

the maze runner books

The Maze Runner Books: An In-Depth Exploration of the Dystopian Series

The Maze Runner books have captivated millions of readers worldwide with their thrilling plotlines, complex characters, and immersive dystopian universe. Written by James Dashner, this series has established itself as a staple in young adult fiction, blending action, mystery, and survival themes into a compelling narrative. Whether you're a longtime fan or new to the series, understanding the books' storyline, characters, themes, and impact can enrich your appreciation of this iconic series.

Overview of the Maze Runner Series

What Are the Maze Runner Books?

The Maze Runner series is a collection of young adult dystopian novels that chronicle the journey of a group of teenagers trapped in a mysterious, maze-like environment. The series explores themes of survival, memory, government conspiracy, and human resilience. The narrative is set in a post-apocalyptic world where society has collapsed due to a devastating pandemic known as the Flare.

Publication Timeline

The series consists of four main books authored by James Dashner:

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

Additionally, the series has inspired a successful film franchise, further expanding its reach and popularity.

Plot Summary of the Main Books

The Maze Runner

The story begins with Thomas waking up in a mysterious Glade, a large open area surrounded by towering walls that form a maze. He has no memory of his past. The Glade is inhabited by teenage boys who have been trapped there for years, trying to find a way out of the maze. The maze is filled with deadly creatures called Grievers, and every day, the runners—boys tasked with mapping the maze—search for an exit.

As Thomas arrives, strange things start happening. He displays unique skills and instincts, leading to the discovery of secrets behind the maze and the purpose of the Glade. The

narrative builds toward a daring escape plan, revealing that their confinement is part of a larger experimental setup.

The Scorch Trials

After escaping the maze, the survivors face a new challenge: crossing the deadly Scorch, a wasteland ravaged by the Flare virus. The group seeks refuge and answers from WICKED, the organization responsible for their confinement. However, the journey proves treacherous, with hostile environments, infected humans, and betrayal. The novel delves deeper into themes of trust, sacrifice, and the true nature of WICKED's experiments.

The Death Cure

The final installment in the main trilogy focuses on the quest to find a cure for the Flare and to dismantle WICKED's operations. Thomas and his friends confront their pasts, face moral dilemmas, and uncover shocking truths about their world. The climax involves a daring mission to save humanity and determine the fate of WICKED's experiments.

Prequels and Spin-offs

- The Kill Order: A prequel set before the original series, revealing how the Flare pandemic began and the chaos that ensued.
- The Fever Code: Provides insights into the creation of the maze and the origins of the Gladers, offering context to the main series.

Main Characters in the Series

Key Protagonists

- Thomas: The protagonist with a mysterious past and innate leadership qualities. His curiosity and bravery drive much of the series' action.
- Teresa Agnes: The only girl in the Glade, connected to Thomas through a special bond. She plays a crucial role in uncovering secrets.
- Newt: A compassionate and steady leader among the Gladers, often acting as a voice of reason.
- Minho: The head of the runners, known for his courage and resourcefulness.
- Chuck: A young boy who forms a close bond with Thomas, embodying innocence and loyalty.

Antagonists and Organizations

- WICKED: The organization behind the experiments, seeking to find a cure for the Flare at any cost.
- Cranks: Humans infected with the Flare, often hostile and dangerous.
- The Creators: The mysterious scientists responsible for the maze and the experiments.

Themes and Symbolism

Survival and Humanity

The series explores what it means to retain one's humanity in the face of extreme circumstances. The characters often face moral dilemmas, questioning whether survival justifies their actions.

Memory and Identity

Memory loss is a central theme, with characters struggling to remember their pasts. The series investigates how memories shape identity and the importance of understanding one's origins.

Conspiracy and Control

The books critique authoritarian control and ethical implications of scientific experiments. WICKED's manipulations highlight themes of trust, deception, and the ethics of human experimentation.

Hope and Resistance

Despite bleak circumstances, hope persists. The characters' resilience and desire for freedom underscore a universal message of resistance against oppression.

Adaptations and Cultural Impact

Film Franchise

The Maze Runner books were adapted into a successful film series, starting with *The Maze Runner* (2014), followed by *The Scorch Trials* (2015), and *The Death Cure* (2018). The movies brought the story to a broader audience and sparked renewed interest in the books.

Fan Community

The series has cultivated a dedicated fan base, inspiring fan fiction, artwork, and discussions about its themes and characters. The books' influence extends into popular culture, with references in various media.

Critical Reception

While praised for its fast-paced plot and engaging characters, some critics have noted that certain themes and character development could be deeper. Nonetheless, the series remains a beloved staple in young adult dystopian literature.

Why Read the Maze Runner Books?

- Exciting Plot and Action: The series offers non-stop adventure, suspense, and twists.
- Thought-Provoking Themes: It challenges readers to consider morality, ethics, and human

resilience.

