



The Hypnotists Book 2: Memory Maze

Gordon Korman

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The second entry in an all-new, mesmerizing adventure from the masterful, #1 NEW YORK TIMES bestselling author Gordon Korman!

Jax Opus knows he's not like other kids. And it isn't his skill on the basketball court or his test scores that set him apart. No, Jax is different because he can hypnotize people. In fact, he might be the best hypnotist the world has seen in a very long time.

You would think Jax would be happy about this. But really? It's ruining his life. He and his family are hiding from a master hypnotist who wants Jax out of the picture . . . forever. And the FBI is also starting to ask questions about Jax and his abilities.

Jax thinks life might be getting a little better when a very rich, very powerful man asks him to help out with something. The reward will be great. And the price -- well, the price is that Jax starts taking on the man's memories. And some of them are pretty deadly.

#1 NEW YORK TIMES bestselling author Gordon Korman keeps the thrills coming and the adventure nonstop as the past and the present collide to build a memory maze that Jax Opus may never escape. . .

The Hypnotists Book 2: Memory Maze Details

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From Reader Review The Hypnotists Book 2: Memory Maze for online ebook

Mrs. Downs says

FIC KOR

GR:

Lexile:

Jax has gone into hiding to save his family. They must COOPERATE together to help keep each other safe. Jax tries to do things INDEPENDENTLY. He is hired to help a dying man hang onto life just a little bit longer, but is it a trap?

Rachel Smith says

Not Gordon Korman's best book, in my opinion, but still a thoroughly interesting read.

Thomas Norstein says

Okay...

Having reread The Hypnotists, I had wanted to read this sequel for a while now. I'm not saying that it fell flat, but that it wasn't extremely riveting either. Our main character, Jax, takes on a super sketchy deal to use his hypnotic abilities to slow down the aging of the billionaire Avery Quackenbush in order to earn money for his parents.

This screamed sketchiness to me. There are so many things wrong with this.

1. A billionaire finds you, despite the fact that you're no longer Jackson Opus, but Jack Magnus?
2. You're offered money to do something seemingly impossible.
3. It's just so "perfect"... Jax's family needs money to properly start up. A billionaire offers it to him in return for his hypnotic gift.

It wasn't great watching Jax slowly going insane. It was hard to actually relate to him anymore because of all his weird, snappish, stupid thoughts that were caused by his stress. His first person perspective at this time was just a bother to read through. It was like reading through the mind of a five year old. Yes obviously your parents have been hiding a secret hypnotic brother your entire life. That makes sense.

Mako's scheme was pretty well done, though I still wonder what the purpose of kidnapping the sandmen were. Just to keep Braintree on edge, or for something more sinister? His idea to make a fake website under the name Penelope was also smart, I'll give him props for that.

Ahhhh, Braintree! Why do the best mentors always sacrifice themselves for their student... Jax is screwed

without him, honestly. I can't wait to see what the army has in store for him though.

Scott says

Gordon Korman, the author, had some descent characterization going on with the protagonist and another major character but I felt like he slipped a bit with the other characters, creating a flakey vibe at times that was tolerable though because of a solid plot with some good twisting. The protagonist's conflicts as well as the theme of the book were woven around ESP. The last few chapters had me turning pages quickly. The ending was abrupt though, leaving a lot to the imagination.

Jessica | Bookish Serendipity says

Review

I read *The Hypnotists* last year and I really enjoyed it! There is plenty of suspense and action to keep me on edge, plus really awesome characters. So when the sequel showed up on Netgalley, I had to request it! Although I didn't like it as much as the first book, it was still an interesting read.

I think this book suffers from "second-book-syndrome." This novel really acts as a bridge between the first and third books and there isn't much action, which is something I loved about *The Hypnotists*. Much of this novel consists of Jax and his family hiding from the antagonist, Dr. Mako and his elite school of hypnotists. I wasn't very interested during the first half due to the fact there wasn't much going on, but things really heated up during the last bit.

At a wealthy elderly man's request, Jax comes by each day and hypnotizes him into sleep in an effort to expand his life so the man can get the necessary treatments for his condition at the hospital. There is a twist (no spoilers!) in the middle of the novel that I never quite believed, which ended up being a problem since everything Jax did from then on was based on this "twist".

The hypnotism aspect of *Mirror Maze* was actually really cool, though! What would I do if I had the powers to hypnotize people? ~~I would probably hypnotize my sister into giving me all her candy.~~ *ahem* Hypnotism is cool, okay? Moving on...

There are some books you read that you can tell are well-written. This is one of them. The plot, pacing, character development, everything was frabjous. You have to give it to Mr. Korman: he is a whiz with words.

Something else to note was the ending. There is a cliffhanger, naturally. I haven't been able to find any mention of a sequel on the Internet but since this is a new release, it might be too early to look for news on that. I hope there is, since there is so much potential for a sequel and the ending wasn't satisfying. Hmm...I wonder.

GIF Verdict

Amy says

I'm a big Gordon Korman fan, as are my students. Son of the Mob and Masterminds are reliable hits with my seventh graders, so I've been reading up on the Hypnotists series in preparation for next week's release of The Dragonfly Effect.

