

author of the maze runner

Author of the Maze Runner: Exploring the Life and Works of James Dashner

Introduction to James Dashner

The **author of the Maze Runner**, James Dashner, is a renowned American novelist whose compelling storytelling has captivated millions of readers worldwide. Best known for his thrilling dystopian series, Dashner's work combines suspense, adventure, and thought-provoking themes that appeal to young adults and adults alike. His ability to craft intricate plots set in dystopian worlds has cemented his place as a prominent figure in contemporary young adult literature.

Early Life and Background

Personal Background

James Dashner was born on November 26, 1972, in Georgia, United States. Growing up, he developed a love for reading and storytelling, which eventually inspired him to pursue a career in writing. His childhood was characterized by a fascination with adventure stories, science fiction, and fantasy, genres that would later influence his own works.

Education and Career Beginnings

Dashner attended Brigham Young University, where he earned a degree in accounting. Despite his academic background in a seemingly unrelated field, he discovered his passion for writing during his college years. Initially, he wrote short stories and novels for fun, gradually honing his craft. His early career involved working various jobs, including in the accounting sector, while pursuing his dream of becoming a full-time novelist.

Literary Career and Major Works

The Maze Runner Series

The Maze Runner series is undoubtedly James Dashner's most famous work. It comprises five novels:

1. The Maze Runner (2009)
2. The Scorch Trials (2010)
3. The Death Cure (2011)
4. The Kill Order (2012) – a prequel
5. The Fever Code (2016) – a prequel sequel

Plot Overview

The series is set in a dystopian future where a group of teenagers is trapped in a mysterious maze with no memory of their past. As they attempt to escape, they uncover secrets about the organization that created the maze and the larger dystopian world outside. Themes of survival, friendship, and resilience are central, along with ethical questions about technology and human experimentation.

Impact and Adaptations

The success of the Maze Runner series led to a film franchise, with the first movie released in 2014, starring Dylan O'Brien as Thomas. The films brought Dashner's stories to an even wider audience and contributed significantly to the popularity of dystopian young adult fiction.

Other Notable Works

Apart from the Maze Runner series, Dashner has authored several other novels and series, including:

- **The 13th Reality** series: A fantasy series involving alternate realities and a young protagonist named Rance Ridley.

- **Infinity Ring:** A series created in collaboration with other authors, focusing on time travel and history.
- **Mortality Doctrine** trilogy: A science fiction series exploring virtual worlds and artificial intelligence.

Themes and Style in James Dashner's Writing

Common Themes

Dashner's works often explore profound themes such as:

- **Survival and Human Nature:** The characters are frequently placed in life-threatening situations that test their morals and instincts.
- **Ethics of Technology:** Many of his stories delve into the consequences of scientific experimentation and technological advancements.
- **Memory and Identity:** Questions about self-awareness and the importance of memory are central, especially in his prequel novels.
- **Hope and Resilience:** Despite bleak circumstances, Dashner's characters often display remarkable resilience and hope for a better future.

Writing Style

Dashner's writing style is characterized by fast-paced narration, vivid descriptions, and compelling character development. His stories are filled with suspense and twists, keeping readers engaged from start to finish. His ability to craft immersive worlds and complex characters has made his books favorites among young adult readers.

Reception and Criticism

Critical Acclaim

James Dashner's books have received positive reviews for their imaginative plots and engaging storytelling. The Maze Runner series, in particular, has been praised for its suspenseful narrative and thought-provoking themes. His work has earned several awards and nominations, solidifying his reputation in the YA genre.

Controversies and Challenges

Despite widespread popularity, Dashner has faced criticism regarding some plot elements and character development. Additionally, his works have occasionally been scrutinized for their dark themes and intense scenes, which some critics believe may be unsuitable for younger audiences. Nonetheless, his impact on young adult literature remains significant.

Legacy and Influence

Impact on Young Adult Literature

James Dashner has played a pivotal role in popularizing dystopian fiction for young readers. His series has inspired countless writers and has contributed to the surge of dystopian themes in YA publishing during the 2010s.

Influence on Readers

Many fans cite Dashner's books as influential in fostering a love for reading. His stories often explore complex moral dilemmas and encourage critical thinking, making them valuable for educational discussions about ethics, science, and society.

Future Projects

As of 2023, Dashner continues to write and develop new projects. Fans eagerly anticipate new releases that expand his universe or explore fresh themes, maintaining his relevance in the literary world.

