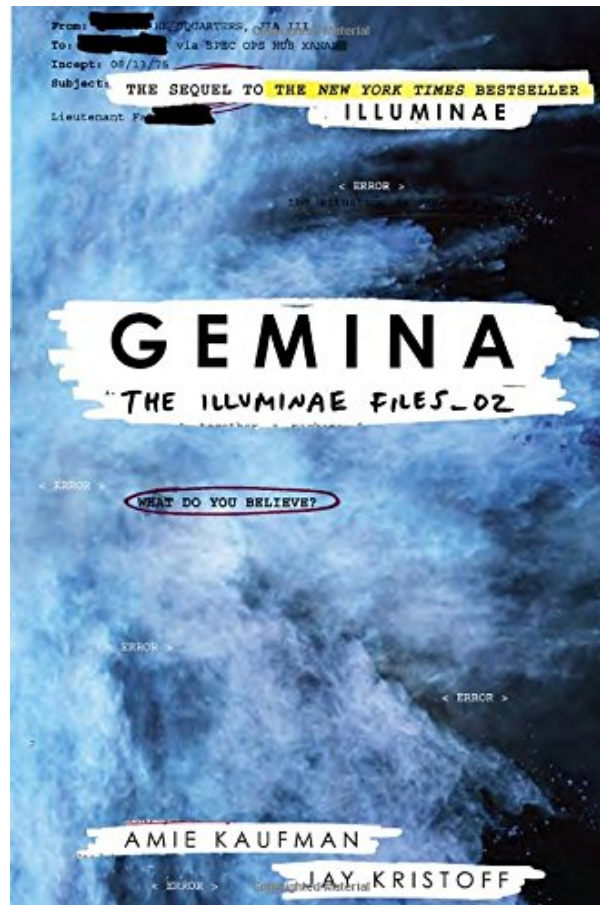
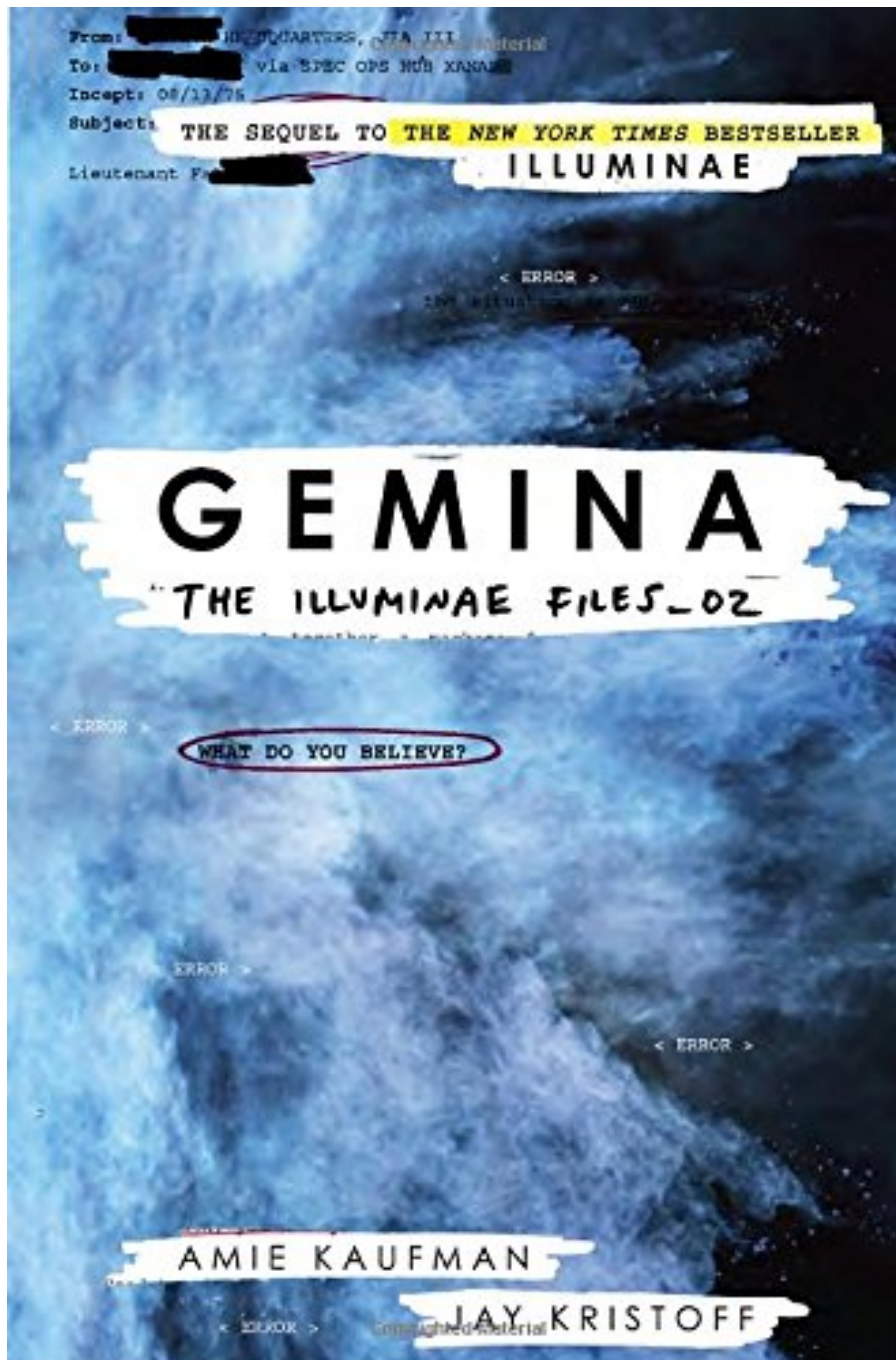


