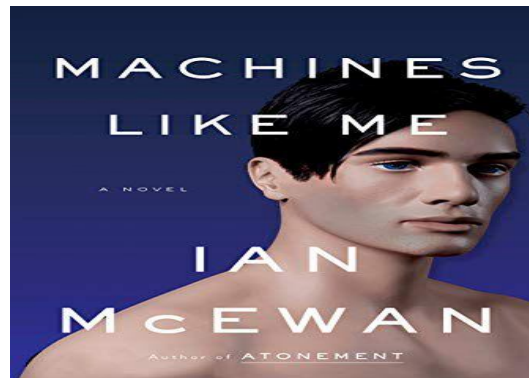


BOOK REVIEW

By
R.K. Tiwari



Machines Like Me by Ian McEwan

How intimate could you get with a robot? In McEwan's latest novel, all your boundaries about who to love, who to sleep with, and *how* may be challenged in this love triangle between two humans and a robot. When tech lover Charlie spends his inheritance on a robot named Adam, he invites over Miranda, the woman he's interested in, to help curate his personality. Together, they create the seemingly perfect man, whose accelerating intelligence only heightens the tension between them all.

"A sharply intelligent novel of ideas. McEwan's writing about the creation of a robot's personality allows him to speculate on the nature of personality, and thus humanity, in general . . . Beguiling."

—Dwight Garner, *The New York Times*

"[A] sharp, unsettling read . . . about love, family, jealousy and deceit. Ultimately, it asks a surprisingly mournful question: If we built a machine that could look into our hearts, could we really expect it to like what it sees?"

—Jeff Giles, *The New York Times Book Review*

"[McEwan] is not only one of the most elegant writers alive, he is one of the most astute at crafting moral dilemmas within the drama of everyday life. Half a century ago, Philip K. Dick asked, 'Do Androids Dream of Electric Sheep?,' and now McEwan is sure those androids are pulling the wool over our eyes. McEwan's special contribution is not to articulate the challenge of robots but to cleverly embed that challenge in the lives of two people trying to find a way to exist with purpose. That human drama makes *Machines Like Me* strikingly relevant even though it's set in a world that never happened almost 40 years ago."

—Ron Charles, *The Washington Post*

"Witty and humane . . . a retrofuturist family drama that doubles as a cautionary fable about artificial intelligence, consent, and justice."

—Julian Lucas, *The New Yorker*

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