



# Illuminae

By Amie Kaufman, Jay Kristoff

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**For fans of Marie Lu comes the first book in an epic series that bends the sci-fi genre into a new dimension.**

**“A truly beautiful novel that redefines the form.” —Victoria Aveyard, bestselling author of *Red Queen***

This morning, Kady thought breaking up with Ezra was the hardest thing she’d have to do. This afternoon, her planet was invaded.

The year is 2575, and two rival megacorporations are at war over a planet that’s little more than a speck at the edge of the universe. Now with enemy fire raining down on them, Kady and Ezra—who are barely even talking to each other—are forced to evacuate with a hostile warship in hot pursuit.

But their problems are just getting started. A plague has broken out and is mutating with terrifying results; the fleet’s AI may actually be their enemy; and nobody in charge will say what’s really going on. As Kady hacks into a web of data to find the truth, it’s clear the only person who can help her is the ex-boyfriend she *swore* she’d never speak to again.

Told through a fascinating dossier of hacked documents—including emails, maps, files, IMs, medical reports, interviews, and more—*Illuminae* is the first book in a heart-stopping trilogy about lives interrupted, the price of truth, and the courage of everyday heroes.

**“Prepare yourselves for *Illuminae*.” —EW.com**

**“[Y]ou’re not in for an ordinary novel experience. . . .” —Bustle.com**

**“A truly interactive experience. . . . A fantastically fun ride.” —MTV.com**

★ **“[O]ut-of-this-world awesome.” —Kirkus Reviews, starred**

★ **“...stylistically mesmerizing.” —Publishers Weekly, starred**

★ **“[A]n arresting visual experience.” —Booklist, starred**

★ **“[A] game-changer.” —Shelf Awareness, starred**

**“Brace yourself. You're about to be immersed in a mindscape that you'll never want to leave.” —Marie Lu, bestselling author of the Legend trilogy**

**"Genre: Undefined. Novel: Unforgettable." —Kami Garcia, bestselling coauthor of *Beautiful Creatures* & author of *Unbreakable***

**“An exuberant mix of space opera, romance, zombies, hackers, and political thrills.” —Scott Westerfeld, bestselling author of *Zeroes* and *Uglies***

**“Stunningly creative. Smart, funny, and romantic.” —Veronica Rossi, bestselling author of *Under the Never Sky***

**“This is one of those rare books that **will truly keep your heart pounding.**”  
—Beth Revis, bestselling author of *Across the Universe***

**“This book is xxxing awesome.”  
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### **Illuminae By Amie Kaufman, Jay Kristoff Bibliography**

- Sales Rank: #6947 in Books
- Brand: Alfred A Knopf Books for Young Readers
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- 608 pages

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## Editorial Review

From School Library Journal

Gr 7 Up—Kady Grant has typical problems: school, parents, and a boyfriend she just dumped. But life spirals out of control when Kady's planet, Kerenza, is attacked by an unknown enemy. As destruction unfolds around her, Kady manages to escape her planet on one of three ships. Kady is considered lucky, with her mother on one ship and her ex, Ezra, on another. As the convoy flees Kerenza with the enemy close behind, it is clear that the problems have just begun. A deadly virus is spreading through one of the ships; AIDEN, the onboard computer of the lead ship, has gone rogue; and the enemy is in close pursuit in an attempt to destroy the last witnesses of the Kerenza catastrophe. Using a nontraditional writing style, Kaufman and Kristoff craft the narrative using illustrated screen shots of spaceship blueprints, interviews, data, and messages that make up the "Illuminae Files." Despite the minimal presence of conventional paragraphs, there is a surprisingly natural flow as elements are seamlessly woven together to create a satisfying dossier-style reading experience. The characters are immediately real and with harrowing accounts, unexpected twists, and gut-wrenching selflessness, they become even more endearing over the course of the book. While reminiscent of the works of Isaac Asimov and Orson Scott Card, this work is a distinct piece that stands alone. **VERDICT** A great recommendation for middle and high school science-fiction fans.—Paige Rowse, Syosset High School Library, New York

Review

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"One look at a hard copy of *Illuminae* and you know **you're not in for an ordinary novel experience**. . . . *Illuminae* is a **wholly ambitious work** that never sacrifices emotion or story for its unique form."

--**Bustle.com**

"A **truly interactive** experience for the reader. . . . A **fantastically fun** ride."

--**MTV.com**

"Hints of romance and references to Stanley Kubrick's 2001: A Space Odyssey interweave with the text, itself **an arresting visual experience that weds form with expression and content**."

--**Booklist, starred review**

"Stunningly creative. Smart, funny, and romantic. This is the book I've been waiting for."

--**Veronica Rossi, bestselling author of *Under the Never Sky***

"...a stylistically mesmerizing tale, where story and art are interchangeable, and words act as pictures."

--**Publishers Weekly, starred review**

"Nervy chicks, cute fighter pilots, lots of heart, lots of heartbreak, a mentally unstable battleship, and even pink hair! **This book is xxxing awesome**." --**Laini Taylor, bestselling author of *Daughter of Smoke and Bone***

"The characters are immediately real and with **harrowing accounts, unexpected twists, and gut-wrenching selflessness**, they become even more endearing over the course of the book. While reminiscent of the works of Isaac Asimov and Orson Scott Card, this work is a distinct piece that stands alone."

-- *School Library Journal*

"This is one of those rare books that **will truly keep your heart pounding and the pages turning** as you peel back the layers--and you hope that the characters you love survive."

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"Brace yourself. **You're about to be immersed in a mindscape that you'll never want to leave.**"

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--**Kami Garcia, bestselling coauthor of *Beautiful Creatures* & author of *Unbreakable***

"Alternately humorous, charming, horrifying and electrifying, ILLUMINAE is unforgettable and **a game-changer for its genre.**"

--*Shelf Awareness*, starred review

"**You'll cheer, you'll gasp, you'll hang on for all 600 pages.**"

-- *Romantic Times*, Top Pick Gold

"Not only is ILLUMINAE a twisting, heart-pounding story moving at the speed of light, but it is **a truly beautiful novel that redefines the form**. I have never read anything like it. And it certainly filled the BATTLESTAR GALACTICA shaped hole in my heart."

--**Victoria Aveyard, bestselling author of *Red Queen***

"An exuberant mix of space opera, romance, zombies, hackers, and political thrills, told with eccentric aplomb. **ILLUMINAE is both the weirdest and most heartfelt thing you'll read this year.**"

--**Scott Westerfeld, bestselling author of *Uglies* and *Zeroes***

"Ambitious, heartbreaking, and out-of-this-world awesome." —*Kirkus Reviews* starred review

"Kaufman and Kristoff have created a fast-paced, quasi-political sci-fi thriller that is completely unique." —*Booklist* starred review

#### About the Author

Amie Kaufman is the *New York Times* bestselling co-author of the Starbound series. Jay Kristoff is the award-winning author of the Lotus War series. Collectively, they are 12'5" tall and live in Melbourne, Australia, with two long-suffering spouses, two rescue dogs, and a plentiful supply of caffeine. They met, thanks to international taxation law, and stuck together due to a shared love of blowing things up and breaking hearts. You can learn more about Amie and Jay at [amiekaufman.com](http://amiekaufman.com) and [jaykristoff.com](http://jaykristoff.com).

#### Users Review

**From reader reviews:**

**Karen Wells:**

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**Lois Wiggins:**

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