

MINDBOGLER

Sci-fi/Action/Adventure
TV Series

Allen Haynes Jr.

LOGLINE:

A high school teenager experiences a laser gun accident, unleashing the altered reality gift of appearing on flat screens and electronic devices, bringing him both great opportunities and great challenges.

ORIGIN:

I wanted to combine my current way of life with my personality when young. I'm highly interested in such genres as action, sci-fi, and urban fantasy, combined with some comedy that touches many other viewers. Some of my favorites are *Indiana Jones*, all the *Star Trek* TV series/films, and some *Harry Potter* sequels. Also, I do like theme songs that reflect a characters' behavior.

CHARACTERS:

James Owens: A.K.A. "MINDBOGLER", a high school teen who undergoes a dramatic alternate reality transformation

Jeff: Puerto Rican nerd, James' classmate, science project partner, and new friend

Professor: Jeff's father. He specializes in Mechanical/Nuclear Physics

Zeonar: Mastermind/Semi-Villain

COMPARABLES:

Spiderman, Quantum Leap, Mighty Max, Max Headroom

MARKET APPEAL:

MARKET APPEAL: A teen-age lead; a diverse cast across a wide range of ages, attitudes, and skills; and opportunities for very imaginative explorations into other realities can appeal to many different types of viewers across the globe. The series could also have an interactive fan website.

Allen Haynes Jr.

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MINDBOGLER

Allen Haynes Jr.

SYNOPSIS:

Teenager James Owens wins the greatest talent show in high school and is very excited about the cash prize. Classmates cheer for him as everybody goes back to their classrooms.

Surprisingly though, they don't follow-up by congratulating him in person. In the next class students are told to find a science partner for a project. James decides to sit next to Jeff, the nerdiest guy he ever met. James and Jeff come up with a project that includes both math and science. Jeff is surprised to learn that James is also a hip-hop artist.

Despite their differences, a minor friendship develops between the two. One day Jeff invites James over to his home after their study session. Walking to the bus they make small talk. James is surprised to see Jeff's home is an impressive mansion in an upper-class neighborhood. He's getting more curious about Jeff.

Jeff makes James feel welcome and the boys settle into study in Jeff's luxurious bedroom where their conversation wanders between the science project and teen talk. James begins to relax.

Being a good host, Jeff goes to make snacks for them. James quietly explores the mansion where Jeff lives with his father, a Professor. He stumbles upon the Professor's bedroom and is unable to resist peeking in.

James ventures inside and heads for the closet where curious faint sounds emanate from behind it. He discovers an automatic sliding door and is again unable to resist exploring further. He's bewildered and excited, as though something astonishing awaits him.

Inside the Professor's secret lab James discovers something truly remarkable. He sees mathematical formulas and symbols that are somewhat making sense to him, plus odd-looking equipment. He pockets a small device and sneaks quietly back to Jeff's bedroom.

Jeff happily brings in the snacks and the boys go back to the project. When Jeff's father the Professor arrives home, James wants to leave. But though he's nervous the brief conversation goes perfectly well.

Once back home James rushes to his bedroom and starts playing around with the device he took from the Professor's lab. It looks rather like a weapon, and he mimics being a cop and then a cowboy. He gets a bit lax in how he's handling the piece.

James unwittingly triggers the weapon's effects, leading to an accidental mishap that renders him temporarily blind. Shouting with pain and disoriented he stumbles around his bedroom, then begins to lose consciousness for a moment.

During his recovery, James remains initially unaware of his transformation. Eventually he discovers that he can interact with live stream and videos and begins exploring his unique new abilities. Excitedly, he moves into other genres and engages with other flat screens and devices.

James later discovers that inserting himself onto screens offers other opportunities in the media business, in making history, money, and gaining some fame. Increasingly he's offered appearance and influencer contracts and getting paid online. Without a doubt, there are no exaggerations about launching his hip-hop attitude into high hopes.

Excitedly, fans affectionately nickname him "MINDBOGLER." As audiences increase, James starts maintaining his own secret lifestyle while occasionally having to confront villains. The worst he encounters is the puzzling Zeonar. Due to his expectations around being "MINDBOGLER," James struggles to apprehend Zeonar, who skillfully invades screens and captures other entities and things, causing havoc on a global scale.

James' challenge is how to balance his personal and professional lives while using his special gift to possibly assist others. His wealth within the entertainment industry supports his growing mindset of stopping villains and spreading an influence of hope.

