



Mona

Dan T. Sehlberg , Rachel Willson-Broyles (Translation)

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A suspenseful and highly original technothriller based on breathtaking developments in the field of thought-controlled systems and cyber warfare.

Eric Söderqvist, professor of computer science at the Royal Institute of Technology in Stockholm, has invented Mind Surf: a thought-controlled system that allows people with disabilities to browse the web.

Samir Mustaf is a former MIT professor whose daughter Mona was killed by an Israeli cluster bomb five years earlier. He has just developed the most sophisticated computer virus the world has ever seen, for the purpose of a cyber attack against Israel's financial system.

Eric's wife Hanna falls into a coma — struck by an aggressive and previously unknown virus — after having tested her husband's invention. The doctors are at a loss. Although everyone around him thinks he's gone mad, Eric is convinced that his wife has been infected by a powerful computer virus known as Mona, and that the only way he can save her is by tracking down its creator.

Mona Details

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From Reader Review Mona for online ebook

Mish says

Mona is a techno thriller that follows a Lebanese Technology Professor, Samir Mustaf, and his revengeful attack on the whole of Israel, for the killing of his wife and daughter from a cluster bomb that was planted near his home. Samir teams up with a group of terrorists, who assist and direct his project in creating the most powerful and indestructible computer virus, called Mona, and releasing it into the Israeli's banking network.

When Mona is released the results is catastrophic, eating up all the Israel financial data and is spreading globally. Thus creating worldwide panic and disorder, and a decline in economic growth and activity.

Unbeknown to Samir, his Mona also travels to Stockholm. Infecting the computer of a Professor of Science Technology, Eric Soderqvist, and undoing years of work being carried out on his invention called Mind Surf. Mind Surf a high tech, sophisticated program that enables people with disabilities to operate and maneuver the web using brain waves. When Mona, unnoticeably, enters Eric's computer, his wife Hanna is testing out Mind Surf. That night Hanna was rushed to hospital with a life-threatening virus, which the doctors could not contain. Eric's adamant Hanna's condition is the result of Mona infecting her body. Eric then travels across globe in search of answers – an anti-virus or the creator...anything that will/could save Hanna's life.

I really tried my damn hardest to like this novel, but it just wasn't hitting the right nerve. And I don't I believe it was purely the fault of the book, it had a lot to do with my mood, timing and perhaps not selecting the right kind of Sci-fi for me.

I read a book just prior to Mona, in similar vein, where a group of terrorist take revenge on the government due to global warming and the effect it's having on their people. The human suffering was distressing and realistic. In Mona, the entire concept of bringing a country financial system to its knees, as an act of revenge, felt so impersonal and weak. If there was an even balance of human revenged and suffering combined with the technology, then perhaps it would've fully held my attention. And to some degree yes there was – small sections of the book that involved a suicide bombing, and the devastation to Samir's family at the beginning - but I didn't feel as though it was consistent. Mona is more heavily based on technology and economics, which are two topics I don't have a vested interest in. And it was hard slog to get through - due to my lack of interest in topic - and felt the plot travelling at a terribly slow pace.

There were an abundance of characters introduced and developed within the different groups, and their dialogue and personalities were so dry and unemotional. Made it extremely difficult to keep track of who's who and to bond with. And I believe half of them could've been brushed on briefly or perhaps left out, as I didn't think they had an important role to play in the end result.

Mona has received some positive reviews of late, so as I mentioned earlier, it could be just me - my mood and my taste. So if you think you might like this type of techno based thriller, then I suggest trying it out for yourself...don't take my word for it

Rebecca McNutt says

Mona was an imaginative spin on the typical "terrorist computer virus" story, but I found it often too

technical and not as human as its plot would suggest.

George K. says

Πριν λ?γες μ?ρες κυκλοφο?ρησε στα ελληνικ? το Μ?να του Νταν Τ. Σ?λμπεργκ και τ?σο η περ?ληψη ?σο και το εξ?φυλλο ?ταν δυο απ? τους σημαντικ?τερους λ?γους που αγ?ρασα δ?χως δε?τερη σκ?ψη το βιβλ?ο, το οπο?ο και ?ρχισα ?μεσα. Μιλ?με για ?να ενδιαφ?ρον και σχετικ? πρωτ?τυπο τεχνολογικ? θρ?λερ που αγγ?ζει την επιστημονικ? φαντασ?α και με τις σχεδ?ν πεντακ?σιες σελ?δες του, γεμ?τες δρ?ση και σασπ?νς, θα αφ?σει, πιστε?ω, τους φαν του συγκεκριμ?νου λογοτεχνικ? ε?δους, χορτασμ?νους. Το θ?μα ε?ναι ?τι δεν θα κρατ?σει και πολ?, μιας και ε?ναι απ?στευτα εθιστικ? και ευκολοδι?βαστο.