Whereas the first book started with a bang and developed slowly until a dramatic (if extremely expected) reveal, I felt that this book has an overly detailed middle where Jax becomes a part of an eccentric billionaire's memories with a hasty twist ending that involves the Sentia Institute and Dr. Mako. I could see students going either way here: students who have invested themselves in the series with book one might enjoy reading this book even with all of its trodding or they might give up on the series. Or maybe it's just me and maybe they'll enjoy this book for its plot.

While a reader *could* start the Hypnotists series with this book, I wouldn't recommend it -- book 1 was much stronger.

Γι?τα Παπαδημακοπο?λου says

Ε?ναι αλ?θεια πως ο Korman ?χει μεγ?λο, φανατικ? αναγνωστικ? κοιν?, και πως η συγκεκριμ?νη σειρ? ?χει στοιχε?α που θα μπορο?σαν να το κερδ?σουν για ακ?μα μ?α φορ?. Αλλ? ?χι μ?νο το δε?τερο βιβλ?ο ε?ναι κατ?τερο απ? το πρ?το, που ?ταν ?τσι κι αλλι?ς μ?τριο, φτ?νει να φλυαρε? ακατ?παυστα σε πολλ? σημε?α, με την μ?ση εν?τητ? του να μακρυγορε? και να εστι?ζει σε λ?θος πρ?γματα χωρ?ς να υπ?ρχει λ?γος, ν?ημα και ουσ?α. Ναι μεν διαθ?τει μπ?λικο χιο?μορ και διαβ?ζεται ευχ?ριστα, ?μως δεν ?χει να προσφ?ρει τ?ποτα περισσ?τερο απ? αυτ?.

Jessi says

Overall not as good or impressive as the first book. Bit boring really and there wasn't too much hypnotism in this which was upsetting. Interesting to watch as a twelve year-old deals with memories of a 90 something year-old. Hard to tell which were Jax's memories and which were Quakenbush's. I'm curious to see where the story is going to go but I think I'm gonna wait till the library gets it. I may have jumped the boat buying the first book.

Ellen says

Memory Maze was not as good as the first, but Korman knows how to work a trilogy. He's definitely setting things up for a book three and left the reader with many questions. At the risk of leaving spoilers, I will say I did NOT expect him to take a couple of the twists he did. In this book Jaxson Opus is on the run from Dr. Maco and Sentia. He has moved from New York to a tiny Connecticut town and changed his name to Jack Magnus. Axel Braintree lives with them and is attempting to help Jax develop his talent to fight Maco in the confrontation they all know is coming. Jax feels guilt that his family has had to give up so much in their life. An opportunity comes to earn great amounts of money when a rich multi-billionaire roots out Jax to ask him to put him into hypnotic hibernation to save his life, but this untried procedure comes at a great cost to Jack himself. The sessions with the old man were interesting at first, but after a while I wanted to just read through them quickly and get back to the main arc of the story. I knew they were overwhelming Jax and robbing him of health and sanity. That was enough. As always, Korman leaves me wondering, "What next?"

Mggreenant says

Amazing!!!

A few years ago I read the first book "The Hypnotist" I love it but never got around to the second one until now!! I really suggest it !

Isabella says

I am surprisingly attached to the characters in this book and I am sad to see some of them go. I really liked the storyline and the ending! Plot twist much.

Fred Ware says

The book memory maze by Gordon Korman is a good fantasy novel. The main character Jax has hypnotic abilities and finds himself in a situation helping this man. I recommend this book to people who like fantasy and superhuman abilities.

Edan Smilovici says

The book I read was called Memory Maze by Gordon Korman. The book was about a boy who had a special power called hypnotism. There was an evil Dr. Mako trying to kill the boy, because he was the strongest hypnotist in the world, and because he stopped Dr. Mako from rigging the presidential election. Jackson and his family were in danger so they had to go into hiding in Connecticut. Then after a long time in Connecticut the FBI began to question his family about his powers. Unfortunately, Dr. Mako found out where he lived. I really liked this book because it felt like each page had incredible action. The book was very good and I had trouble putting it down. There is nothing I would change, except for the ending. The ending was a sad story, but was happy at the same time. Axel Braintree who was Jackson's lifelong friend died by saving Jackson, but now Jackson is protected by the military. I would have preferred for Axel not to die and for Jackson to defeat Dr. Mako in the end.

I would recommend this book to readers who love suspense and a great deal of action. I believe this would be best for students that are 9-14 years old, but really anyone could possibly love this book. This age group would be able to understand the plot. If you were under the age of nine, you could possibly get scared and think that this could happen in real life. I give this book a ten out of ten stars!

Memory Toast says

This part of the series was not as good as the first or 3rd book, but still kept me turning pages. The main character is likable and little more flawed than some of Korman's other MCs, which I would chalk up as a plus. The plot twist was obvious enough that I saw it coming about half way through, but I still wanted to know how it would all play out.

I really like Korman's mix of humor, thought-provoking tidbits, and action and would recommend this to anyone who liked the first book, The Hypnotists, or Artemis Fowl.

Joel says

[Axel Dies! (hide spoiler)]