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MARKET APPEAL

The “MINDBOGLER” series features a teen-age lead; a diverse cast across a wide range of ages, attitudes, and skills. Opportunities for very imaginative explorations into other realities can appeal to many different types of viewers across the globe.

The number of people interested in this subject is astronomical. There’s a long legacy and ongoing popularity of sci-fi, action, adventure, and multi-verse stories.

Comparable series are *Spiderman*, *Quantum Leap*, *Mighty Max*, *Max Headroom*.

Others include the Marvel and DC universes, *Star Wars*, *Star Trek*, and many more.

The “MINDBOGLER” series would support an engaging interactive website where viewers could even suggest ideas that might be used in future episodes.

Places to have a presence and find more fans could be:

Astrophysicist Neil deGrasse Tyson’s show [StarTalk](#) has 122 million subscribers and he also hosts National Geographic’s popular TV series [Cosmos](#). His StarTalk series often explores alternate realities, strange physics, and more.

Bill Nye the Science Guy has shows featuring scientific puzzlers and explanations. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bill_Nye_the_Science_Guy

[Because Science](#) - 1.33 million subscribers

[STEM](#) – Science, Technology, Engineering, Math programs for young people.

[We Love Space & Science](#) - 174,063 members

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MINDB GLER



MINDBOOTER



Wedio

Title: MINDBOGLER

Author: Allen R Haynes JR.

Logline: A young teenage adult who's mistakenly chosen to be a solo cast member, prior to a laser gun accident unleashing a gift going through flatscreens and electronic devices.

Introduction: I wanted to combine my egotistical way of life with my personality as the protagonist when I was young. I'm highly interested in such genres that excite me to watch into action, sci-fi, urban fantasy, combined with some comedy that excites me that touches many other viewers. Such films and television shows that are so exciting to watch like Indiana Jones, all the Star Trek Television series/films, and some Harry Potter sequels. Also, I like theme songs that lead up to the characters' behavior behind the screen and television set as well.

Structure:

Tone: What the hell? What is this? Where's this coming from?

Setting: Lincoln Abe High School

Lincoln Abe High School in Seattle, Washington. A school that has a lot of programs for grade 9 to 12th grade. There's a talent showcases for the few that made it the top to win the cash prize. Everybody is cheering and James Owens is in the lead. As the finals start closing at the auditorium, Owens has a lot more crowd cheering than the other contestant. So, they start going for him.



Wedio

Setting: Jeff and his father's (Professor's) mansion

That's where Owens got invited by his science classmate, Jeff to partner up to do a science project together while they are chatting. While James was inside, he was taken for a tour into Jeff's bedroom. Which surprises Owens about the comfortability of his place. Owens feels like he lives in a luxury, but it was temporary that both had to study and do their process of getting their science project done. Jeff was cooking up some snacks for both. Owen's wants to goto the bathroom, so he sneaks into the Professor's bedroom then later go near the inside of the closet and found out theres a hidden door that leads to a secret lab. James later found something within the lab, and he took it for his own interest.



Settings: James Owens Bedroom

After Owens arrives by taking a bus departing from Jeff's and his father's house. He takes a couple of buses directly to his house. He arrives then, and he goes to the living room and heads upstairs to his bedroom. Where he has his backpack and took something out that he found from within Jeff's father's closet behind close doors. James observes that it's some type of weaponry device that he possesses. But, in the back of his mind, he wonders if it's a mistake that he takes a leap of faith to go forward in messing with it himself.



Settings: A hunted tavern

James got into an accident that caused him to go blind and vertigo. He heads downstairs while he turns on a flatscreen and a zombie apocalypse movie is on late at night. He felt something delusional, and he gets near the screen; without him noticing he slips inside and lands somewhere at a townlike dessert. He finds himself confused and trying to find help. So, he went to a place nearby and was happy to see a building. He looks and begins entering inside. As he goes further while staring while waiting, he hears strange sounds and mumbling. Owens feels frightened and tries to be awakened by protecting himself.

Wedio



Characters:

Name: James Owens (18 y.o.)

Nickname: MINDBOGLER.

Strengths: Mathematics, loves Hip-hop culture, fame and money, acrobatics, strength, some martial arts, and dematerializing himself in alter reality going inside flatscreen and electronic devices.

Background: He likes to entertain on livestream away from fans who don't realize he has the gift. After the accident while understanding himself within his own gift, no criminal or villain has no way to realize him audio and visual. He can easily penetrate them, which makes him more vulnerable to their senses. Empathizing with others who need to be rescue. He really can't decide to make good or bad choices when it comes into some guilt. Because hes a star as MINDBOGLER in livestream, no media and paparazzi cannot follow up to his tracks.