Conclusion

The **author of the Maze Runner**, James Dashner, has established himself as a master storyteller within the dystopian genre. His compelling characters, intricate plots, and thought-provoking themes resonate with readers of all ages. Whether through his best-selling series or other works, Dashner's contribution to young adult fiction remains influential and enduring. His stories continue to inspire, entertain, and challenge readers to ponder the complexities of human nature and the future of society.

Meta description: Discover the life, works, and impact of James Dashner, the author of the Maze Runner series. Learn about his background, themes, and influence on young adult dystopian literature.

Frequently Asked Questions

Who is the author of The Maze Runner series?

The author of The Maze Runner series is James Dashner.

When was James Dashner born?

James Dashner was born on November 26, 1972.

What are some other notable works by James Dashner?

Besides The Maze Runner, James Dashner has written series like The Mortality Doctrine and The Infinity Ring.

Is James Dashner involved in any upcoming projects related to The Maze Runner?

As of now, there are no publicly announced upcoming projects by James Dashner specifically related to The Maze Runner series.

Did James Dashner write the screenplay for the Maze Runner movies?

No, James Dashner did not write the screenplays; the film adaptations were adapted by other writers, though he was involved as a producer.

How has James Dashner influenced young adult dystopian literature?

James Dashner's The Maze Runner series popularized the dystopian genre among young adults, inspiring many other authors and adaptations in film and television.

Where can I find more information about James Dashner?

You can find more about James Dashner on his official website, social media profiles, and interviews published online.

Has James Dashner received any awards for his writing?

Yes, James Dashner has received several awards, including the 2012 Goodreads Choice Award for Young Adult Fiction for The Maze Runner.

Are there plans for new books from James Dashner?

Fans should stay tuned to official sources, as James Dashner occasionally announces new projects or updates about his writing plans.

What inspired James Dashner to write The Maze Runner?

James Dashner was inspired by his interest in science fiction, adventure, and dystopian themes, as well as his desire to write a compelling story for young readers.

Additional Resources

James Dashner: The Mastermind Behind The Maze Runner Series

When discussing contemporary authors who have significantly impacted young adult dystopian fiction, James Dashner stands out as a pivotal figure. As the author of the Maze Runner series, Dashner has captivated millions of readers worldwide with his compelling storytelling, complex characters, and intricate world-building. His ability to craft suspenseful narratives that blend science fiction with psychological intrigue has cemented his place in the genre and garnered a dedicated following. This guide aims to provide a comprehensive analysis of James Dashner's life, literary style, thematic preoccupations, and his influence on the YA dystopian landscape.

Early Life and Career Beginnings

James Dashner was born on November 26, 1972, in Georgia, USA. Growing up, he displayed a keen interest in storytelling, often creating imaginative worlds and characters. Before becoming a full-time novelist, Dashner explored various career paths, including working in the health care industry, which intriguingly informed some of his later narrative themes.

His journey into writing full-time began with the publication of his first book, *A Door in the Woods*, in 2004, which marked his entry into the young adult genre. While initial works garnered modest attention, it was the creation of *The Maze Runner* that catapulted him into international prominence.

The Birth of The Maze Runner Series

Inspiration and Development

Dashner's inspiration for *The Maze Runner* reportedly stemmed from his fascination with puzzles, survival stories, and dystopian societies. He envisioned a narrative centered around a group of teenagers trapped in a mysterious maze, fighting for survival and seeking answers about their predicament. The concept combined elements of science fiction, adventure, and psychological thriller, resonating deeply with young readers.

The Series Overview

The *Maze Runner* series comprises four main books:

- *The Maze Runner* (2009)
- *The Scorch Trials* (2010)
- *The Death Cure* (2011)
- *The Kill Order* (prequel, 2012)

Additionally, Dashner authored *The Fever Code* (2016), which acts as a prequel, and the series has been expanded through graphic novels and a film franchise.

Literary Style and Narrative Techniques

Fast-Paced, Action-Driven Plotting

Dashner is renowned for his fast-paced storytelling. His books often feature rapid scene changes, cliffhangers, and high-stakes scenarios that keep readers on the edge of their seats. This approach appeals especially to reluctant readers and fans of adrenaline-fueled narratives.

Character Development

While his plots are intricate and action-packed, Dashner invests in developing complex characters who grapple with moral dilemmas, identity, and survival. His protagonists—such as Thomas, the central figure in *The Maze Runner*—are portrayed with vulnerabilities that make them relatable despite their extraordinary circumstances.

