



Tunnel Vision

Gary Braver

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What if you didn't have to die to know that heaven exists?
And what if that knowledge could get you killed?

Following a biking accident on icy Boston streets, grad student Zack Kashian lapses into a coma. When he wakes up on Easter, months later, muttering the Lord's Prayer in the original Aramaic, the media is set abuzz about the "Miracle Man." Religious fanatics flock to Zack's hospital bedside, though he claims to be an atheist.

Zack's revival also catches the attention of Dr. Elizabeth Luria, who heads up a small team of neuroscientists secretly researching near-death experiences (NDE). Their objective: to determine if there is anything to the claims of NDE victims about floating down tunnels into the celestial light and meeting spiritual beings. Is all that evidence of the afterlife? Or is it just neurobiology, as Sarah Wyman, one of Luria's young researchers suspects.

For personal reasons, Luria is desperate to prove the afterlife exists. So are her wealthy, evangelist backers, who can't wait to announce the greatest discovery in human history: that God exists. A discovery that would at last reconcile science and religion. A discovery that would end the world's religious strife and unite all humanity.

Yet Zack's experiences are anything but heavenly. While he and Sarah struggle to understand his horrific out-of-body experiences, they have no idea that sinister forces have taken an interest in them. Forces to whom near-death experiences are utter blasphemy—deceptions by Satan himself. They enlist a menacing agent who, in the name of God, will stop at nothing to terminate the project and all involved.

Tunnel Vision Details

Date : Published June 21st 2011 by Forge Books
ISBN : 9780765309761
Author : Gary Braver
Format : Hardcover 384 pages
Genre : Thriller, Fiction, Mystery, Science Fiction, Fantasy

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From Reader Review Tunnel Vision for online ebook

Jen says

This seems like it's geared towards a Unitarian audience. I noticed some inaccurate passages regarding the Catholic church, which I found annoying. The characters & storyline were interesting.

Cesar Henrique says

Interessante Thriller com os clichês de sempre: romances perseguições etc. O que diferencia é o conhecimento do autor no assunto : experiências de quase morte.

Terry says

Here's a book with absolutely no redeeming features, total tripe! I was hoping for a glimpse down the aforementioned tunnel and a sneaky peek into the authors vision of the afterlife. Instead I got a bunch of incidental characters being forced from one unbelievable scenario to the next wrapped up with some half-science mumbo-jumbo around a part of the brain known as 'the god lobe'.

What makes the book worse is the authors obvious creationist believes preaching out in every page. Now I've read John Grisham at his most preachy best and even then he always erred on the side of moral righteousness. However Gary Braver has used used this book to pull up his pulpit and preach from the half-truths, only one true god, fanaticism bible.

How and why I made it to the end I'll never know, but I did!

Lydia Presley says

Tunnel Vision is the quintessential thriller. It follows the formula perfectly and, as a result, it has the intended effects - those being as follows:

- Sleeplessness

- A desire to not eat or drink until one more page has been turned

- Emotional turmoil

- A feeling of horror that sometimes isn't enough of a horror feeling and that in itself makes you even more horrified (I think I'm becoming jaded)

Add into the mix some fantastic medical jargon, enough mystery and, superstition and unexplained paranormal activity to make your head spin and you've got a doozy of a book.

While I struggled a bit with the religious aspect of the book (and I always do whenever I see a fanatical belief system behind heinous acts), I think that it was treated in a manner that had more respect then I've seen

some other very famous authors do (coughStephenKingcough).

I found Braver's portrayal of a college student, his debts, his addictions and the steps taken to dig himself out of trouble to be spot on. Honestly, there's nothing bad to say about this book and it's one of the better thrillers I've read this year!

So if you are a big medical thriller-type fan, if you liked The Da Vinci Code by Dan Brown, The Likeness by Tana French or anything by Chris Bohjalian then pick this one up. You won't be disappointed.

Jen says

Was a great book...made you really think about you truly believe about the afterlife.

Jonathan Tomes says

While the title caused me to pick up the book and the jacket blurb made me buy it, the novel is so much more than just a book about near death experiences. It brilliantly explores themes of the existence of God, life and death, the possibility of an afterlife, and the meaning of family. The author makes you care about the protagonist, a man who experiences an NDE and so much more. As a published author myself, I can only wonder at how Gary Braver conceived of this book, much less how he wrote it so compellingly. I definitely recommend it and will be looking for his other books.

Lori L (She Treads Softly) says

In Tunnel Vision by Gary Braver an atheist graduate student, Zack Kashian, lapses into a 12 week coma following a bicycle accident. He attracts the interest of religious zealots when he says The Lord's Prayer in the original Aramaic while still in the coma. He later finds himself involved with a team of neuroscientists who are being privately funded by an evangelist to research near-death experiences (NDE) in an attempt to prove that people are wired to find God. Another religious group hires an assassin to kill those involved in the project. Zack finds himself inadvertently caught in the middle of a war between science and two religious extremes. And everything isn't quite what it seems...