Wedio

Name: Jeff (16 y.o.)

Strengths: Physics, Bilingual, electronics, reading science philosophy, and adores going to real science exhibitions.

Background: A nerdy Puerto Rican descent who secretly like following his father's footsteps, who is a physics, and engineer. An early senior graduate of Lincoln Abe High School. Which is a year later, after Owens graduated. James likes to sometime help him with a punchline on trying to joke and finding a girl into his life. Jeff tries to invite some of his close friends to congratulate James on his gig, but its somewhat disappointing. James accidentally excuses himself not wanting to interfere with his own gig. Which causes this delay to get back at Jeff while communicating and by meeting up.

Name: Professor (41 y.o.)

Strengths: High physics, electronics, mathematics, nuclear physics, and mechanical engineering.

Background: A brilliant scientist for the common cause to be humanitarian. After years and years after studying engineering on secret and suppress technology. He works with contractors and top-secret military programs. The Professor also got a secret lab hidden away into his own upscale mansion. The father who raised Jeff most of his life since day one. The Professor feels a bit disheartened because his son speaks highly about him in a humble manner. But he never and one day hes gonna tell his son that he will expose his technology and the secret lab also. Then teach him the ropes. James mistakenly knows about the Professor's lab inside the Professor's closet by himself. Without both knowing.

Wedio

Name: Zeonar (29 y.o.)

Strengths: Organizing crime, analytical, psychology, narcissist, leader, and an instigator.

Background: A unique power trip individual who likes to mastermind his plans globally. Daring to test his own mobility to stay at the top. Owens tries so many times to cut ties with him to prevent destruction or further remaining attempts. Sometimes the villain like himself takes priceless items and uses his acquaintances and other victims for pleasure. He usually kidnaps one of the brightest to bribe others to get whatever he wants. He loves to reward himself and wants to be the best over his superiors while he tries showing good ethics, very foolishly. In his own egotistical mindset; that he doesn't like to dwell on anything but takes extreme precaution into not trusting anyone.

Wedio

Season 1

Episodes:

1	Owen's trials and tribulations	17 pages	Episode 1
2	Got carried away	30 pages	Episode 2
3a.	Clear Channel Bandits	11 pages	Episodes 3
	Outcome of the Voyage	11pages	
4a.	Famous for the run	10 pages	Episodes 4
	As real as it can get	10 pages	
5	The Quantum Paradox	19 pages	Episode 5
6	By Emotions	46 pages	Episode 6
7	You at it again Zeonar?	48 pages	Episode 7
8	Came while making filthy Dollars	14 pages	Episode 8

Future seasons and episodes:

Season 2: Undercover by Illusion

Season 3: Dreadful mind inside the Flatscreen

Season 4: Getting lost is the spirit

Season 5: Void the mistake now

Wedio

Season 1

Episode 1: Owens trial and tribulations

James Owens confronts his inner demons stemming from an unknown accident and faces extreme pressure in an unfamiliar environment.

Episode 2: Got carried Away

James is getting paid to do a gig within those flatscreen devices secretly without the cast, which comes through an unexpected approach from his top executives' giving him the opportunity without seeing him perform.

Episode 3: Clear Channel Bandits & Outcome of the Voyage

There's a security malware issue inside other platforms that are becoming hacked. But it's not helping online streaming communities to benefit from getting their provided network, as James privately investigating the situation.

A.) James goes under the deep-sea ocean of East Indies inside a sci-fi horror genre while hes noticing scientists discovered a rare artifact presumably, it's an old deadly alien curse.

Episode 4: Famous for the run & As real as it can get

James Owens have perform a crime of innocence and didn't commit anything as he streams into his own documentary.

A.) In an alternate world where society understands the cultural lifestyle of treating tourists, trespassers like James, endanger himself in a fighting arena.

Wedio

Episode 5: The Quantum Paradox

Strange occurrences (along with a malfunctioning time travel device) rip three victims out of their timelines and hurl them into another universe.

Episode 6: By Emotions

Inside a horror film that awaits a new cult that chooses to control the world, while James tries to stop this supernatural being by taking whose fate.

Episode 7: You at it again Zeonar?

The mastermind wants to plan survival tactics by stealing, bribing and kidnapping someone for his own assets of corruption, so James must try rescuing them by stopping Zeonar from terrorizing innocent victims.