Use of Scientific and Psychological Concepts

Dashner integrates scientific ideas, such as genetic engineering and virus outbreaks, into his plots. This lends a sense of plausibility and urgency to his dystopian worlds. Moreover, psychological themes like memory, trauma, and trust are woven into his narratives, adding depth and philosophical questions.

Major Themes in Dashner's Work

Survival and Human Nature

A recurring theme across Dashner's novels is the exploration of what it means to survive and the moral compromises involved. His stories depict situations where characters must choose between self-preservation and altruism, prompting readers to consider the nature of humanity under extreme stress.

Authority and Rebellion

Dashner's works often portray oppressive regimes or controlling entities, such as WICKED in *The Maze Runner*. The tension between authority and rebellion drives much of the plot, highlighting themes of autonomy, resistance, and the cost of defiance.

Memory and Identity

Questions about identity—what makes us who we are—are central to Dashner's characters. In *The Maze Runner*, memories are manipulated or erased, raising philosophical debates about free will and self-awareness.

Technology and Ethics

Dashner's narratives examine the ethical implications of scientific experimentation and technological advancement, especially in the context of genetic manipulation and virus research.

Impact and Reception

Popularity and Cultural Influence

The *Maze Runner* series has enjoyed immense popularity, translating into

bestsellers, successful film adaptations, and a dedicated fanbase. Dashner's storytelling has influenced a wave of YA dystopian writers and helped shape the genre's landscape in the 2010s.

Critical Reception

While praised for its pacing, suspense, and engaging characters, some critics have pointed out that Dashner's work can sometimes prioritize action over literary depth. Nevertheless, his ability to craft compelling narratives remains undisputed.

Controversies and Challenges

In recent years, Dashner faced personal and professional challenges, including allegations of misconduct that affected his career. These issues have sparked conversations about separating art from the artist and have impacted his publishing relationships.

Legacy and Future Projects

Despite controversies, Dashner's influence persists. His work has inspired adaptations, including the Maze Runner film trilogy, which brought his stories to a broader audience. Fans remain eager for future projects, whether continuations of his existing series or new ventures into dystopian storytelling.

Final Thoughts: What Makes James Dashner a Significant Author?

James Dashner's contribution to young adult literature lies in his mastery of suspense, his exploration of complex themes within accessible narratives, and his ability to create immersive worlds that reflect contemporary anxieties about science, technology, and morality. As the author of the Maze Runner series, his stories continue to resonate with readers who seek adrenaline, moral dilemmas, and hope amidst chaos.

For aspiring writers or fans interested in dystopian fiction, studying Dashner's work offers valuable insights into crafting compelling plots, developing layered characters, and engaging audiences with timely, thought-provoking themes.

In conclusion, James Dashner's career exemplifies the power of storytelling to entertain, challenge, and inspire. His works remain a testament to the enduring appeal of dystopian narratives and the importance of storytelling in

exploring the complexities of human nature amidst extraordinary circumstances.

[Author Of The Maze Runner](#)

author of the maze runner: [The Maze Runner](#) James Dashner, 2009-10-06 THE #1 NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLING MAZE RUNNER SERIES • A teenager with no memory must navigate a deadly maze to survive in book one of this post-apocalyptic phenomenon. “[A] mysterious survival saga that passionate fans describe as a fusion of Lord of the Flies [and] The Hunger Games” (Entertainment Weekly) When Thomas wakes up in the lift, the only thing he can remember is his name. He’s surrounded by strangers—boys whose memories are also gone. Outside the towering stone walls that surround them is a limitless, ever-changing maze. It’s the only way out—and no one’s ever made it through alive. Then a girl arrives. The first girl ever. And the message she delivers is terrifying: Remember. Survive. Run. Look for more books in the blockbuster Maze Runner series: THE MAZE RUNNER • THE SCORCH TRIALS • THE DEATH CURE • THE KILL ORDER • THE FEVER CODE

author of the maze runner: [The Maze Runner](#) James Dashner, 2014-08-05 Sixteen-year-old Thomas wakes up with no memory in the middle of a maze and realizes he must work with the community in which he finds himself if he is to escape.