- Rich World-Building: The detailed dystopian universe provides an immersive experience.
- Relatable Characters: The diverse cast faces relatable struggles, growth, and dilemmas.

Conclusion

The **maze runner books** stand out as a compelling collection of young adult dystopian novels that combine action, mystery, and thought-provoking themes. From the initial discovery of the maze to uncovering the secrets behind WICKED and the fate of humanity, the series offers a gripping narrative that resonates with readers of all ages. Whether exploring the books themselves or their film adaptations, fans continue to be captivated by the thrilling world James Dashner created. If you enjoy stories of survival, conspiracy, and resilience, the Maze Runner series is undoubtedly worth exploring.

Keywords: Maze Runner books, James Dashner, dystopian series, young adult fiction, Maze Runner trilogy, The Scorch Trials, The Death Cure, Maze Runner film, WICKED organization, Maze Runner characters, post-apocalyptic novels

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the main premise of 'The Maze Runner' series by James Dashner?

The series follows a group of teenagers who wake up in a mysterious maze with no memory of their past, trying to find a way out while uncovering the secrets behind the maze and their captivity.

How many books are there in 'The Maze Runner' series?

The series consists of four main books: 'The Maze Runner,' 'The Scorch Trials,' 'The Death Cure,' and 'The Kill Order,' along with prequels and companion novels.

Who is the protagonist of 'The Maze Runner'?

The main protagonist is Thomas, a teenage boy who arrives in the maze with no memory and becomes a key figure in the group's efforts to escape.

Are 'The Maze Runner' books suitable for young adults?

Yes, 'The Maze Runner' series is primarily targeted at young adult readers, featuring themes of adventure, survival, and friendship, though it contains intense scenes that may be suitable for older teens.

Is there a movie adaptation of 'The Maze Runner' series?

Yes, the first book was adapted into a film released in 2014, followed by sequels based on the subsequent books, bringing the story to a wider audience.

What are some common themes explored in 'The Maze Runner' books?

The series explores themes such as survival, teamwork, memory loss, government experiments, resistance against authority, and the search for truth.

Additional Resources

The Maze Runner Books: An In-Depth Exploration of James Dashner's Dystopian Series

The Maze Runner books have captivated millions of readers worldwide with their gripping blend of dystopian fiction, high-stakes adventure, and thought-provoking themes. Written by James Dashner, this series has established itself as a cornerstone of young adult literature, offering a compelling mix of mystery, action, and philosophical questions about humanity, survival, and free will. Whether you're a newcomer eager to delve into the series or a seasoned fan seeking a comprehensive analysis, this guide aims to unpack the series' core elements, themes, characters, and its place within the broader landscape of dystopian fiction.

Overview of the Maze Runner Series

The series is primarily centered around a mysterious and deadly maze that traps a group of teenagers known as "Gladers." The narrative follows their struggle to uncover the truth behind their predicament and escape the labyrinthine prison.

The Books in the Series

1. The Maze Runner (2009)

- The story begins with Thomas awakening in the Glade with no memory of his past. He quickly becomes embroiled in the Gladers' attempt to solve the maze and escape.

2. The Scorch Trials (2010)

- After escaping the maze, the survivors face a new challenge: crossing a desolate wasteland known as the Scorch, while uncovering deeper conspiracies.

3. The Death Cure (2011)

- The final confrontation with the organization WICKED, which has been experimenting on the teens under the guise of finding a cure for the Flare virus.

4. Prequel: The Kill Order (2012)

- A prequel set before the events of The Maze Runner, revealing how the world was devastated by solar flares and the origins of the WICKED organization.

5. The Fever Code (2016)

- A prequel that delves into how WICKED created the maze and the initial experiments involving the teens.

Spin-offs and Related Media

- Graphic novels and short stories expand the universe.
- Planned film adaptations have brought renewed interest to the series.

Core Themes Explored in the Series

The Maze Runner books explore a variety of complex themes that resonate with adolescent and adult readers alike:

Survival and Human Instinct

At its core, the series examines what it means to survive in an unforgiving world. The characters are forced to make impossible choices, highlighting the resilience and adaptability of the human spirit.

The Nature of Authority and Rebellion

WICKED's manipulation of the teens raises questions about authority, morality, and the ethics of scientific experimentation. The series portrays both the dangers of unchecked power and the importance of resistance.

Memory and Identity

Many characters suffer from amnesia, prompting reflections on how memories shape our identity. The loss and recovery of memories influence their actions and understanding of themselves.

Ethical Dilemmas in Science and Medicine

The series probes the morality of using humans as experimental subjects in pursuit of a greater good, as well as the consequences of playing god.

The Fight Against a Dystopian Society

Set in a future where society has collapsed, the books depict the struggle to maintain humanity amid chaos and tyranny.

Key Characters and Their Development

Understanding the characters is essential to appreciating the series' depth:

Thomas

- The protagonist who arrives in the Glade with no memories.
- Represents curiosity, leadership, and moral integrity.
- Evolves from a curious newcomer to a decisive leader.