Episode 8: Came while making filthy Dollars

In NYC, there were several missing kids kidnapped so their angry folks want to blame a mumble rapper. So, James quickly wants to resolve this case alone.

Wedio

Season 2

Undercover by Illusion

Zeonar's ego of vengeance is beginning to confront his infamous behavior, mysteriously. As James proves himself the challenges, he faces consequences, by stopping the mastermind's confidence to have power.

Season 3

Dreadful mind inside the Flatscreen

With the way of James Owens condition going through another flatscreen devices into another realm. He doesn't understand his true self by misconception.

Season 4

Getting lost is the spirit

At a college campus, a traditional story is sacred for generations that's forbidden to talk about it. Which leads up to a supernatural state of consciousness, that pulls the signal anomaly towards James Owens.

Season 5:

Void the mistake now

James is totally not aware of these small trouble towns after he trespasses into a flatscreen device, alone, as he tries surviving other danger.

Link to MINDBOGLER theme songs on YouTube.com:

A.) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VdZnSn2uarY>



B.) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6p3SooyEZAo>



BOOK-TO-SCREEN PITCHFEST

RESPONSE CARD

REPRESENTATIVE #: 1

BOOK TITLE MINDBOGLER

AUTHOR: Allen Haynes Jr.

PITCH REVIEW

ORIGINALITY OF IDEA: ☐ Very ☒ Somewhat ☐ Needs Improvement

MARKETABILITY OF IDEA: ☐ Very ☒ Somewhat ☐ Needs Improvement

EFFECTIVENESS OF PITCH: ☒ Very ☐ Somewhat ☐ Needs Improvement

BEST MEDIUM FOR ADAPTATION: () Studio Feature Film
() Independent Feature Film
(x) Television Series
() Television MOW
() Theater

Feedback:

Definitely a fun idea to have him go into modern shows

COMPANY RESPONSE:

() Please have Author Solutions send a copy of your book for further consideration.

(x) Not what our company is looking for at this time.

BOOK-TO-SCREEN PITCHFEST

RESPONSE CARD

REPRESENTATIVE #: 2

BOOK TITLE MINDBOGLER

AUTHOR: Allen Haynes Jr.

PITCH REVIEW

ORIGINALITY OF IDEA: ☐ Very ☒ Somewhat ☐ Needs Improvement

MARKETABILITY OF IDEA: ☐ Very ☒ Somewhat ☐ Needs Improvement

EFFECTIVENESS OF PITCH: ☐ Very ☐ Somewhat ☒ Needs Improvement

BEST MEDIUM FOR ADAPTATION: () Studio Feature Film
() Independent Feature Film
(x) Television Series
() Television MOW
() Theater

Feedback:

Could make for a cool cartoon / kids show.

COMPANY RESPONSE:

() Please have Author Solutions send a copy of your book for further consideration.
(x) Not what our company is looking for at this time.

BOOK-TO-SCREEN PITCHFEST

RESPONSE CARD

REPRESENTATIVE #: 3

BOOK TITLE MINDBOGLER

AUTHOR: Allen Haynes Jr.

PITCH REVIEW

ORIGINALITY OF IDEA: ☒ Very ☐ Somewhat ☐ Needs Improvement

MARKETABILITY OF IDEA: ☒ Very ☐ Somewhat ☐ Needs Improvement

EFFECTIVENESS OF PITCH: ☐ Very ☒ Somewhat ☐ Needs Improvement

BEST MEDIUM FOR ADAPTATION: (x) Studio Feature Film
() Independent Feature Film
() Television Series
() Television MOW
() Theater

Feedback:

Very interesting idea. Pitch could be more energetic.

COMPANY RESPONSE:

() Please have Author Solutions send a copy of your book for further consideration.
(x) Not what our company is looking for at this time.

BOOK-TO-SCREEN PITCHFEST

RESPONSE CARD

REPRESENTATIVE #: 4

BOOK TITLE MINDBOGLER

AUTHOR: Allen Haynes Jr.

PITCH REVIEW

ORIGINALITY OF IDEA: ☐ Very ☒ Somewhat ☐ Needs Improvement

MARKETABILITY OF IDEA: ☐ Very ☒ Somewhat ☐ Needs Improvement

EFFECTIVENESS OF PITCH: ☐ Very ☐ Somewhat ☒ Needs Improvement

BEST MEDIUM FOR ADAPTATION: () Studio Feature Film
() Independent Feature Film
(x) Television Series
() Television MOW
() Theater

Feedback:

Could work as a Children's TV series.

