



Brain Jack

By Brian Falkner

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Another terrifying sci-fi page-turner from the author of *The Tomorrow Code*!

Las Vegas is gone—destroyed in a terrorist attack. Black Hawk helicopters patrol the skies over New York City. And immersive online gaming is the most dangerous street drug around. In this dystopic near-future, technology has leapt forward once again, and neuro-headsets have replaced computer keyboards. Just slip on a headset, and it's the Internet at the speed of thought.

For teen hacker Sam Wilson, a headset is a must. But as he becomes familiar with the new technology, he has a terrifying realization. If anything on his computer is vulnerable to a hack, what happens when his mind is linked to the system? Could consciousness itself be hijacked? Before he realizes what's happened, Sam's incursion against the world's largest telecommunications company leads him to the heart of the nation's cyberdefense network and brings him face to face with a terrifying and unforeseen threat.

Brian Falkner, author of *The Tomorrow Code*, has created an action-packed and thought-provoking science fiction adventure in which a brilliant young computer hacker fights to prevent the human race from being deleted.

Fans of Cory Doctorow's *Little Brother* and M. T. Anderson's *Feed* will love this high-octane techno thriller.

From the Hardcover edition.

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Brain Jack By Brian Falkner Bibliography

- Sales Rank: #614503 in eBooks
- Published on: 2010-09-28
- Released on: 2010-09-28
- Format: Kindle eBook

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Editorial Review

From School Library Journal

Gr 7 Up—Seventeen-year-old Sam single-handedly hacks into a large telecommunication company (thought to be impenetrable) and inadvertently takes out the world's infrastructure in his attempt to cover his tracks. He is recruited by a secret government department staffed by former hackers to protect the Internet and is taken to San Jose, CA. They find a malicious presence on the web that could destroy the world and must work as a group to preserve life as we know it. The story takes place in the near future, and the technology has some interesting new enhancements, most notably neuro helmets that allow one to control a computer with one's mind. On occasion the author provides too much detail about San Jose. Occasional use of non-American slang by American characters also detracts from the dialogue: "mates" is used instead of "friends," food is described as being "tinned" rather than "canned." Still, the nicely paced plot and well-crafted story arc make this a title worth recommending, particularly to boys who like technology or science fiction. This book will also have broad appeal since, despite the age of the main character, the content is appropriate for younger readers.—Kristin Anderson, Columbus Metropolitan Library System, OH. (c) Copyright 2010. Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc. No redistribution permitted.

From [Booklist](#)

In a not terribly distant future, teen Sam Wilson catches the eye of the Homeland Security Cyber Defense Division because of his preternatural hacking instincts; he is given the classic work-for-us-or-go-to-prison-forever nonchoice. The department is reluctant to use the newfangled neuro-headset technology (which lets users interface directly with their computers and the Net through brain waves), but the advantage they give to the bad guys is too much to discount. What they don't fully consider, though, are the implications of such unfettered access to the human consciousness. The hacking scenes are relentlessly paced, and Falkner's stimulating mix of technobabble ("I'm going to crash the shell with a buffer overflow and get in via the rhosts file") and metaphor ("A trapdoor in the firewall, Sam thought as he hurled a frag grenade at a murky pool of the intruder's code") should appeal to geeks but carry the less savvy as well. Think of this as the high-octane, adrenalized sibling of Cory Doctorow's more lesson-laden *Little Brother* (2008). Grades 9-12. - Ian Chipman

About the Author

Since his childhood, Brian Falkner has been surrounded by computers. His older brother built one out of spare parts, and Brian was programming it at a time when nobody could imagine the PC revolution that was to come. As computers developed, so did Brian's love affair with them. His first major in college was computer science.

Brian has been fascinated by the gradual emergence of the cyberworld alongside the real one. When he read the first articles about neurotechnology, he was hooked, seeing this as the start of the convergence of those two worlds.

In the real world, Brian lives in the beautiful country of New Zealand, in the South Pacific. In the cyberworld, you can find him at www.brianfalkner.com.

From the Hardcover edition.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Willard Griffin:

The e-book with title Brain Jack includes a lot of information that you can study it. You can get a lot of advantage after read this book. This particular book exist new expertise the information that exist in this e-book represented the condition of the world now. That is important to you to understand how the improvement of the world. This specific book will bring you within new era of the the positive effect. You can read the e-book in your smart phone, so you can read that anywhere you want.

Jessica Wilson:

The book untitled Brain Jack contain a lot of information on that. The writer explains your girlfriend idea with easy way. The language is very straightforward all the people, so do not really worry, you can easy to read the idea. The book was written by famous author. The author gives you in the new time of literary works. It is easy to read this book because you can read on your smart phone, or device, so you can read the book throughout anywhere and anytime. In a situation you wish to purchase the e-book, you can available their official web-site and order it. Have a nice learn.

Anthony Brown:

Is it you who having spare time subsequently spend it whole day through watching television programs or just laying on the bed? Do you need something totally new? This Brain Jack can be the response, oh how comes? The new book you know. You are thus out of date, spending your spare time by reading in this brand new era is common not a geek activity. So what these guides have than the others?

Thomas Gonzalez:

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