Teresa

- The only other known "Glader" with a connection to Thomas.
- Her presence challenges assumptions about loyalty and identity.
- Her complex relationship with Thomas is central to the plot.

Minho

- The charismatic and resourceful Keeper of the Runners.
- Embodies resilience and bravery.
- Acts as a mentor and guide for Thomas.

Newt

- The second-in-command of the Gladers.
- A compassionate and pragmatic leader figure.
- His internal struggles reflect themes of hope and despair.

WICKED Scientists

- The overarching antagonists, representing authority and moral ambiguity.
- Their experiments are driven by the desire to find a cure but at what cost?

The Maze: Symbolism and Function

The maze itself is more than just a physical obstacle; it's a symbol of:

- The Unknown: The maze represents mystery, fear, and the challenge of discovery.
- Control and Chaos: Its shifting walls symbolize the unpredictable nature of life and the illusion of control.
- Growth and Transformation: Navigating the maze parallels the characters' journey toward self-awareness and maturity.

The Maze Design

- Complex and constantly changing, designed to test and eliminate.
- Contains clues and riddles that require teamwork and ingenuity to solve.

The Role of WICKED and Ethical Questions

The organization WICKED is central to the series' moral landscape:

- Research for a Cure: WICKED believes that sacrificing some is necessary to save humanity.
- Moral Ambiguity: Their methods raise questions about the ethics of experiments, consent, and the value of individual lives.
- Questioning Authority: The series invites readers to consider whether ends justify means.

Literary Style and Narrative Approach

James Dashner employs a fast-paced, suspenseful narrative style that immerses readers in the action and mystery. The use of multiple perspectives and detailed world-building enhances the immersive experience. The series balances high-stakes adventure with introspective moments, allowing characters' internal struggles to resonate.

Impact and Reception

The Maze Runner books have enjoyed commercial success, inspiring a film franchise that brought the story to a wider audience. Critics have praised the series for its suspenseful plotting and compelling characters but have also noted its similarities to other dystopian works like The Hunger Games and Divergent.

Cultural Significance

- Reflects contemporary anxieties about authority, technology, and survival.
- Inspires discussions about ethics in science and the importance of questioning authority.

Final Thoughts: The Series' Legacy

The Maze Runner books stand out as a compelling exploration of human resilience in the face of adversity. Their blend of action, mystery, and philosophical inquiry makes them a significant contribution to young adult dystopian fiction. Whether read for entertainment or analyzed for their thematic richness, the series offers valuable insights into human nature and societal constructs.

Recommended Reading Order

1. The Maze Runner
2. The Scorch Trials
3. The Death Cure
4. The Kill Order (prequel)
5. The Fever Code (prequel)

Tips for New Readers

- Pay attention to the clues and riddles embedded in the story.
- Reflect on the moral dilemmas faced by characters.
- Consider the symbolic significance of the maze and the organization WICKED.

In conclusion, the Maze Runner books are more than just a series of thrilling adventures—they are a mirror to our fears, hopes, and moral questions about the future of humanity. As you immerse yourself in their pages, you'll explore a richly crafted universe that challenges perceptions and ignites the imagination.

[The Maze Runner Books](#)

the maze runner books: 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

the maze runner books: The Maze Runner James Dashner, 2009 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.

the maze runner books: The Maze Runner James Dashner, 2010-08-24 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

the maze runner books: 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

the maze runner books: The Maze Runner Series Complete Collection (Maze Runner)

James Dashner, 2014-04-01 This four-book collection of the blockbuster phenomenon The Maze Runner series now features chapters from the highly-anticipated series conclusion, *The Fever Code*, the book that finally reveals the story of how the maze was built! 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. 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.com “Wonderful action writing—fast-paced...but smart and well observed.”—Newsday “[A] nail-biting must-read.”—Seventeen.com “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

the maze runner books: 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

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the maze runner books: *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 ...

the maze runner books: *The Maze Runner* James Dashner, 2015-08-04 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.

the maze runner books: *The Kill Order (Maze Runner, Book Four; Origin)* James Dashner, 2012-08-14 The fourth book in the blockbuster phenomenon MAZE RUNNER SERIES now features chapters from *The Fever Code*, the highly-anticipated conclusion to the series—the novel that finally reveals 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 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.com “Wonderful action writing—fast-paced...but smart and well observed.”—Newsday “[A] nail-biting must-read.”—Seventeen.com “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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the maze runner books: *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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also gone. Nice to meet ya, shank. Welcome to the Glade. 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. Everything is going to change. Then a girl arrives. The first girl ever. And the message she delivers is terrifying. Remember. Survive. Run. Praise for the Maze Runner series: A #1 New York Times Bestselling Series A USA Today Bestseller A Book Sense Bestseller An Indie Next List Selection 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.com Wonderful action-writing--fast-paced...but smart and well observed.--Newsday [A] nail-biting must-read.--Seventeen.com 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

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