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author of the maze runner: [The Scorch Trials](#) James Dashner, 2010-10-12 The second book in the blockbuster phenomenon The Maze Runner series now features chapters from The Fever Code, the highly-anticipated conclusion to the MAZE RUNNER SERIES—the novel that finally reveals how the maze was built! Thomas was sure that escape from the Maze would mean freedom for him and the Gladers. But WICKED isn’t done yet. Phase Two has just begun. The Gladers have two weeks to cross through the Scorch—the most burned-out section of the world. And WICKED has made sure to adjust the variables and stack the odds against them. Friendships will be tested. Loyalties will be broken. All bets are off. There are others now. Their survival depends on the Gladers’ destruction—and they’re determined to survive. The Maze Runner and Maze Runner: The Scorch Trials are now major motion pictures featuring the star of MTV’s Teen Wolf, Dylan O’Brien; Kaya Scodelario; Aml Ameen; Will Poulter; and Thomas Brodie-Sangster. The third movie, Maze Runner: The Death Cure, will hit screens in 2018. Also look for James Dashner’s edge-of-your-seat MORTALITY DOCTRINE series! Praise for the Maze Runner series: A #1 New York Times Bestselling Series A USA Today Bestseller A Kirkus Reviews Best Teen Book of the Year An ALA-YASLA Best Fiction for Young Adults Book An ALA-YALSA Quick Pick [A] mysterious survival saga that passionate fans describe as a fusion of Lord of the Flies, The Hunger Games, and Lost.—EW “Wonderful action writing—fast-paced...but smart and well observed.”—Newsday “[A] nail-biting must-read.”—Seventeen “Breathless, cinematic action.”—Publishers Weekly “Heart

pounding to the very last moment.”—Kirkus Reviews “Exclamation-worthy.”—Romantic Times
“James Dashner’s illuminating prequel [The Kill Order] will thrill fans of this Maze Runner [series] and prove just as exciting for readers new to the series.”—Shelf Awareness, Starred Take a deep breath before you start any James Dashner book.-Deseret News

author of the maze runner: Maze Runner series (5 books) James Dashner, 2018-07-05 All five books in the pulse-pounding Maze Runner series! The maze is just the beginning ...

author of the maze runner: Crank Palace James Dashner, 2020-11-22 Newt has been to hell and back with his friends.The Glade. The Maze. The Scorch. The inner halls of WICKED. But now he has a burden that can't be shared with Thomas and the others-the Flare. And Newt can't bear the thought of his friends watching him descend into madness as he succumbs to the virus.Leaving only a note, Newt departs the Berg before the Gladers return from their mission into Denver, Colorado. From there, he experiences the gritty nightmare of life on the streets, running from the infected and those hunting them, until he ends up in the Crank Palace, the last dumping ground of those without hope. Although Newt thought he was running away from his friends to save them from himself, along the way he meets a young mother named Keisha and her son, Dante, who end up saving Newt in a way he could never have imagined.Taking place during the latter events of The Death Cure, Crank Palace tells the story of Newt like never before, from inside his own mind, as he searches for meaning in a life gone horribly wrong. He will try to fulfill a new-found destiny before his path leads to its inevitable conclusion-and one last meeting with his best friend.

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author of the maze runner: The Death Cure James Dashner, 2017 The film adaptation of Dashner's third installment of his #1 New York Times-bestselling Maze Runner series hits theaters on January 26. This special tie-in edition features an eight-page full-color insert with photos from the film.

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author of the maze runner: The Fever Code James Dashner, 2016-09-27 A prequel to the

worldwide Maze Runner phenomenon, *The Fever Code* is the book that holds all the answers. How did WICKED find the Gladers? Who are Group B? And what side are Thomas and Teresa really on? Lies will be exposed. Secrets uncovered. Loyalties proven. You'll never see the truth coming ...

