



Pandora's Brain

Calum Chace

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Around half the scientists researching artificial intelligence (AI) think that a conscious AI at or beyond human level will be created by 2050. If they are right, the consequence could be an intelligence explosion, in which the AI rapidly and enormously exceeds human cognitive ability.

Pandora's Brain is a techno-thriller by best-selling writer Calum Chace. It uses the issues raised by the coming machine intelligence explosion as a platform for a fast-paced and thought-provoking adventure story.

Set in the near future, it features Matt, a shy but engaging and resourceful student who discovers that his recently-deceased father was involved in research that could enable the construction of the world's first conscious machine.

Matt's enquiries lead to him being kidnapped, as he is caught in the crossfire between two groups pursuing that goal - one led by an internet billionaire, and another backed by the US military. At stake is his own life and those of his family and friends.

A dramatic seaborne rescue operation, a series of brutal murders and other filmic action scenes follow. In the course of his adventures, Matt discovers that the potential upside of creating machine intelligence includes immortality, and godlike powers of understanding and being - but the potential downside is immediate extinction, or worse. As he is drawn deeper into his adventure, he becomes both the symbol and the victim of a global struggle over the approach to be taken towards this powerful new technology. A landmark decision at a meeting of the UN General Assembly forces Matt to make a fateful decision which sparks the story's final twist.

A book that will appeal to fans of Michael Crichton. Also suitable for Young Adult readers.

Selected reviews for Pandora's Brain:

“I love the concepts in this book!”

Peter James, author of the best-selling Roy Grace series

“Awesome! Count me as a fan.”

Brad Feld, co-founder of the Foundry Group and Techstars

“Pandora’s Brain is a captivating tale of developments in artificial intelligence that could, conceivably, be just around the corner. Mainly set in the present day, the plot unfolds in an environment that seems reassuringly familiar, but which is overshadowed by a combination of both menace and promise. Carefully crafted, and absorbing from its very start, the book held my rapt attention throughout a series of surprise twists.”

David Wood, Chairman of the London Futurist Group

“Pandora’s Brain is a tour de force that neatly explains the key concepts behind the likely future of artificial intelligence in the context of a thriller novel. Ambitious and well executed, it will appeal to a broad range of readers. In the same way that Suarez’s Daemon and Naam’s Nexus leaped onto the scene, redefining what it meant to write about technology, Pandora’s Brain will do the same for artificial intelligence. “Mind uploading? Check. Human equivalent AI? Check. Hard take-off Singularity? Check. Strap in, this is one heck of a ride.”

William Hertling, author of the “Avogadro” series of novels

“I was eagerly anticipating a fiction adventure book on precisely this topic! Very well done, Calum Chace. A timely, suspenseful, and balanced portrayal of AI and the most important decisions humanity will make in the near future.”

Hank Pellissier, producer of the Transhuman Visions conferences

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From reader reviews:

Dawn Campbell:

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Jennifer Trojanowski:

Reading can called brain hangout, why? Because if you find yourself reading a book mainly book entitled Pandora's Brain your mind will drift away trough every dimension, wandering in each and every aspect that maybe unfamiliar for but surely will end up your mind friends. Imaging each word written in a publication then become one form conclusion and explanation that will maybe you never get before. The Pandora's Brain giving you an additional experience more than blown away your thoughts but also giving you useful information for your better life in this era. So now let us demonstrate the relaxing pattern this is your body and mind is going to be pleased when you are finished looking at it, like winning a sport. Do you want to try this extraordinary investing spare time activity?

Valery Carpenter:

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