COMPANY RESPONSE:

() Please have Author Solutions send a copy of your book for further consideration.

(x) Not what our company is looking for at this time.

BOOK-TO-SCREEN PITCHFEST

RESPONSE CARD

REPRESENTATIVE #: 5

BOOK TITLE MINDBOGLER

AUTHOR: Allen Haynes Jr.

PITCH REVIEW

ORIGINALITY OF IDEA: ☐ Very ☒ Somewhat ☐ Needs Improvement

MARKETABILITY OF IDEA: ☐ Very ☒ Somewhat ☐ Needs Improvement

EFFECTIVENESS OF PITCH: ☐ Very ☐ Somewhat ☒ Needs Improvement

BEST MEDIUM FOR ADAPTATION: () Studio Feature Film
(x) Independent Feature Film
(x) Television Series
() Television MOW
() Theater

Feedback:

Cool but need more details about how he jumps into these worlds. Does the movie react to the main characters presence?
How does this end?

COMPANY RESPONSE:

() Please have Author Solutions send a copy of your book for further consideration.
(x) Not what our company is looking for at this time.

BOOK-TO-SCREEN PITCHFEST

RESPONSE CARD

REPRESENTATIVE #: 6

BOOK TITLE MINDBOGLER

AUTHOR: Allen Haynes Jr.

PITCH REVIEW

ORIGINALITY OF IDEA: ☐ Very ☒ Somewhat ☐ Needs Improvement

MARKETABILITY OF IDEA: ☐ Very ☒ Somewhat ☐ Needs Improvement

EFFECTIVENESS OF PITCH: ☐ Very ☐ Somewhat ☒ Needs Improvement

BEST MEDIUM FOR ADAPTATION: ☒ Studio Feature Film
☐ Independent Feature Film
☐ Television Series
☐ Television MOW
☐ Theater

Feedback:

Very confused by this pitch, Where is the story? What is the story?

COMPANY RESPONSE:

☐ Please have Author Solutions send a copy of your book for further consideration.
☒ Not what our company is looking for at this time.

BOOK-TO-SCREEN PITCHFEST

RESPONSE CARD

REPRESENTATIVE #: 7

BOOK TITLE MINDBOGLER

AUTHOR: Allen Haynes Jr.

PITCH REVIEW

ORIGINALITY OF IDEA: ☒ Very ☐ Somewhat ☐ Needs Improvement

MARKETABILITY OF IDEA: ☒ Very ☐ Somewhat ☐ Needs Improvement

EFFECTIVENESS OF PITCH: ☐ Very ☒ Somewhat ☐ Needs Improvement

BEST MEDIUM FOR ADAPTATION: () Studio Feature Film
() Independent Feature Film
(x) Television Series
() Television MOW
() Theater

Feedback:

I was initially confused by the idea, but if I understood it correctly, could be really interesting! I would clarify the pitch more and find a way to streamline the idea. Not sure if the title is a perfect fit either.

COMPANY RESPONSE:

() Please have Author Solutions send a copy of your book for further consideration.
(x) Not what our company is looking for at this time.

BOOK-TO-SCREEN PITCHFEST

RESPONSE CARD

REPRESENTATIVE #: 8

BOOK TITLE MINDBOGLER

AUTHOR: Allen Haynes Jr.

PITCH REVIEW

ORIGINALITY OF IDEA: ☐ Very ☐ Somewhat ☒ Needs Improvement

MARKETABILITY OF IDEA: ☐ Very ☐ Somewhat ☒ Needs Improvement

EFFECTIVENESS OF PITCH: ☐ Very ☐ Somewhat ☒ Needs Improvement

BEST MEDIUM FOR ADAPTATION: () Studio Feature Film
() Independent Feature Film
() Television Series
(x) Television MOW
() Theater

Feedback:

Need to develop tone and theme of story more.

COMPANY RESPONSE:

() Please have Author Solutions send a copy of your book for further consideration.
(x) Not what our company is looking for at this time.

BOOK-TO-SCREEN PITCHFEST

RESPONSE CARD

REPRESENTATIVE #: 9

BOOK TITLE MINDBOGLER

AUTHOR: Allen Haynes Jr.