Πως ?χει η ιστορ?α: ?νας προηγμ?νος ι?ς υπολογιστ?ν, ο Μ?να, χτυπ?ει τα συστ?ματα του Ισρα?λ και ε?ναι ικαν?ς να καταστρ?ψει ανεπαν?ρθωτα την οικονομ?α της χ?ρας. Δημιουργ?ς αυτο? του ιο? ε?ναι ο Σαμ?ρ Μουστ?φ, Λιβαν?ζος και απ?φοιτος του MIT, που ε?δε την κ?ρη και την γυνά?κα του να σκοτ?νονται απ? β?μβα διασπορ?ς των Ισραηλιν?ν. Η Χεζμπολ?χ εκμεταλλε?εται την οργ? του Σαμ?ρ για την χαμ?νη του οικογ?νεια, δ?νοντας του την ευκαιρ?α να εκδικηθε?. Την ?δια στιγμ?, στην Σουηδ?α, ο ?ρικ Σ?ντερκβιστ, ερευνητ?ς και καθηγητ?ς στο Βασιλικ? Τεχνολογικ? Ινστιτο?το της Στοκχ?λμης, τελειοπο?ησε την πρ?σφατη δημιουργ?α του, το Mind Surf, ?να πρ?γραμμα που επιτρ?πει στον χρ?στη να σερφ?ρει σε ?να τρισδι?στατο διαδ?κτυο με την δ?ναμη της σκ?ψης. Η Χ?να, υπε?θυνος ασφαλε?ας δεδομ?νων της Ισραηλιν?ς τρ?πεζας TBI και γυνά?κα του ?ρικ, δοκιμ?ζει το Mind Surf και δεν αργε? να αρρωστ?σει και να π?σει σε κ?μα. Ε?ναι δυνατ?ν να ?χει μολυνθε? απ? ?ναν ψηφιακ? ι?; Ο ?ρικ αυτ? πιστε?ει και θα μπλ?ξει σε μια περ?πλοκη και ?κρως επικ?νδυνη περιπ?τεια και θα βρεθε? αντιμ?τωπος με φονταμελιστ?ς τρομοκρ?τες, πρ?κτορες της Μοσ?ντ και το FBI, με σκοπ? να βρει τον δημιουργ? του ιο? και να σ?σει την γυνά?κα του, πριν να ε?ναι αργ?.

Αρκετ? ιντριγκαδ?ρικο δεν φά?νεται το σεν?ριο; Σ?γουρα και λ?γο μη ρεαλιστικ? και κ?πως τραβηγμ?νο, αλλ? ?τσι ε?ναι τα περισσ?τερα θρ?λερ που συνδυ?ζουν τις ν?ες τεχνολογικ?ς και επιστημονικ?ς ανακαλ?ψεις με την διεθν? τρομοκρατ?α και τις πολιτικ?ς ?ντριγκες. Το μ?νο σ?γουρο ε?ναι ?τι με την δρ?ση του, το σασπ?νς και τις ιδ?ες του θα κρατ?σει το ενδιαφ?ρον του αναγν?στη στο μ?ξιμουμ, απ? την αρχ? μ?χρι το τ?λος. ?σον αφορ? την γραφ?, ε?ναι σ?γουρα πολ? καλ?, ευκολοδι?βαστη και ?κρως εθιστικ?. Οι χαρακτ?ρες ε?ναι αρκετ? ενδιαφ?ροντες στην πλειοψηφ?α τους και η ατμ?σφαιρα αγωνι?δης.

Αυτ? τα ολ?γα. Ποιοτικ? δεν φτ?νει το ?ριστο, ?μως απ? την ?λλη πρ?κειται για ?να ιδια?τερα ψυχαγωγικ? θρ?λερ που θα κρατ?σει καλ? παρ?α στον αναγν?στη που λατρε?ει τα τεχνολογικ? και κατασκοπευτικ? θρ?λερ. Απ'?σο βλ?πω, μ?σα στα επ?μενα δυο-τρ?α χρ?νια, θα γ?νει και ταιν?α. Σ?γουρα θα ?χει ενδιαφ?ρον και ελπ?ζω να προχωρ?σει το πρ?τζεκτ.

