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# Brilliance



## Synopsis

In Wyoming, a little girl reads people's darkest secrets by the way they fold their arms. In New York, a man sensing patterns in the stock market racks up \$300 billion. In Chicago, a woman can go invisible by being where no one is looking. They're called "brilliants," and since 1980, one percent of people have been born this way. Nick Cooper is among them; a federal agent, Cooper has gifts rendering him exceptional at hunting terrorists. His latest target may be the most dangerous man alive, a brilliant drenched in blood and intent on provoking civil war. But to catch him, Cooper will have to violate everything he believes in - and betray his own kind. From Marcus Sakey, "a modern master of suspense" (Chicago Sun-Times) and "one of our best storytellers" (Michael Connelly), comes an adventure that's at once breakneck thriller and shrewd social commentary; a gripping tale of a world fundamentally different and yet horrifyingly similar to our own, where being born gifted can be a terrible curse.

## Book Information

Audible Audio Edition

Listening Length: 12 hours and 35 minutes

Program Type: Audiobook

Version: Unabridged

Publisher: Brilliance Audio

Audible.com Release Date: July 16, 2013

Whispersync for Voice: Ready

Language: English

ASIN: B00DOA2YNY

Best Sellers Rank: #29 in Books > Audible Audiobooks > Mysteries & Thrillers > Espionage  
#214 in Books > Science Fiction & Fantasy > Science Fiction > Dystopian #319 in Books > Mystery, Thriller & Suspense > Thrillers & Suspense > Spies & Politics > Espionage

## Customer Reviews

Brief plot summary: yes, it's like x-men. It IS the kind of story you've read before. Brilliants, a genetic anomaly, are a small segment of the population with special abilities. They are treated by most as a threat, a group to be strictly controlled and used like tools or instruments. A secret agent figures out the big bad conspiracy, gets the girl, and saves the day. If you have good taste in books, don't read this, or else you will be slogging through it. It's just another book written solely to be adapted into a movie so the author can get rich. Here's my lengthy take on it: Let's begin with the main character,

Nick Cooper. He's the new American Dream man, what the author probably thinks is every millennial male's ambition (more on that below). He's white, mid-thirties, wealthy, a secret agent, and divorced, yet adores his 2 children. So basically it's implied that he's got a free pass to sleep around yet he's *\*still\** a committed family man and therefore not an A-hole. Cooper actually gets along with his ex-wife really well in the story, -there's not really any good reason presented as to why they split in the first place. Cooper's character development is practically zero, in large part because he has very little character to begin with. He begins with what I like to call implied badassery. The reader is simply supposed to latch on to our protagonist from the very beginning, feeling good when things go well for him, and vice versa. Cooper is instantly suggested/implied to be intelligent, clever, and unstoppable in hand-to-hand combat right from the first scene. He's always right and righteous in his decision making, no matter what.

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