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A Better World: The Brilliance Saga, Book 2



Synopsis

The brilliants changed everything. Since 1980, 1% of the world has been born with gifts we'd only dreamed of. The ability to sense a person's most intimate secrets, or predict the stock market, or move virtually unseen. For thirty years the world has struggled with a growing divide between the exceptional...and the rest of us. Now a terrorist network led by brilliants has crippled three cities. Supermarket shelves stand empty. 911 calls go unanswered. Fanatics are burning people alive. Nick Cooper has always fought to make the world better for his children. As both a brilliant and an advisor to the president of the United States, he's against everything the terrorists represent. But as America slides toward a devastating civil war, Cooper is forced to play a game he dares not lose - because his opponents have their own vision of a better world. And to reach it, they're willing to burn this one down. From Marcus Sakey, "the master of the mindful page turner" (Gillian Flynn) and "one of our best storytellers" (Michael Connelly), Book Two of the Brilliance Saga is a relentless thrill ride that will change the way you look at your world - and the people around you.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Good read. Interesting plot with social issues which you can read into or not. Picked up where book 1 left off. Author did a nice job weaving the key points of book 1 into the story without over doing it. Once you get used to the idea of a segment of the population with unusual intellect and skill sets, and just read it for what it is - fiction, then it is a good read and page turner. I read at night while in bed. I judge how good a book is by how anxious I am to go to bed so I can read my book. I looked

forward each night to reading this series. It was a page turner for me. I'm reading the 3rd and last book in the series (I think it is the last one), and it is as good as the first two. I gave it 4 stars for being an enjoyable read. It is not a "great" book and gets a little hokey in places - which prevented me from giving it 5 stars.

This is the second book in the trilogy and it's great reading. I'm almost done with book 3. Fantastic author keeps the story moving with great action. I really like this author's style in that the context includes what the characters are thinking as much as actual spoken phrases. Great list of characters. Story is a little on the sci-fi side but very believable in the future. Be sure to start with book one. I'm sure you will read all three.

second in the triology obviously. Criticism may be that the start of the book had a lot of background from the first and dragged a little bit until you got back up to speed. For those who didn't read the first book, this would work if you were reading this as a stand alone book. Slowed things down for readers of the first book. The twists and turns from the first book keep coming and is worth a read

The writing is exceptional ... Sakey blends words, actions, emotions, and thoughts into your head like a brain surgeon ... his ability to build his story premise is compelling and a little scary, in that the events he creates are more believable than any of us would care to admit ... he creates a world that reverses everything we knew or believed in ... an exciting and enjoyable ride ...

This was an excellent trilogy, set in an alternate future on Earth which was created and described with incredible detail. It is a perfect mix of genres - primarily sci-fi, in the world itself, but also cop/spy type action, heartwrenching drama, a bit of romance, and creepy thriller with lots of twists. The change in the main protagonist (and other characters) throughout the series is a fascinating journey, and the author lends a huge dose of real-life cred in many situations where Nick Cooper's attempts to make a difference fail, or have unexpected outcomes. This kind of detailed, almost realistic story is exactly what I look for in science fiction novels, and it delivered a surprising 100% (I usually expect less from books that I purchase for \$2.00 a piece!).

Who decides what a country does? It used to be normal people like you and me. But now, for some reason, genetics has taken a leap forward and there are a small group of babies born who have more than normal abilities called abnormals. They each have a super sense that alters their minds

and bodies to act in ways that are unmatched by the rest of the world. So it becomes a world of have and have nots. The second of The Brilliance Trilogy is a good follow-up to the first. We get to know the characters better and see the end result of how the presidency has fallen and now is replaced by a vice president who never wanted the leadership role. He is easily manipulated by the leaders of the military complex and now there is the very real threat of another Civil War. I don't want anything to spoil your enjoyment of the story so that's as far as I want to go with the review. If you liked the first book, you will love this one. Now I'm ready to start the final. I only hope it's as good as the lead in.

I loved Brilliance, so I was really happy to continue on in this world, in A Better World. The story was slow at times, but more often fast-paced, and definitely entertaining and engaging. Once again we are following Nick Cooper, first seeing the consequences of what happened at the end of the previous book. Then seeing where he's at, who he's working for, who is out to get him, who he can trust, and where his love life is. Sorry, for being vague, but I'm avoiding spoilers. I like Nick a lot. He's a fantastic character. So when the scenes involve him, I generally find them exciting. Then while following along with Nick and the older characters, we are also introduced to some new ones. This took an adjustment, getting used to the change of pace. But I found the new additions to be really important to the overall storyline, liked getting to know them, and enjoyed what Saakey did with them. There were some crazy things happening along the way to all the characters. All of it kept me entertained and trying to figure out where the story was going. And then that ending! Saakey really put it all out there in a big display. The world will never be the same. Now where will they go from here? I can only imagine it will be gripping, action-packed, heart-racing excitement until the very end. And I'm looking forward to whatever is coming next. Side note: I listened to this on audio, just like I did with the first book, and once again Luke Daniels does a stellar job.

Book two of the Brilliance trilogy continues the story of Nick Cooper and his quest to save the world. He goes through soooooo much and just when it seems he has things somewhat under control the rug is pulled out beneath him. The story of the brilliants is so possible in this day and age and what they have to fight for is enough to keep you reading well into the night. I highly recommend reading the whole series as all the books are really good and you will not be disappointed.

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