Foteini says

I loved it!The way it was written,the theme,the plot,but most importanly the ending.Many good books have non satisfactory endings.Mona is not one of them!

Berna Atak says

Kuzey ülke yazarlar?n? seven birisi olarak çok be?endi?imi söylemeliyim;kurgusu kahramanlar?&ayr?nt?lar okuyucuyu sürekli merakta b?rak?yor;farkl? co?rafyalarda geçmesi;bilim kurgu ö?elerini polisiye ile harmanlamas? çok ba?ar?l?yd?;bir ç?rp?da bitirilecek bir roman;ikinci kitap 'Sinon'u okumay? sab?rs?zl?kla bekliyorum

miss anamnesia says

Thrilling sci-fi story, actually pretty realistic in a certain sense. Perfect!

Deborah Ideiosepius says

I tried, more than once to get into this book. Cyberpunk, thriller, all the elements sounded right but they just never jelled for me. The revenge plot seems unlikely, unemotive and uninspired. Our leading man, Eric just had nothing that made me want to continue reading about him. This last attempt I made it to page 54 before realising I needed to give up permanently on this one.

Margaret says

Ok! Some things can't happen and some things CAN'T happen. Everything in this book CAN'T happen. And It's not about the science fiction part. Everything is ridiculously impossible. So at the beginning it was fun but then it became funny, the type of " get out of here ", so sorry , but I wouldn't recommend it!

Jonas Toftefors says

Boken handlar om Eric som lyckats skapa MindSurf - en mjukvara för telepatisk kontakt mellan människa och dator. Samtidigt har Samir skapat det fulländade datorviruset, Mona, som kan slå ut Israels bankväsen genom att bete sig som biologiska virus. Eric testar MindSurf på sin fru Hanna som jobbar på den israeliska bänken IBS som blivit smittad. Hanna blir snabbt rejält sjuk. Är det verkligen datorviruset som smittat henne? Eric tror det och ger sig ut på en resa över halva världen för att hitta Monas skapare. Boken känns som ett svenskt försök till Dan Brown men får aldrig mig riktigt engagerad. Svårt att sätta fingret på vad det är, men engagemanget rinner helt enkelt inte till...

Brendagarza says

El libro realmente tiene un buen argumento, entretenido, pero me costo lo mío leerlo y creo que el problema radica en que se me hizo demasiado lento, si bien es cierto que la segunda mitad del libro avanza mucho mas rápido ya estaba cansada de dar vueltas sobre lo mismo.

Además de ser un thriller tiene un punto de ciencia ficción y aunque la historia queda completamente cerrada, deja ver que habrá una segunda parte

Argumento bueno, narración buena pero lenta, buen thriller, dejo en sus manos la decisión de leerlo.

Katherine Wade says

I received the book 'Mona' by Dan Sehlberg through Goodreads 'Firstreads' over two years ago. Firstly I want to sincerely apologise for the reading and the reviewing taking years instead of days.

I found 'Mona' to be a complex book to read but also I found it strangely compelling. It almost felt like I was watching current worldly events unfold in real time before my eyes. And the emotions that came with it were almost unbearable to endure... but somehow I got through it!

I can safely say that 'Mona' will set the bar far higher for all the books I have read and will continue to read and I doubt I will find it's equal... yet...

Ief Stuyvaert says

Een thriller met een actueel tintje (deze week nog in de krant en in het nieuws:

<http://www.demorgen.be/dm/nl/992/Wete...>), gekoppeld aan (al even actueel) (moslim)terrorisme.

Vergezocht uitgangspunt (computervirus gaat over op mens) en ongeloofwaardig uitgewerkt verloop. Geen complete miskleun, maar als je dit jaar een (veel spannender) thriller wilt lezen, kies je beter voor 'I am Pilgrim'.

Mohikanos says

Ουφ, επιτ?λους τελε?ωσε! Αφο? βρε δ?λιε συγγραφ?α ?χεις σπουδ?σει μουσικ?ς και ασχολε?σαι με τη μουσικ? τ?σα χρ?νια, γιατ? δεν γρ?φεις καμι? σον?τα και θ?λεις να γρ?ψεις βιβλ?ο;;; Τι σου φτα?με;;;

Απαρ?δεκτο βιβλ?ο, με μια ιστορ?α που ε?ναι πιο υπερβολικ? και απ? ?ρθρο της "Εσπρ?σο" και με περισσ?τερες ευκολ?ες στην εξ?λιξ? της απ? ?λα τα τε?χη του "Σεραφ?νο" και του "Ποπ?υ" μαζ?!!!

