

## SPLINTERED LIGHT / Synopsis

A girl comes of age as the first of a new species of human, a near-god... and is forced into the role of a reluctant Second Coming of Christ in a world imploding around her.

The story takes place in the present-day, in normal settings. It spans a few weeks, starting with a simulated battle between:

EVA CONNARD, now a fifteen year old girl and the first of the *Nova sapiens* species to come of age, honing her developing skills as she trains with...

JOSHUA O'DONNELL, now a twenty-five year old young man, her half-brother and surrogate parent, an almost-*Nova*, a warrior sworn to protect his baby sister.

But her developing new-species skills are useful for physical defense, not protective of the emotional vulnerabilities of a young girl, as is quickly discerned by:

ROBERT BLAKE, a brilliant and charismatic Christian televangelist with a carefully concealed moral deficit, who works his way into Eva's affections and schemes to betray her so that the incipient power of the *Novas* can be turned to his own ends.

The monkey trap test was applied to the human race sixteen years ago, to determine humanity's spiritual readiness for its next evolutionary step. The test subjects (Eva's parents) passed, and promptly conceived her – the firstborn *Nova sapiens*. This story concludes the metaphysical fable begun in *Monkey Trap*, and continued in *Hiding Hand*, but it's now seven years later. As this third tale begins, Eva is beginning to acquire the near-godlike powers that come with puberty. *Novas* can dip at will into dimensions normal humans cannot even perceive, so Eva can transpose (teleport) to different locations, levitate and create localized gravity waves, and turn her hands into energy weapons or healing agents.

As the existence of the *Novas* become public, different governments and cultures and splinter groups begin to jockey for position; they want to gather up the *Nova* children, influence them, seduce and traduce them, or kidnap and brainwash them. Or if they can't do that, destroy them. Eva must find a solution that threads the needle: protects *Novas* but doesn't harm humanity. And this will require the most delicate care and balance. Eva knows all too well that she's at the top of a slippery slope. Even though intellectually and spiritually prepared by an innate *Nova* empathy as well as by Joshua's intensive mental and physical training, she's still only fifteen years old, and has awful choices to make. A terrible responsibility for one so young.

And it's made worse by the plots and subplots working against her: a demented Senator who releases a *Nova*-killing virus, a resurfacing of the Islamic cleric who kidnapped her seven years ago, and the alliance of both with Blake, a man who she's come to trust and love. But Blake is a betrayer: his Judas to her Christ.

Twists/disclosures like *Sixth Sense*. Escalating chase/battle scenes like *Terminator 2*. Spiritual allegory like *The Adjustment Bureau*. And for those who appreciate historical/philosophical parallels, the story is a modern-day retelling of the Christos myth, which actually began with the Egyptians several millennia before Christ.

Note: *Splintered Light* is the third story of a book trilogy. *Monkey Trap* is the first. *Hiding Hand* is the second.