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THE THIRD TWIN

Page by page editorial comments on final draft:

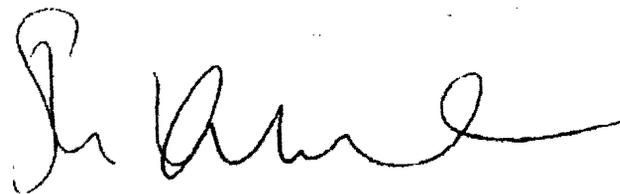
- x p 5, last para: Is this brutal treatment of Lisa usual (therefore convincing) in the US, especially with no female doctor/police present? I doubt it is any more in the UK.
- x p 6, line 11: would Jeannie spring this revelation (that he may be an identical twin) on him so suddenly and without at least speaking to his parents first? And especially then going on to tell him the shocking news that his twin is a murderer. She's only just met him after all and he has had no briefing prior to the testing (see foot of p 3). Wouldn't she keep quiet for the moment, to give herself time to absorb and process the information, and visit Pinker, and do the testing on Steve on another pretext?
- ✓ p 6, l 21-22: Is Steve's reaction to the news in any case a little simplistic here?
- ✓ p 7, l 9: will you be giving us more background to Barck and similarly Proust?
- ✓ p 7, same para: did Berisford - and by association, Barck - not know the basis of Jeannie's research and what it might lead to?
- x p 7, l 16: I'm interested to know how does Jeannie attract volunteers?
- x p 8, l 7: I'm still not convinced - from personal experience - that identical twins get cavities in the same teeth!
- ✓ p 8, l 21: will you be explaining, for computer illiterates like me, terms like 'search engine'?
- ✓ p 8, l 22: Ghita Serena - it bugs me that her name is very close to one of our authors, Gitta Sereny, about to hit the headlines with her biography of Albert Speer. I know Ghita is a minor, inoffensive, character here, but
- ✓ p 9, l 5: I've wiggled a line under 'Mike' because, I suppose, I'm wondering why she has to be 'masculinised' as a female police officer?
- ✓ p 10, first para: Jeannie is so bright that I wonder whether she wouldn't make the connection here with what Mike said on previous page about Lisa's rapist causing chaos? And again on p 17 at the university? Or am I making too obvious a connection too soon because these events are so telescoped in the outline?
- x p 10, 23: Barck's reaction is unconvincingly extreme given who he is and what they have to lose?
- ✓ p 11, l 8: Is Kiana able to take a blood sample from Pinker with his agreement - given that we're warned how dangerous he is (p 10)?
- p 14: does Jeannie query to herself the timing of Berisford's intervention?

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p 19: as well as being computer illiterate, I am also pretty unscientific. Will it be clear where the eggs with which the four women are impregnated have come from in the first place (how have they been cloned)? And how do shared genes dictate the methodology of the crimes committed?

By extension, will there be any hint of a debate within the book about whether nature or nurture are the deciding factors in a personality? At the moment, the story ends without any major ramifications for the Genetico project and the wider science it is part of. It may be that I'm trying to cast the net too wide, but these are interesting issues that could have wonderful story potential.

Finally, p 22, l 8-9: 'one of them is dead' - which one? How do they know (p 24) that Henry King is dead (or have I missed the point)? And what happens to Pinker in the end; is he ever found?

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'I. King', written in a cursive style.