Τ?σο εξωπραγματικ? που απ? ?να σημε?ο και μετ? καταντ?ει αστε?α και γελο?α! Οι χαρακτ?ρες ε?ναι καρικατο?ρες, χωρ?ς καν?να β?θος και ουσ?α στον χαρακτ?ρα τους, ?λοι χτυπημ?νοι απ? την ?δικη κοινων?α που ?λλους τους ανεβ?ζει και ?λλους τους ρ?χνει στα τ?ρταρα, που φ?ρονται και κινον?ται μ?σα στο βιβλ?ο σαν ζ?μπι! Και η γραφ? ε?ναι παντελ?ς κουραστικ?, με σελ?δες επ? σελ?δων (ω σελ?δες!) χωρ?ς ουσ?α και με ατελε?ωτες περιγραφ?ς, που παρακαλ?ς να τελει?σουν για να πας πιο κ?τω μπας και προχωρ?σει λ?γο η ιστορ?α.

Το αστε?ο ε?ναι ?τι ο ?νθρωπος (γ?γαντας!!!) ?χει καταφ?ρει να χωρ?σει μ?σα στο μ?λο (που χαρακτηρ?ζει βιβλ?ο) το FBI, το Ισρα?λ, τη Χεζμπολ?χ και την Αλ Κ?ιντα, τη Μοσ?ντ,

τεχνολογικ?ς εξελ?ξεις, τα π?ντα ?λα, μ?νο οι Τζιχαντιστ?ς του λε?πουν!!! Δεν πειρ?ζει, στο επ?μενο ?σως, που μπορε? να β?λει και τις ανακαλ?ψεις για το δι?στημα...
Στο οπισθ?φυλλο, π?ντως, αναφ?ρεται ?τι τα δικαι?ματα του βιβλ?ου ?χουν αγοραστε? απ? στο?ντιο του Χ?λιγουντ! ?δη φαντ?ζομαι για πρωταγωνιστ? τον "ατσαλ?κωτο" Στ?βεν Σ?γκαλ ? τον "Θε?" Τσακ Ν?ρις!!! Εκτ?ς αν το κ?νουν κωμωδ?α και πα?ξει ο Μπεν Στ?λερ!!!
Συμπ?ρασμα; Ανακ?κλωση ?μεσα μπας και πι?σουν τ?πο τα ?δωσα!
Λυπ?μαι, αλλ? δεν μπογ? να β?λω παραπ?νω απ? τγ?α!!! (3/10)

Vojt?ch says

Když už nemáte chu? na severské detektivky, m?žete sáhnout po severském techno-thrilleru. Mona je totiž napsaná dob?e. Za?átek je pon?kud delší a zasloužil by si zkrátit (stejn? tak i n?která další pasáže, které byly na mne až moc popisné), ale pak vás ?eká jedno velké napínavé vypráv?ní o muži, který procestuje p?lku sv?ta, aby zachránil svoji ženu p?ed biologickým (a zároveň po?íta?ovým) virem.

Josh says

Samir Mustaf, a Lebanese MIT Professor knows heartache and pain, having lost his family due to a devastating cluster bomb brought into his home by his young daughter Mona, he vows for revenge if only to satisfy a deep seeded urge for violent retaliation. Knowing he can't bring his daughter back from dead, he uses his education and skills in information technology to aide a terrorist organisation in disrupting the world's economical balance brining chaos and fear into the homes of innocents across the globe.

Eric Soderqvist is a professor of computer science in Stockholm and his wife Hanna, an employee at TBI, the most internal of Israel's banks – both unwilling find themselves pawns in Samir's plight.

Eric, having created Mind Surf, a radical new technology which blurs the lines between AI and biology to bring the wonders of the World Wide Web to the blind by virtue of the ability to surf the net by thought alone has his worst fears realised when Hanna and Mind Surf investor Mats Hagstrom enter into a coma after testing the tech.

Hanna, for her part, happens to be looking at the TBI's website, ground zero for Samir's evolutionary computer virus, Mona, whilst testing Mind Surf. The computer virus infects Hanna sending Eric on a spiralling mission across continents in search of the anti-virus that only Samir has.

MONA is an engrossing and addictive tech-fi thriller that infects the readers' imagination from the heartbreak prologue through to the satisfying epilogue.

Author Dan Sehlberg has written a true readers' delight, think Michael Crichton (author of NEXT) or Daniel Suarez (author of DAEMON) – only better.

Review first published on my blog: <http://justaguythatlikes2read.blogspot...>