author of the maze runner: *The Kill Order* James Dashner, 2014-01-07 Book four in the blockbuster Maze Runner series that spawned a movie franchise and ushered in a worldwide phenomenon! And don't miss *The Fever Code*, the highly-anticipated series conclusion that finally reveals the story of how the maze was built! Before WICKED was formed, before the Glade was built, before Thomas entered the Maze, sun flares hit the earth, killing most of the population. Mark and Trina were there when it happened. They survived. But now a virus is spreading. A virus that fills humans with murderous rage. They're convinced that there's a way to save those who are left—if they can stay alive. Because in this new, devastated world, every life has a price. And to some you're worth more dead than alive. The end is only the beginning. The Maze Runner, *Maze Runner: The Scorch Trials*, and *Maze Runner: The Death Cure* are all now major motion pictures featuring the star of MTV's *Teen Wolf*, Dylan O'Brien; Kaya Scodelario; Aml Ameen; Will Poulter; and Thomas Brodie-Sangster. Also look for James Dashner's edge-of-your-seat MORTALITY DOCTRINE series! Praise for the Maze Runner series: A #1 New York Times Bestselling Series A USA Today Bestseller A Kirkus Reviews Best Teen Book of the Year An ALA-YASLA Best Fiction for Young Adults Book An ALA-YALSA Quick Pick "[A] mysterious survival saga that passionate fans describe as a fusion of *Lord of the Flies*, *The Hunger Games*, and *Lost*." —EW "Wonderful action writing—fast-paced...but smart and well observed." —Newsday "[A] nail-biting must-read." —Seventeen "Breathless, cinematic action." —Publishers Weekly "Heart pounding to the very last moment." —Kirkus Reviews "Exclamation-worthy." —Romantic Times "James Dashner's illuminating prequel [*The Kill Order*] will thrill fans of this Maze Runner [series] and prove just as exciting for readers new to the series." —Shelf Awareness, Starred "Take a deep breath before you start any James Dashner book." —Deseret News

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author of the maze runner: *The Eye of Minds (The Mortality Doctrine, Book One)* James Dashner, 2014-07-22 From James Dashner, author of the #1 New York Times bestselling Maze Runner series, comes the first book in the bestselling Mortality Doctrine series, an edge-of-your-seat cyber-adventure trilogy that includes *The Rule of Thoughts* and *The Game of Lives*. Includes a sneak peek of *The Fever Code*, the highly anticipated conclusion to the Maze Runner series—the novel that finally reveals how the Maze was built! The VirtNet offers total mind and body immersion, and the more hacking skills you have, the more fun it is. Why bother following the rules when it's so easy to break them? But some rules were made for a reason. Some technology is too dangerous to fool with. And one gamer has been doing exactly that, with murderous results. The government knows that to

catch a hacker, you need a hacker. And they've been watching Michael. If he accepts their challenge, Michael will need to go off the VirtNet grid, to the back alleys and corners of the system human eyes have never seen—and it's possible that the line between game and reality will be blurred forever. Praise for the Mortality Doctrine Series: "Dashner takes full advantage of the Matrix-esque potential for asking 'what is real.'" —io9.com "Set in a world taken over by virtual reality gaming, the series perfectly capture[s] Dashner's hallmarks for inventiveness, teen dialogue and an ability to add twists and turns like no other author." —MTV.com "A brilliant, visceral, gamified mash-up of The Matrix and Inception, guaranteed to thrill even the non-gaming crowd." —Christian Science Monitor

author of the maze runner: The Maze Runner James Dashner, 2015 With exclusive bonus content--Front cover.

author of the maze runner: The Maze Runner Series 5-Book Complete Collection James Dashner, 2016-09-27 A must-have gift for every collection—from the die-hard Maze Runner fan to the YA book lover just coming to the series to the binge reader who's catching up before The Death Cure movie hits theaters in 2018! This boxed set has all of the books in the #1 New York Times bestselling Maze Runner series: The Maze Runner, The Scorch Trials, The Death Cure, The Kill Order, and The Fever Code. When Thomas wakes up in the lift, the only thing he can remember is his name. He's welcomed to his new home, the Glade, by strangers—boys whose memories are also gone. Outside the towering stone walls that surround the Glade is a limitless, ever-changing maze. It's the only way out—and no one's ever made it through alive. Join Thomas and the Gladers in all five books in the Maze Runner series as they uncover the secrets of the maze; discover WICKED, the shadowy organization who put them there; and fight to survive in a new and dangerous world. Enter the World of the Maze Runner series and never stop running. The first and second books, The Maze Runner and The Scorch Trials, are now major motion pictures, with the third—The Death Cure—coming to theaters in 2018, and feature the star of MTV's Teen Wolf, Dylan O'Brien; Kaya Scodelario; Aml Ameen; Will Poulter; and Thomas Brodie-Sangster! Also look for James Dashner's newest bestselling series—The Mortality Doctrine: The Eye of Minds, The Rule of Thoughts, and The Game of Lives. Praise for the Maze Runner series: A #1 New York Times Bestselling Series A USA Today Bestseller A Kirkus Reviews Best Teen Book of the Year An ALA-YASLA Best Fiction for Young Adults Book An ALA-YALSA Quick Pick [A] mysterious survival saga that passionate fans describe as a fusion of Lord of the Flies, The Hunger Games, and Lost.—EW "Wonderful action writing—fast-paced...but smart and well observed."—Newsday "[A] nail-biting must-read."—Seventeen "Breathless, cinematic action."—Publishers Weekly "Heart pounding to the very last moment."—Kirkus Reviews "Exclamation-worthy."—Romantic Times