This is a fast-paced scientific/medical thriller based on current research in neuroscience that people are wired to find God. Author Gary Braver, the pen name of Gary Goshgarian, does an excellent job keeping the suspense going as the risks increase. Additionally there are plenty of clever plot twists. The science behind the novel was obviously well researched, as are the religious discussions. The large amount of theology in the book might bother some readers, but they are handled well and tie in completely to the plot. This one is a page turner!

Highly Recommended; <http://shetreadssoftly.blogspot.com/>

Kevin Symmons says

Just finished Gary Braver's "Tunnel Vision." Enjoyed it very much. I am an author and shared the podium with him recently. We exchanged books and I'm glad we did. He had me hooked from the first page. I think most of us hope that there is something after our "4 score" years besides being food for the worms(Ugh!). At the recent event, Gary explained that his extensive research had led him to one conclusion: all NDEs (near death experiences) can be explained with the exception of the out of body "visions". As his novel's hero Zack agrees to participate in a research project after he's injured in serious biking accident which seems to give him strange powers, Braver ratchets up the tension exquisitely. What I enjoyed most about this thriller was that it was not filled with Tai Chi, Mac 10s, and the other trappings that inhabit so many thrillers. He expertly develops the plot, teasing us with details that appear almost simultaneously. The novel is not derivative, resembling Steve Berry, Dan Brown, or Robert Ludlum. Rather his story, though bizarre in theory takes on a believable tone. The hero has a devoted mother; Sarah, a lovely young woman who's working on the NDE team; and friends who we can identify with. So... what Gary Braver has done is taken what in lesser hands might be clumsy and barely believable and used his experience and skills as a writer to give us a page-turner with an ending that we accept and even revel in. Bravo... Braver!

Lillian Schoellkopf says

Extremely well-written book. Well-developed characters. Loved all the local Massachusetts settings, so familiar to me. Author is a scientist, which lends credibility to his writing. Worth reading. Thought provoking.

Sally says

Might be a good choice for a book group, could be good discussions...

Bruce Smith says

Okay, picked this one up at the library yesterday. I couldn't get into it. The story didn't grab me in the beginning, and the author wrote in too much passive voice. Returned it to the library today.

Rhea Gilchrist says

Kept me enthralled.

Kept me enthralled. Exciting, interesting, suspenseful, and gets you invested in the characters. Whatever you believe, it is a hopeful end.

Kristen says

In Gary Braver's Tunnel Vision, he asked the age old question about life and death and if there's an afterlife. In the first part, it deals with Zack Kashian's bicycle accident. For months, he was in a coma and then woke up to speak in Aramaic. People believed he's a miracle and to heal like Jesus. In the second part, we're introduced to some religious-crazed heinous people who experiment on near-death experiences. But there's a hit man out there on a religious bent. Although there's some religious overtones over here, it asked about the boundaries of religion and science, no matter what your religion in. When Zack's suspension grow deeper and darker, it freaked him out. With Sarah as his close ally, it makes him wonder and to step away. And when truth becomes reality before it sets in, it makes him want to dig deep the truth to a shocking ending, where all roads to a divine intervention and a satisfying conclusion. A nice crossover with science fiction/religion inserted into this pulse-racing medical thriller.

Tara Young says

I found this in my CART on Amazon and wondered how it got there. who put it there? Had to be me, but when did I put it there. Gary Braver? I was a tad confused but decided that since I threw it in my cart at one time perhaps a memory would be jogged by the time the book arrived. Nothing. So I read it, or rather I read half of it. Sorry Gary, I was overwhelmed. The plot, the pacing, the too much information, the fact that another half of the book needed to be read, I skimmed and then settled on the last chapter. Thankful not to have spent time reading the rest. Can Mr. Braver write? Yes, no doubt. It's just in a style I have abandoned. You see I read Belinda Bauer right before and her pacing, the way she provides much information in a short paragraph is what I've grown accustomed too. Mr. Braver brings us in, but in a slow, ponderous, lengthy way and while he's a good writer, it's just not what I want to read these days.

Nikki Fordey says

I'm not one for sci-fi, fantasy or supernatural stories- but this book really struck a chord with me. I was able to connect and identify with the main characters and I was invested in the plot and went through a variety of emotions as I was taken on quite the literary ride. It helped that the book is set in Boston (where I live) and the main character is Northeastern University student (my alma matter). I would recommend this book to people who enjoy thrillers and are also open to supernatural elements and leaps of faith. I VERY rarely give a book 5 stars, but I think this one deserves it for an overall unforgettable reading experience. I am curious to see what Mr. Braver comes out with next.