PITCH REVIEW

ORIGINALITY OF IDEA: ☐ Very ☒ Somewhat ☐ Needs Improvement

MARKETABILITY OF IDEA: ☐ Very ☒ Somewhat ☐ Needs Improvement

EFFECTIVENESS OF PITCH: ☐ Very ☐ Somewhat ☒ Needs Improvement

BEST MEDIUM FOR ADAPTATION: () Studio Feature Film
() Independent Feature Film
(x) Television Series
() Television MOW
() Theater

Feedback:

I either missed that the main character becomes a part of TV shows, or it wasn't said up front. I wasn't clear on how the character translates into fighting crime.

COMPANY RESPONSE:

() Please have Author Solutions send a copy of your book for further consideration.
(x) Not what our company is looking for at this time.

BOOK-TO-SCREEN PITCHFEST

RESPONSE CARD

REPRESENTATIVE #: 10

BOOK TITLE MINDBOGLER

AUTHOR: Allen Haynes Jr.

PITCH REVIEW

ORIGINALITY OF IDEA: ☐ Very ☐ Somewhat ☒ Needs Improvement

MARKETABILITY OF IDEA: ☐ Very ☐ Somewhat ☒ Needs Improvement

EFFECTIVENESS OF PITCH: ☐ Very ☐ Somewhat ☒ Needs Improvement

BEST MEDIUM FOR ADAPTATION: () Studio Feature Film
() Independent Feature Film
(x) Television Series
() Television MOW
() Theater

Feedback:

Not sure if using preexisting characters is legal or marketable.
Maybe spend less time with comparisons to shows and go into more detail about your own plot/characters.

COMPANY RESPONSE:

() Please have Author Solutions send a copy of your book for further consideration.
(x) Not what our company is looking for at this time.

Title: Mindboggler
Author: Allen Haynes, Jr.
Genre: Sci-Fi

Setting: Seattle, Washington
Pages: 69
Period: Present Day

Best Medium for Adaptation:

X	Feature Film		Documentary		Animation – TV Series (Adult)
	Independent Feature Film		Alternative TV Series		Drama/Comedy TV Series
	Animation – Feature Film		Webseries		Children’s TV Series

Logline:

In the near future, television and hip-hop aficionado Jive Owens jumps into and out of TV programs and films while helping his detective friend rid Seattle of a certain breed of criminal.

Brief Summary:

Television fan and hip-hop lover Jive Owens steals a matter converter from the basement of a friend’s home. After stealing the apparatus, Jive realizes that he can enter and manipulate television shows and movies; this ability makes him famous. He also helps Detective Johnny Blaze catch the evil Junior Mafia and its nefarious leader – robbers and killers all. Because Jive wears a mask, the cops and victims don’t know who is coming to their aid, and Jive can slip back into his fulltime job of controlling the media.

Synopsis:

Manhattan born JIVE OWENS resides in the suburbs of northwest Seattle, Washington. For much of the eighteen years of his life, he has been raised by a single mother, a bank teller named CYNTHIA. He loves classic television and western programs, as well as law oriented and sci-fi shows. He also is interested in rap and hip-hop, and writes his own lyrics. Jive is a little standoffish and therefore has few friends. A senior at Lincoln High School, he makes decent grades and excels in physics. The physics teacher MR. JOSIE assigns JONATHAN JACOBS to be Jive’s partner for a science project. Jonathan gives Jive a tour of his house, and Jive notices how organized and focused on homework Jonathan is. The two work on their physics project and consume snacks. Jive excuses himself to go to the restroom, but he instead sneaks into the basement of the Jacobs’s home. There he finds a secret lab in which a matter converter device sits among other scientific equipment. He pockets the device and returns to Jonathan’s bedroom, behaving as though nothing unusual has occurred.

Professor JOHN JACOBS, Jonathan's father, returns home and immediately engages in an argument with his son. Jive slips out the door, the matter converter still on his person. Meanwhile, TWO MEN with JMF scrawled on their jackets enter the Jacobs's home, take the father and son hostage, and demand something besides money to take with them. They know about the matter converter and the other scientific appliances, and they snatch all that they can. At this point John and Jonathan realize that somebody else has stolen the matter converter. They have little time to think about this because the people in the JMF jackets shoot them dead. Jive meanwhile plays with the matter converter and causes objects to disappear. He then uses the converter to rob a local bank and throw the authorities off of his scent. The converter accidentally zaps Jive, but he wakes from his unconscious state and assumes that everything is fine. He feels all right and the converter is marred, but likely fixable.

