

Wyatt Nelson  
2121 Calvert  
Lincoln NE 68502

Dear Malcolm Gladwell,

*Thin-slicing*: subconsciously analyzing the situation in the blink of an eye; the power of thinking without thinking. You are doing it right now. Either assuming that "this letter will be great," or "this letter will be horrible."

Your book, *Blink*, has opened my eyes to the more complex process of decision-making and fast thinking. Before I read your book I would carelessly disregard my gut feeling, thinking how do I know? After I read your book, I tried to identify the times when I was thin-slicing, but to no avail. My understanding is that the door between one's subconscious mind and their conscious mind only swings one way. That is towards the conscious. Thoughts can only move from subconscious to conscious, not the other way. This concept stimulates my mind in interesting ways. By reading this book, I have taken one small step down the long road of understanding the human brain.

This book has opened my mind to new and fantastic ideas. I learned about how my brain will decide what I buy without deep consideration. I used to just grab a product off the shelf that looked the best to me, but now that I have read this book I realize the container doesn't always speak for the product. This is an example of thin-slicing gone wrong.

Another example of thin-slicing is first impressions of people. This is an example of thin-slicing "gone right". Before I read this book, I never really relied on my first impressions and gut feelings. My gut feeling was tossed out when I was calculating a situation. But now, I rely on them ever so greatly because I have learned that 90 percent of the time, they are accurate.

*Blink* has made me look at and listen closer to the bits and pieces of life around me. It has made me start to understand the reality of my gut feeling. Overall, this book has changed me dramatically, for the better.

Your reader,

*Wyatt Nelson*

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presented by *Wyatt Nelson*  
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