

## Birth Mark

**Bill Rowe**

**Peter Cooper**

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The philosophy of reincarnation is used as the major plot line in this work, and comes from the Sanskrit text, the Mahabharata, the world's most ancient written document and the foundation of Hinduism. Rowe and Cooper have taken this philosophy and created an intriguing story of revenge through the ages that, although not new, is refreshing with its subplots of jealousy, greed and corruption.

Rich-boy Doug MacBrayne, born with a large birth mark on the back of his head, remembers pieces of past lives but doesn't understand what they mean. When a series of events lead his emotionally distant father to put him into counseling, Doug uncovers a plot by an unscrupulous psychiatrist wanting to gain control of the family fortune. With the aid of friends and relatives Doug must not only try to expose the plan, but survive whatever is haunting him from his previous lives.

The twisting threads of the story are many and varied and no one can fathom what the final weave will result in until the very last chapter. Part mystery, part suspense and filled with plenty of mysticism and humor, this highly entertaining first-time collaboration between Rowe and Cooper has produced a distinctly different story that will appeal to a wide audience.

NELLY HEITMAN (September / October 1998)

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