As all of this is going on, Detective JOHNNY BLAZE investigates the slew of deaths around Seattle, Washington, and whether the Junior Mafia (JMF) has anything to do with these crimes. Jive, a friend of Johnny's, notices how angry Johnny is to hear that the members of the Mafia are selling PCP by the local grocery stores. Johnny and another cop trail the Mafia kids, but the SECOND COP and an INNOCENT KID wind up dead during the stakeout. A masked Blaze heads to a restaurant where several JMF members have held INNOCENT CITIZENS hostage. Captain CARAL JUSTICE and Sergeant WILLIAM THOMAS arrive as backup officers. They learn that the man in charge of the villainous behavior is the terrorist and large scale thief ZEONAR. He and his crew have shot at several officers, but twelve survive the onslaught of bullets. Jive, wearing a mask, helps to dismantle the bomb that threatens to blow up the hostages. He also saves a young woman named SEA by throwing a tape toward a gun pointed at her.

Jive returns to his house, sleeps for a little while and then turns on the television to a zombie movie. He enters the realm of the movie and comes face to face with the zombie on the screen! He runs, and as he looks at his surroundings, he figures he must be in a rural location like Kansas. Jive finds no dial tones in the phones and no humans; he sees only zombies, and attempts to defend himself with a stick. Since he is in a grocery store, Jive uses surrounding props like a cash register to bash in the zombies' heads. He escapes the store and sees a brick that states the name of the city: Jamaica, Queens Boulevard. He soon picks up another stick-like object, but it turns into a snake that worms its way around his arm and into his head. The undead begin pushing forth from the ground. Jive pleads for guns to defend himself, and the weapons appear in his hands. He escapes the zombies and returns home through a gateway in the alternate television realm.

Jive appears to be transported to another universe, this one resembling a fetid bathroom. There is a CREATURE in the rest area that seems to be mangling human bodies sprawled out on the floor. The creature turns out to be a werewolf, and Jive tries to hide himself from the beast. Jive is investigated for the bathroom deaths. Dogs and their OFFICER OWNERS chase Jive as he flees the authorities. Meanwhile, the werewolf can hide and deflect bullets the way no normal wolf possibly could. He eventually perishes, and Jive feels content that he was able to transport himself into a werewolf movie. He returns to the real world and answers his mother's call to get a container of Pepsi from the local store. Jive has Johnny Blaze's Jeep, and he climbs in the vehicle with his newly repaired matter converter in tow. At the store, Jive sees that a hostage named MALCOM has been bound and gagged by the Junior Mafia. After Malcom is released,

Zeonar appears and tries to get the matter converter from Jive. As Jive flees from the scene, the news reports declare that a supermarket – the one Jive just exited – is under surveillance, a bank has been robbed and a teenaged girl named BRANDY has been killed by the JMF in the vicinity of both establishments.

Jive has a bag of money in his backpack when he heads home. Meanwhile, the cops arrest the Mafia and immigrants in the supermarket. Jive has escaped the direct eye of law enforcement, but he resents the fact that cops seem to think that he is the cause of so much trouble. LEA – one of the hostages from earlier – has turned her fifteen minutes of fame into various movie and television auditions. The boys at her school also begin talking to her more often, and Lea declares that a masked man – Jive – saved her from the foes. Jive escapes his problems by entering an episode of the television show *Sanford and Son* starring Redd Foxx. He then transfers himself into an action film and lands smack dab in the middle of an automobile chase. In this realm, he also defends a nerd from a vicious bully. Jive discovers a television set in this alternate world and transports himself back to his own universe.

A woman named JOLENA visits the principal of the school to ask about the students who recently have been hostages. On television, the talk show host RICKI LAKE is discussing hostage situations, and Jive jumps into that channel to listen to the host's views. He exits the show and returns to the school's cafeteria. The academy is abuzz about Lea's stint as a captive, and Jolena and other reporters and television newscasters want to talk to her. Even Lea's teachers chitchat about the hostage situation and Lea's bravery, and Lea's fellow classmates ask for autographs from her. Jive watches a brawl play out in the cafeteria, witnesses the flirtations of his classmates and then joins his friend MIKE for a late afternoon Chinese food run. Later he watches *The Andy Griffith Show*, followed by *Unsolved Mysteries* and *Star Trek*.

