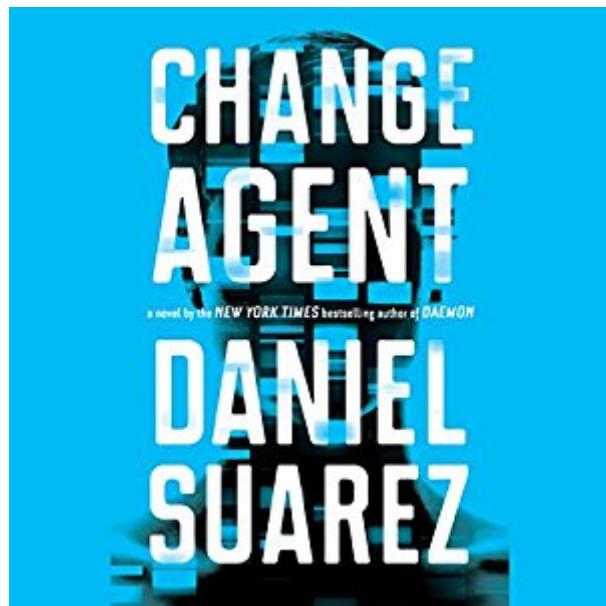


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Change Agent: A Novel



Synopsis

New York Times best-selling author Daniel Suarez delivers an exhilarating sci-fi thriller exploring a potential future where CRISPR genetic editing allows the human species to control evolution itself. On a crowded train platform, Interpol agent Kenneth Durand feels the sting of a needle - and his transformation begins.... In 2045 Kenneth Durand leads Interpol's most effective team against genetic crime, hunting down black market labs that perform "vanity edits" on human embryos for a price. These illegal procedures augment embryos in ways that are rapidly accelerating human evolution - preying on human-trafficking victims to experiment and advance their technology. With the worlds of genetic crime and human trafficking converging, Durand and his fellow Interpol agents discover that one figure looms behind it all: Marcus Demang Wyckes, leader of a powerful and sophisticated cartel known as the Huli jing. But the Huli jing have identified Durand, too. After being forcibly dosed with a radical new change agent, Durand wakes from a coma weeks later to find he's been genetically transformed into someone else - his most wanted suspect: Wyckes. Now a fugitive, pursued through the genetic underworld by his former colleagues and the police, Durand is determined to restore his original DNA by locating the source of the mysterious - and highly valuable - change agent. But Durand hasn't anticipated just how difficult locating his enemy will be. With the technology to genetically edit the living, Wyckes and his Huli jing could be anyone and everyone - and they have plans to undermine identity itself.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

While reading this fascinating futuristic novel I couldn't help but think of two movies - Face Off and Minority Report, in that both deal with identity and technology. In a day and age where we still debate whether certain people have the right to use certain bathrooms it is refreshing (and somewhat terrifying) to consider the debates to come over the potential of genetic editing to fundamentally transform our world and the very idea of identity. This is the topic that author Daniel Suarez tackles head on in Change Agent (a perfect title by the way) - as he introduces the reader to a futuristic policeman, Kenneth Durand who is working to shut down illegal embryo gene editing laboratories when he stumbles into a much bigger game and nearly loses his own identity in the process. Jam-packed with technological details that could very well come to pass, I most enjoyed the exquisite Asian setting and world building in this novel. Suarez has a gift for details and while the plot falls a bit short of his lofty premise - I'm now a new fan of his work and will be looking to read his other books! Check this out if you are fascinated (or terrified) by the pace of technological change and disruption and are interested in a hyper realistic depiction of the not so distant future.

Another techno-thriller from enthralling-story teller Daniel Suarez. In this tale the author moves into bio-tech with a story based on the rapidly emerging CRISPR gene editing system. Set in the near future, this tale demands that we ask "What will happen when the editing of the most basic building blocks of life (DNA & RNA) becomes widely available and commercially viable?" Where are the lines between the "good guys" and the "bad guys" blurring? We are rapidly entering a completely different world which will nearly deify knowledgeable individuals with even a modicum of power. What might emerge in a world where average humans begin to leverage god-like powers over life itself? Suarez is rapidly establishing himself as a first class futurist calling attention to important questions. This story is much like Suarez' other books: fast paced in modern movie like fashion. These stories read like a movie franchise waiting to happen. I hope someone will pick up Daemon, Suarez' first and most enthusiastic and original book, and turn it into a movie with the rest of his books as scripts for sequels. I give four stars only because I personally would like to see more wrestling with the moral, ethical, and social issues raised. It is another 5 star thriller from a great story teller. See my review of his excellent and original debut novel Daemon.

(https://www..com/review/RB1VCV8P322JY/ref=cm_cr_rdp_perm?ie=UTF8&ASIN=09786271050

Once again Mr. Suarez takes the reader from the wonders and promise of technology to the abject fear of the same technology and back again. Change Agent forces the reader to determine for themselves the path they will take when a technology of hope is introduced. Will the path be one of

ignorance and acceptance or questioning and informed acceptance or rejection? This book highlights the danger of an ignorant and accepting populace.

Great book. 2046, CRISPR gene editing has evolved further. Legally, major heritable defects are allowed to be adjusted at the embryo stage. Criminal organizations, however, can help you to go beyond just editing family defects, and offer a whole array of character feats that one can buy for your future kid, from high intelligence, communicative capabilities to athletic build. Still, one criminal organization has found a way to edit even more. This leads the main character, Ken Durand, a Singapore based interpol agent that fights these illegal gene editing clinics, to go through chilling circumstances. The story takes him to Thailand, Malaysia and Myanmar. The book also describes the effects the author foresees of global warming and further digitization for employment and countries. Although I do not share some of his predictions, Daniel Suarez' book is still very convincing and will keep you hooked to your (e)book till the very last.

Great book by a great author. He thinks about the impacts on society that are side-effects of technological innovations, for good and not-so-good effect. Well written and a thoughtful enjoyable read that connects you with its lead characters and has you rooting for them through the last page. Really enjoyed it.

Man has never been content to exist within nature. Man strives to control nature in order to create favorable future conditions. With the biotech devolution the ability alter living creatures including man now exists. Suarez shows us how biotech could lead to a biological "darkness" that historical political structures cannot contain. Prometheus unbound indeed.

Who are we if our entire genome can be modified, as adults, without destroying our memories or sense of self? How can we be "identified" since all biometric data has been altered? Well, this thrilling adventure explores those questions and more. Hard sci-fi at its best.

I couldn't put this one down. I started reading this on my Kindle during a power outage, and decided to finish it before going to bed. I heard a podcast about Crisper a few weeks ago, and I was happy to find a novel dealing with it.

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