



## **Cybercrime and Cryptocurrency in *God Is a Gamer***

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### **Abstract**

Ravi Subramanian's *God Is a Gamer* is a fast-paced thriller that delves into the world of cybercrime, cryptocurrency, and financial fraud. Touted as India's first Bitcoin thriller, the novel explores the dark web, hacking, and the vulnerabilities of digital banking. The story unfolds across multiple locations, including Mumbai, Washington D.C., and New York, following interconnected crimes involving assassinations, corporate scandals, and cyberattacks.

The novel's central theme revolves around Bitcoin, an unregulated digital currency, and its role in illegal transactions. Through the experiences of key characters including Aditya, a banker drawn into a global financial conspiracy, and his tech-savvy son Varun, the book highlights the dangers of anonymous financial transactions and the risks posed by cybercriminals. As the plot thickens, Indian intelligence and the FBI struggle to track down perpetrators who exploit technological loopholes for financial gain.

With its blend of suspense, technology, and corporate intrigue, *God Is a Gamer* offers a gripping narrative that raises questions about digital security, ethical banking, and law enforcement challenges in the modern world. The novel serves as both an entertaining thriller and a thought-provoking commentary on the rise of cryptocurrency and its unintended consequences.

**Keywords:** fast-paced thriller, cybercrime, cryptocurrency, Bitcoin etc.

## **Introduction**

Ravi Subramanian's *God Is a Gamer* is a pioneering Indian thriller that explores the dark intersection of cybercrime and cryptocurrency. As one of the first Indian novels to delve into Bitcoin and its implications, the novel presents a gripping narrative that highlights the risks of digital financial transactions, hacking, and illicit activities carried out using cryptocurrency. The book weaves together corporate scandals, cyberattacks, and financial frauds, offering an insightful commentary on the vulnerabilities of the digital age.

## **Understanding Cryptocurrency and Bitcoin's Role**

Bitcoin, the world's first decentralized cryptocurrency, plays a central role in *God Is a Gamer*. Unlike traditional currencies regulated by governments and financial institutions, Bitcoin operates on a peer-to-peer blockchain network, making transactions anonymous, irreversible, and difficult to trace. This characteristic makes it a preferred mode of exchange in illicit dealings, including money laundering, drug trafficking, and cyber fraud.

In the novel, characters exploit Bitcoin for financial manipulation and illicit transactions on the dark web, reflecting real-world concerns about how cryptocurrencies can be misused. The anonymity offered by Bitcoin enables criminals to conduct transactions without revealing their identities, making it challenging for law enforcement agencies to track them down.

## **Cybercrime in the Digital Age**

The novel underscores the evolving nature of cybercrime, where criminals no longer need physical access to banks or businesses to commit fraud. Instead, they leverage technology to launch cyberattacks, phishing scams, data breaches, and ransomware attacks. The book presents a world where digital fraudsters can steal millions with just a few keystrokes, leaving behind little or no trace.

One of the major cybercrimes explored in the novel is hacking and financial fraud. The story highlights how cybercriminals target global financial institutions, exploiting their digital vulnerabilities. The interconnection between banking and cybersecurity is a crucial theme, showing that even the most secure networks can be breached, leading to catastrophic consequences.

## **Dark Web and Anonymity in Cybercrime**

The dark web is another significant element in *God Is a Gamer*. This hidden part of the internet, inaccessible through regular search engines, serves as a hub for illicit activities,

including drug trade, weapon sales, and hacking services. Transactions on the dark web are predominantly carried out using cryptocurrencies, particularly Bitcoin, due to its untraceable nature.

The novel presents a stark warning about the dangers of the dark web, where anonymity emboldens criminals to operate without fear of detection. Law enforcement agencies, such as the FBI and Indian intelligence, struggle to combat these crimes due to the decentralized and encrypted nature of digital currencies.

### **The Vulnerability of Digital Banking**

As the world shifts towards a cashless economy, the novel raises crucial concerns about the security of digital transactions. While cryptocurrencies promise financial freedom, they also introduce risks of hacking, scams, and fraud. Traditional banking institutions face threats from cybercriminals who exploit loopholes in security systems to carry out unauthorized transactions.

The book illustrates how financial crimes have evolved with technology. Earlier, frauds involved physical theft or embezzlement, but now, they can occur remotely and instantaneously, often leaving law enforcement agencies with little evidence to investigate. The novel suggests that financial institutions must constantly upgrade cybersecurity measures to combat emerging threats.

### **Law Enforcement Challenges**

A key challenge presented in *God Is a Gamer* is the difficulty of policing crimes involving cryptocurrency. Since Bitcoin transactions do not require personal identification, tracking financial movements becomes highly complex. The novel demonstrates how law enforcement agencies struggle to trace funds in the absence of traditional banking records.

Additionally, different jurisdictions have varying regulations on cryptocurrency, making international cooperation challenging. The novel reflects real-world concerns about the lack of regulation and oversight in the crypto space, leading to debates about whether governments should impose stricter control or allow decentralized finance to flourish freely.

### **Moral and Ethical Dilemmas**

Beyond the crime-thriller aspect, *God Is a Gamer* also raises moral and ethical questions about the use of cryptocurrency. While it offers financial inclusion and an alternative to traditional banking, it also provides a safe haven for criminals. The novel prompts readers to consider:

- Should governments regulate cryptocurrency to prevent cybercrime, or does that

defeat its purpose?

- Is financial anonymity a right or a threat?
- How can law enforcement balance privacy rights with crime prevention in the digital economy?

Ravi Subramanian's *God Is a Gamer* provides a thought-provoking exploration of cybercrime, digital fraud, and cryptocurrency. The novel acts as a cautionary tale, highlighting the potential dangers of an unregulated digital economy. Through its gripping narrative, it underscores the need for stronger cybersecurity measures, better regulatory frameworks, and international cooperation to combat the rising threats of cybercrime.

As technology continues to evolve, the issues addressed in the novel remain relevant today, making it an essential read for anyone interested in the intersection of finance, technology, and crime.

## **Conclusion**

Ravi Subramanian's *God Is a Gamer* presents a thought-provoking exploration of cybercrime and cryptocurrency, offering a glimpse into the dangers and ethical dilemmas of the digital financial world. By weaving an intricate narrative that involves Bitcoin, hacking, dark web transactions, and financial fraud, the novel highlights how rapidly evolving technology can be both a boon and a threat.

The book underscores the anonymity of cryptocurrencies, which makes them an attractive tool for cybercriminals engaging in money laundering, ransomware attacks, and illicit transactions. At the same time, it raises crucial questions about the lack of regulations and accountability in digital currencies, challenging the reader to consider the fine balance between financial freedom and security risks.

Additionally, *God Is a Gamer* sheds light on the vulnerabilities of modern banking and corporate systems, revealing how even the most secure networks can be compromised. The novel serves as a wake-up call to financial institutions, law enforcement agencies, and policymakers to strengthen cybersecurity measures and regulate digital finance responsibly.

Ultimately, the novel acts as both an engaging thriller and a social commentary on the future of digital currencies and cyber warfare, leaving readers with a sense of urgency and awareness about the power and perils of the cyber world.

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