Jive decides to jump into the movie *The Planet of the Apes*, and finds himself in the middle of a jungle in which prisoners are being taken hostage. He taunts and sidesteps the annoyed apes until he gets bored and decides to exit the film. He then returns to his own universe and begins taking out dozens upon dozens of films and television shows; he inserts himself into all of them. He starts making his own shows, referring to himself as Mindboggler, and he sells the tapes at school for two dollars each. Eventually his shows hit shelves in DVD stores as well as little parking lot kiosks. All of the major television networks want Mindboggler, and Zeonar gets wind of this and becomes jealous. Zeonar's media empire is growing weak, while Jive's gets bigger and bigger. Jive's Mindboggler persona hits the interview circuit and develops fans all over the world. People are intrigued by his ability to go into television shows and movies and manipulate the plots. Jive can even enter crime footage to see the perpetrators of bad deeds, as he does with a kidnapping and robbing video involving Lea and her friend KAREEM. The Junior Mafia is behind the dirty deeds, and they have kidnapped the two innocent victims.

Zeonar and his JMF cronies ensnare Lea and Kareem, and Detective Blaze releases them from their bondage. The detective hears Zeonar plotting to rob a nearby bank and – with Jive as backup – holds the JMF team up at gunpoint. Detective Blaze is temporarily knocked unconscious by the enemy, but he revives. With the help of a masked man (Jive), the detective guns down some of the JMF folks and puts others – including Zeonar – behind bars. Neither he nor the duo of Lea and Kareem know that the masked fellow is actually Jive. Jive pats himself on

the back for a job well done and then returns to the television to entertain his at-home audiences. Jive throws himself into a piece of adventuresome media and alters the plot to his and his viewers' satisfaction.

	Excellent	Good	Fair	Development Needed
Concept		X		
Story			X	
Characters				X

Comments/Suggestions for Adaptation:

MINDBOGLER presents an interesting concept: a young man existing in a near future world can enter and manipulate the plots of television shows and movies. In addition, he fights real world crime while wearing a mask to obscure his identity; this is intriguing stuff. At present, however, the concept's two ideas don't coexist well within the narrative. One doesn't quite understand why Jive helps stop crimes, much less cover his face while doing so. Presumably he is doing it because he has the apparatus that the robbers covet for themselves – the matter converter – and he wishes to defend the object from those who might perform evil deeds with it. However, Jive uses the converter to perform less than moral acts. In addition, the taking of the converter from its rightful place is a crime and causes two innocent people to die. It's difficult for a reader to understand why the protagonist does what he does. As a result, it's also difficult to identify with or connect to the character in any way.

The story that flows from the concept proves muddy and, on occasion, hard to comprehend. The reader doesn't understand why Jive would steal the matter converter or how he plans to use it. In addition, the episodes of playtime with the matter converter don't seem to have much to do with the crime episodes in which the hero involves himself, nor do they connect to the sections during which Jive enters and exits various shows. It seems like three separate stories are struggling against each other in a slim sixty-nine page book. It's not clear whether the writer intends to focus on Jive's plans for the matter converter, his work as something of a secret crime fighter, or his growing career as a media manipulator. In addition, some of the crime passages and the forays into film and television are so complicated that it becomes difficult to follow the plotline. One can't quite figure out what Jive is doing at any given moment. The reader needs to be able to follow Jive's actions because he is the reader's window into this world. One must in some way or another identify with him.

As presently written, the protagonist's behavior makes little sense and his supporting cast is not very well developed. One doesn't understand why the hero behaves in the manner he does. What is his motivation for stealing the matter converter, and how does he even know where and what it is? How does the converter allow him to enter and exit television shows, and how does a career evolve out of this talent? What possesses him to stick his nose into dangerous situations, and where does he get the knowhow to overpower a force as mighty as the Junior Mafia is said to be? The reader doesn't get a clear sense of what motivates any of Jive's decisions and actions. It's also difficult to discern Jive's character arc. How do Jive's experiences transform him from the

person he is at the beginning of the book to the person he is at the end of the book? Part of the problem is that there are so many – perhaps too many – big life experience in the narrative, and none of them truly affect Jive in any emotional or personality-altering way. It would behoove the author to flesh out the main character so that the reader understands his wants as well as the way in which his overcoming of a problem reveals his true human needs. It would also help the narrative if the characters surrounding Jive were made more multidimensional and relatable.

MINDBOGLER has an interesting concept and some unique narrative threads. However, as currently written, the threads don't come together into a comprehensible plot and the protagonist's actions don't make much sense. The characters need to be further developed, and the plot elements need to come together in a more unified way. At present, the book seems like three separate stories with three different versions of Jive starring in them. Once the narrative possesses a comprehensible arc and the protagonist's actions make a bit more sense, the book may have more potential as a screen adaptation.

Recommendation:

	Strongly Consider
X	Consider
	Consider with Development

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