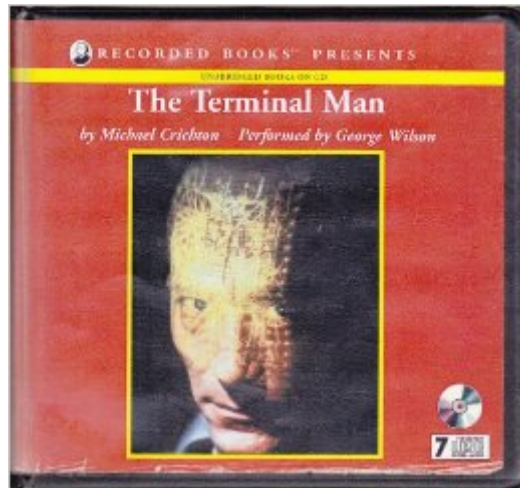**The book was found**

The Terminal Man

Synopsis

Michael Crichton's best-selling thrillers are so fast-paced and delightfully riveting that they inevitably go on to become box office hits. Jurassic Park, The Lost World (RB# 95804), and Eaters of the Dead (RB# 95882) have most recently drawn crowds to the big screen. Although The Terminal Man boasts no dinosaurs or bloody battles, this sci-fi classic does present some disturbing questions about the morality of electronic mind control. Brilliant, neurotic computer specialist Harry Benson suffers from violent seizures. To the members of the Neuropsychiatric Research Unit of a Los Angeles hospital, he is the perfect human guinea pig. They are convinced that computer-controlled electrodes, when implanted in his brain, will soothe his violent impulses. Apparently, the operation is a success-until Benson escapes the hospital and learns to program the implants himself. Suddenly, the perfect patient has become a homicidal time bomb. Based on a bibliography of careful research, this modern Frankenstein story is unsettlingly believable. Let George Wilson stimulate the various excitement centers of your brain with the riveting impulses of his vivid narration.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

First written in 1971, The Terminal Man is one of Michael Crichton's very first novels. As an avid reader of Crichton's books, I found it interesting to see how his style has changed, and it certainly has.The different time period gives the book an awkward touch. Fans of Crichton know that he includes top of the line technology in each story he creates. The Terminal Man is no different. However, times have changed. Dime-size computer chips are no longer an oddity, and it's strange to hear them referred to as so.To those who have read Jurassic Park or The Great Train Robbery, The Terminal Man will seem slow. Indeed, it is. The reader will be well through the first half of the

novel before the story picks up and the action begins. This means that the first half of the book is generally an introduction. It's not unreadable, but it's a bit difficult to stick with.Unlike his other works, The Terminal Man has few complexities. There are no side-stories, no backgrounds on characters, and few technological explanations- usually so common to Crichton's writing. This makes the story easier to read, but at times you'll find you really could use a little more information on some of the main characters. It's like coming into a movie 15 minutes through. You get the gist of what's going on, but you know something is missing.It is an interesting read filled with a good deal of suspense to keep the reader going for a while. But it doesn't compare to his later works. Only purchase this as an insight to the author's early career, try not to expect another Jurassic Park.

For a book written at its time, it is almost like prophecy the things it mentions about computers. It most definately makes you think (and fear) about computers and what it can do to our society.I have a big complaint that books written about computers are often way off the mark (ie, The Net). But this one does extremely, extraordinarilly well. A fast read that is hard to put down. This book has made me a Michael Crichton fan. I'm excited to start reading his other works.

I recently picked up a used copy of this book not because it was written by Michael Crichton, but because the story sounded interesting. To be honest, I've never even read a Michael Crichton book until this one. I have been a computer network engineer and database developer for more than 12 years, and have worked for 16 years in hospitals (Pharmacy, Information Systems, etc...) So, with that background, I found this book even more interesting and appealing.One of the reviews says that this book is "Riveting." I can't find a more precise word to describe this novel. This was a real page-turner for me. I love to read but, unfortunately, do not have a lot of time to do so. I finished this entire book in one week; I couldn't put it down. If you have an interest at all in thrillers, medicine, or computers, or combination of these, definitely pick up this book and give it a read. Granted, while the technology and medical practices in the book are dated, the book focuses on neither of these. Crichton succeeds in constructing and developing two main characters (Harry Benson and Dr. Ross) whose lives are intertwined throughout the book. Crichton is definitely a master story teller and this book, again as dated as it is (1972 or so), is a perfect example of how Crichton excels at story telling (plot, character development, setting). Crichton's writing is concise yet descriptive. In one scene, he describes the operating room in which Benson gets his surgery. In only a limited number of very concisely written paragraphs, Crichton gives the reader the whole rundown of the operating room. He paints a thorough descriptive picture, but in as few words as possible. He is

definitely a master storycraftsman.I highly recommend this book -- you won't regret it!

This is a pretty good offering from Michael Crichton. Like all of his books, it is a page-turner, I read it in one sitting once I had the chance. It is a good story, and has some thought-provoking scenes. However, it's not Crichton's best work. Why? Well, there are some scenes that explain certain complex medical procedures in detail that many people may find self-indulgent. Also, the ending was weak.Still, this is a Crichton book for God's sake, so it is good, just not his best. Don't make this your first read of MC (or the second or third for that matter), but do read it... eventually.

This novel, also made into a film (in 1974), deals with the effects and morals of electronic implants being attached in the brain of a man who has a behavioral disorder. The implants are supposed to control any anti-social or violent behavior by sending an electrical impulse to the brain's "pleasure" center. But, the results are unexpected when the patient discovers that he can get the impulse on demand. There are villains in this novel not usually mentioned: the physicians who set up and performed the procedure on the main character. The neurologists and neurosurgeons clearly had not done the necessary preliminary studies before the procedure was to be attempted on a human. This is a major topic of discussion in bioethics even today.

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