

Essence

Short Description:

Essence, *Assault on the Mind*, is a fast-paced science fiction crime novel that explores the nature of good and evil, and of faith.

Long Description:

What if your phone could read your mind? A new app, eTelepathy, seems to do just that by creating a wireless interface between your brain and your phone. The app's creator, Dr. Karl Hoffman, uses this connection for widespread thought control with the intention of wielding power and influence on a worldwide scale. After the suspicious death of the doctor's colleague, an investigating FBI team will face telepathic assaults, hallucinations, near-death experiences, and more in this fast-paced science fiction novel that explores the essence of good and evil, and of faith.

Reviews:

–"The first in what I hope will be a John Rocco series"

Review on Amazon:

Based on the cover art alone, I prepared for "*Assault on the Mind*" to be a Matrix-like mix of science fiction, psychological thriller, and dark action. And while there were elements of all of those things, here is a book that, while highly readable, appeals strongly to the intellect. And eventually, the heart.

This even-paced first novel is a character-driven exploration of the mind, humanity, religion, and ultimately, love. Loomis' writing shines in its clarity (I now understand string theory), in his treatment of main characters, and in particular, his ability to set a scene. Whether in the bare concrete confines of a warehouse, a dim chapel with a friar praying in it, or the lush forests of Nicaragua, he takes you there.

I would have liked a deeper understanding into the villain Hoffman's backstory – more about his motivations and the intricacies of eTelepathy. But what I really would like, and where I could see this going, is a series of books featuring John Rocco.

In Rocco he's created a strong and sympathetic protagonist. There's a backstory that could be mined in future novels. His relationship with Clare wants to go places that I'd be eager to read about! Might this be the first in a series of Rocco novels? This reader certainly hopes so!

Well worth the read.

–Loomis does a wonderful job

Amazon review:

When I first got into this book, I was a little nervous that some of the topics would be over my head. However, Dr. Loomis does a wonderful job of explaining different elements where appropriate, and at a level that any reader will be able to understand!

Everything in this novel flowed so well, and the continuous action did a great job of keeping my blood pressure just slightly above normal. Though it would have been nice to have a bit more of a backstory on Hoffman, the characters were still very well developed. Dr. Loomis did a great job of portraying Rocco's journey and continuing character development throughout the novel, and I am so excited to see where the next book takes him!

–Genuine Original

Amazon Review:

A taut suspense thriller following engaging characters through a story of mass mind control. Essence touches on fascinating concepts like mind spirit, body connections while keeping the plot moving. A truly original book, something I am not able to say very often. Hoping Dr. Loomis makes this into a series.

–This book is addictive to say the least!

Amazon Review:

This book is addictive to say the least ! I could not put it down. I gave it to my wife when I was done and she got hooked too ! She and I both want more. Dr. Loomis is so talented. We can't wait for the next book .

–Fantastic well-written novel

Young reader review on Amazon:

This is a fantastic, thrilling book full of excitement, science, and even some medical information. Essence, Assault on the Mind has intriguing, well-developed characters. I love Rocco and the rest of his friends. I would highly recommend this action-packed book!

Review posted on Barnes & Noble:

Reviewed by Lit Amri for Readers' Favorite:

A popular app called eTelepathy, which is able to capture a person's brain waves, creates a wireless interface between a person's brain and their smartphone. But once downloaded, it also allows for ongoing subliminal influences from the app's creator, Dr. Karl Hoffman, a professor of Neuroscience, even when not in use. Hoffman has been using the app for his own agenda and FBI agents John Rocco and his colleagues need to stop him before he expands his mind control further.

Essence: Assault On the Mind by Mario G. Loomis MD provides insight into the transcendent nature of the mind, string theory physics, near death experiences, and alternate dimensions. The premise of mind control is interesting and Loomis has developed it solidly into the fast paced plot. It reminds me somewhat of The X Files, due to the involvement of FBI agents, particularly John Rocco and Clare Bristol, as well as the oddity of the case that they are trying to solve. Interestingly, if we look at the world we're living in today and the historical facts, the idea of corruption of free thought is not science fiction. There are also times when the story blurs the line between science and spirituality.

The characters have sufficient depth and the narrative is straightforward and swift. The discussed scientific theories are easy to understand. This is a solid read from Loomis and I enjoyed it. I recommend *Essence: Assault On the Mind* to readers searching for a sci-fi thriller drawing on both accepted and refuted fringe science.

About the author:

Surgeon, author, and homeschooling dad, Dr. Mario Loomis, has operated in third world missions, done brain and stem cell research, and cared for thousands of patients over the years. He is now writing science fiction novels to both entertain and intrigue the mind. If you've had trouble finding "clean reads" that were thrilling enough to hold your attention or your teenager's, try *Essence*, *Assault on the Mind*, one of Dr. Loomis's debut novels.

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