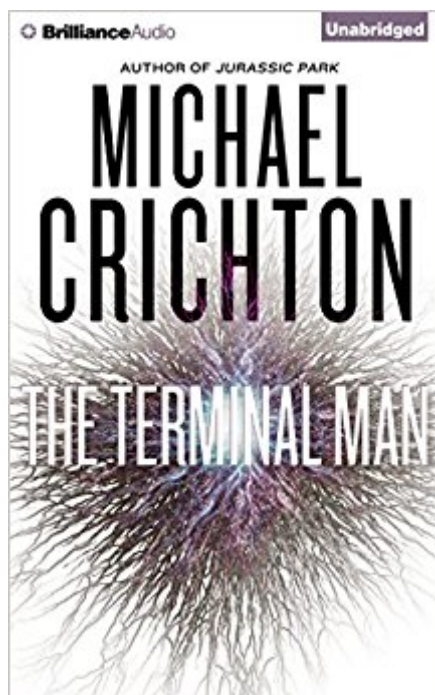


The book was found

The Terminal Man



Synopsis

From the bestselling author of Jurassic Park, Timeline, and Sphere comes a neurological thriller about the dangers of cutting-edge medical experimentation. Harry Benson suffers from violent seizures. So violent that he often blacks out when they take hold. Shortly after severely beating two men during an episode, the police escort Benson to a Los Angeles hospital for treatment. There, Dr. Roger McPherson, head of the prestigious Neuropsychiatric Research Unit, is convinced he can cure Benson with an experimental procedure that would place electrodes deep in his brain's pleasure centers, effectively short-circuiting Harry's seizures with pulses of bliss. The surgery is successful, but while Benson is in recovery, he discovers how to trigger the pulses himself. To make matters worse his violent impulses have only grown, and he soon escapes the hospital with a deadly agenda....

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Harry has a problem. Ever since getting in a car accident, he's suffered from "thought seizures," violent fits in which he attacks other people. He used to be an artificial intelligence researcher, which may explain why he targets anyone who either works on machines or who acts like a machine--mechanics, gas-station attendants, prostitutes, exotic dancers. But there's hope: he can become part machine himself, undergoing "Stage 3," an experimental procedure implanting 40 electrodes deep in the pleasure centers of his brain. The surgery is successful, and blissful pulses of electricity short-circuit Harry's seizures. That is, until Harry figures out how to overload himself

with the satisfying jolts and escapes on a murderous rampage. One of Crichton's earliest, playing ably on '70s fears of computers and mind control. --Paul Hughes --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

“One of the great storytellers of our age. . . . The best Michael Crichton novels are . . . edifying reads, whose gripping plots contain real ideas.”
•Newsday
“Crichton combines his knowledge of science with great talent for creating suspense.”
•San Francisco Chronicle
“Crichton is a master at blending edge-of-the-chair adventure and a scientific seminar, educating his readers as he entertains them.”
•Chicago Sun-Times
“Crichton has so perfected the fusion thriller with science fiction that his novels define the genre.”
•Los Angeles Times
“Crichton is a master at explaining complex concepts in simple terms.”
•Library --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

I read this book many, many years ago. Probably around the time it first came out. I recently re-read it mainly because I thought I remembered a fact that was brought up in the book and wanted to see if I remembered correctly. When I first read it, years ago, I did not particularly care for it. However, I really enjoyed it this time . Just goes to show that your taste can change over time, I guess. It is not a long book and it moves pretty fast, and is quite interesting. Although, I did keep wondering why none of these people ever whipped out their cell phones when things went bad. Then I realized that when this book was written, everybody and their baby did not have cell phones like they do now. Having said that, I still felt that the story was great, and except for the absense of cells phones, the story felt very current.

I read the book originally in college. It does hold up well despite technology changes

Terminal man is one of Crichton's early novels. His story telling is still excellent but the subject matter is slightly outdated. The story revolves around a patient with a condition that makes him extremely violent, when he experiences a seizure. Neurosurgeons attempt to treat him with "cutting edge technology" but the results are far from ideal. The book is very fast paced and interesting but not what this reader is accustomed to seeing from Crichton.

Not among his well written, cleverly developed stories. Story line was good. Character development

not so good. This book was more like a b-rated tv story where the characters do stupid things to take up air time. I have always been a big fan of Crichton but this book was irritating to read.

This was the only Michael Crichton book I'd not read. A week later and 10 dollars poorer - I wish I'd not looked forward to this so eagerly. As is usual with Crichton's writing there's a faux-science basis, there's enough to keep you turning pages... but not enough. Nothing outstanding, nothing very new, and poor under-developed characters. There was space here to really make an intriguing well fleshed-out story, but it seems like the author either got bored, or was in a hurry to publish. Yawn.

Interesting read

The Terminal Man is a book that Stephen King convinced me to read. I read King's short story called "The Woman In The Room." The story is in King's collection Night Shift and briefly mentions how, according to Crichton, putting wires in people's heads can be a very bad scene. It took me a few years to get to it but I finally did and enjoyed it but not as much as I thought I would. Still, insane scientists and doctors terrify me and experimental surgery is some scary stuff. To show you what I mean, the corny scene from the film Batman and Robin in which Bane is created always gives me chills. You can understand then, if you have seen that humorously awful film, how this book would effect me. It was a bit short though and, again for Crichton novels, it was anticlimactic in my opinion. A good read nonetheless though, especially for Crichton fans.

Once again, Crichton reminds us that in many areas of medicine and science, we know what we want to be able to accomplish, it is just that technology and engineering haven't gotten to the point of being able to do it. The Terminal Man is a perfect example of this concept with the added truism that every scientific advancement from learning to make fire to nuclear fusion should be considered double edged sword.

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