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C O N V E R G E N C E

MIKE FRENCH

The Third Book in the Dandelion Trilogy

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Galaxy Book Award nominee 2011, Mike French concludes his powerful and inventive Speculative Fiction trilogy with a standalone chillingly addictive journey into the world of brain manipulation

Definition: Convergence Point - a lifetime's worth of memories contained within an infinitesimally small amount of time.

When the Convergence Project manages to record a Convergence Point, a shimmering orb is brought into being that expands out destroying the earth. Inside the Orb is paradise, a beautiful, sun-drenched, lush environment where humanity and nature fuse and beauty, love and hope are woven into the landscape....

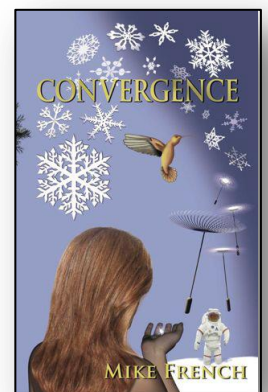
The *Convergence Project* is a covert military/governmental science project that uses prisoners on death row to explore what happens to people as they die. The experience of life flashing before your eyes, just before death is a process called *active retrieval* where memories are being recalled and lived out again in the mind. As the amount of time before death decreases, the brain exponentially increases the speed of playback and starts looping: repeating over and over a lifetime's worth of memories. Each playback makes the memories stronger and retains more detail. Eventually an infinite playback speed is reached, forming a memory singularity called a *Convergence Point*, where the 'moment' lasts for ever and the person effectively enters an afterlife of their own making.

Killing subjects by lethal injection within an enhanced Magnetic Resonance Imaging Core, brain activity can be imaged moments before the Convergence Point forms.

The 'near' Convergence Points are downloaded into neutral clones which effectively decode the brain patterns back into memories. These *Convergence Clones* are subjected to psychoanalysis to try to gain an understanding of the death experience.

Featuring an extraordinary cast of characters and a labyrinthine plot that twists and turns, *Convergence* is unsettling, ambitious, lyrical and utterly gripping.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR: Mike French is the owner and senior editor of the prestigious literary magazine, *The View From Here* which has been called many fine things since it started in 2007 including "Attractive, informative, sparkling and useful" by the late Ian M. Banks. Mike's debut novel, *The Ascent of Isaac Steward*, the first book of the Dandelion Trilogy, was published in 2011 and nominated for a **Galaxy National Book Award** which, presumably due to an unfortunate clerical error, was awarded to Dawn French. The second book in the trilogy, the satirical *Blue Friday*, was published in 2012 and was nominated for the **Arthur C. Clarke Award**. *Convergence* is the final part of the trilogy. Born in Cornwall in 1967, Mike spent his childhood flipping between England and Scotland with a few years in between in Singapore. He is married with three children.



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