author of the maze runner: The Game of Lives (The Mortality Doctrine, Book Three) James Dashner, 2017-05-02 From James Dashner, author of the #1 New York Times bestselling MAZE RUNNER series, comes the final book in the Mortality Doctrine series, an edge-of-your-seat cyber-adventure trilogy that includes The Eye of Minds and The Rule of Thoughts. Includes a sneak peek of The Fever Code, the highly anticipated conclusion to the Maze Runner series—the novel that finally reveals how the Maze was built! Michael used to live to game, but now, the games are over. The VirtNet has become a world of deadly consequences, and cyber terrorist Kaine grows stronger by the day. The Mortality Doctrine—Kaine's master plan—has nearly been realized, and little by little the line separating the virtual from the real is blurring. If Kaine succeeds, it will mean worldwide cyber domination. And it looks like Michael and his friends are the only ones who can put the monster back in the box—if Michael can figure out who his friends really are. The author who brought you the #1 New York Times bestselling MAZE RUNNER series and two #1 movies—The Maze Runner and Maze Runner: The Scorch Trials—now brings you an electrifying adventure trilogy that takes you into a world of hyperadvanced technology, cyber terrorists, and gaming beyond your wildest dreams . . . and your worst nightmares. Praise for the Mortality Doctrine Series: "Dashner takes full advantage of the Matrix-esque potential for asking 'what is real.'" —io9.com "Set in a world taken over by virtual reality gaming, the series perfectly capture[s] Dashner's hallmarks for

inventiveness, teen dialogue and an ability to add twists and turns like no other author.” —MTV.com
“A brilliant, visceral, gamified mash-up of The Matrix and Inception, guaranteed to thrill even the non-gaming crowd.” —Christian Science Monitor

author of the maze runner: The Scorch Trials Movie Tie-in Edition (Maze Runner, Book Two) James Dashner, 2015-08-04 Book two in the blockbuster Maze Runner series that spawned a movie franchise and ushered in a worldwide phenomenon! This special movie tie-in edition includes an eight-page full-color insert with photos from the film. And don't miss The Fever Code, the highly-anticipated series conclusion that finally reveals the story of how the maze was built! Thomas was sure that escape from the Maze would mean freedom for him and the Gladers. But WICKED isn't done yet. Phase Two has just begun. The Scorch. The Gladers have two weeks to cross through the Scorch—the most burned-out section of the world. And WICKED has made sure to adjust the variables and stack the odds against them. There are others now. Their survival depends on the Gladers' destruction—and they're determined to survive. Friendships will be tested. Loyalties will be broken. All bets are off. The Maze Runner and Maze Runner: The Scorch Trials are now major motion pictures featuring the star of MTV's Teen Wolf, Dylan O'Brien; Kaya Scodelario; Aml Ameen; Will Poulter; and Thomas Brodie-Sangster. The third movie, Maze Runner: The Death Cure, will hit screens in 2018. Also look for James Dashner's edge-of-your-seat MORTALITY DOCTRINE series! Praise for the Maze Runner series: A #1 New York Times Bestselling Series A USA Today Bestseller A Kirkus Reviews Best Teen Book of the Year An ALA-YASLA Best Fiction for Young Adults Book An ALA-YALSA Quick Pick “[A] mysterious survival saga that passionate fans describe as a fusion of Lord of the Flies, The Hunger Games, and Lost.” —EW “Wonderful action writing—fast-paced...but smart and well observed.” —Newsday “[A] nail-biting must-read.” —Seventeen “Breathless, cinematic action.” —Publishers Weekly “Heart pounding to the very last moment.” —Kirkus Reviews “Exclamation-worthy.” —Romantic Times “James Dashner's illuminating prequel [The Kill Order] will thrill fans of this Maze Runner [series] and prove just as exciting for readers new to the series.” —Shelf Awareness, Starred “Take a deep breath before you start any James Dashner book.” —Deseret News

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