GEMINA (THE ILLUMINAE FILES) BY AMIE KAUFMAN, JAY KRISTOFF



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From School Library Journal

Gr 6 Up—While the first book in the series, *Illuminae*, followed the account of the *Hypatia*, the only surviving spacecraft of the Kerenza colony attack, as it hurtled toward the Heimdall space station for sanctuary, this sequel describes the experience of Hanna, who lives aboard the Heimdall. She is the daughter of the space station commander, and while this remote post is fairly quiet, her world unravels when agents attempt to seize control of the space station in order to destroy it and ensure no witnesses survive. Hanna finds an unlikely ally in Nik, an unsavory gang member who deals "dust" in the space station, as they attempt to defend the Heimdall, save the *Hypatia*, contain vicious alien creatures, and fix a rip in the space-time continuum. The narrative is presented in a dossier-style compilation of emails, journal entries, diagrams, and transcripts. These documents serve to convey the deeply satisfying story line in a creative and engaging way, making this series an exceptional recommendation for discerning and reluctant readers. The characters are intensely believable, and it will be easy for teens to share in Hanna's losses, betrayals, and accomplishments. Kaufman and Kristoff have woven such an intricate and compulsively readable tale that fans can revisit the text and make new discoveries each time. **VERDICT** An excellent choice for science fiction lovers as well as those new to the genre; a must-have for library collections.—Paige Rowse, Needham High School Library, MA

About the Author

New York Times bestselling co-authors Amie Kaufman and Jay Kristoff met thanks to international taxation law, and soon struck up a writing partnership based on a shared love of blowing things up and breaking hearts. Their first collaboration resulted in the international bestseller *Illuminae*. Separately, Amie is also the co-author of the bestselling *Starbound* trilogy, while Jay is the author of the award-winning *Lotus War* trilogy and the *Nevernight Chronicle*. They live with their respective spouses in Melbourne, Australia, and are fuelled almost exclusively by caffeine and readers' tears. You can learn more about Amie and Jay at amiekaufman.com and jaykristoff.com.

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GEMINA (THE ILLUMINAE FILES) BY AMIE KAUFMAN, JAY KRISTOFF PDF

A New York Times Bestseller

Brace yourself for GEMINA—the highly anticipated sequel to the book critics called “out-of-this-world awesome,”—featuring journal illustrations by bestselling author Marie Lu!

Moving to a space station at the edge of the galaxy was always going to be the death of Hanna’s social life. Nobody said it might actually get her killed.

The sci-fi saga that began with the breakout bestseller *Illuminae* continues on board the Jump Station Heimdall, where two new characters will confront the next wave of the BeiTech assault.

Hanna is the station captain’s pampered daughter; Nik the reluctant member of a notorious crime family. But while the pair are struggling with the realities of life aboard the galaxy’s most boring space station, little do they know that Kady Grant and the *Hypatia* are headed right toward Heimdall, carrying news of the Kerenza invasion.

When an elite BeiTech strike team invades the station, Hanna and Nik are thrown together to defend their home. But alien predators are picking off the station residents one by one, and a malfunction in the station’s wormhole means the space-time continuum might be ripped in two before dinner. Soon Hanna and Nik aren’t just fighting for their own survival; the fate of everyone on the *Hypatia*—and possibly the known universe—is in their hands.

But relax. They’ve totally got this. They hope.

Once again told through a compelling dossier of emails, IMs, classified files, transcripts, and schematics, *Gemina* raises the stakes of the *Illuminae* Files, hurling readers into an enthralling new story that will leave them breathless.

Praise for *Illuminae*:

A New York Times Bestseller

A PW Bestseller

“Out-of-this-world awesome.” —Kirkus Reviews, Starred

“Stylistically mesmerizing.” —Publishers Weekly, Starred

“An arresting visual experience.” —Booklist, Starred

“A game-changer.” —Shelf Awareness, Starred

- Sales Rank: #2666 in Books
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- Original language: English

- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 9.25" h x 1.88" w x 6.38" l, 1.25 pounds
- Binding: Hardcover
- 672 pages

From School Library Journal

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Most helpful customer reviews

14 of 14 people found the following review helpful.

"Patience and Silence had one beautiful daughter. And her name was Vengeance."

By QueenKatieMae

Part two of the most creative and entertaining sci-fi trilogy in the whole universe, *Gemina*, close on the heels of *Illuminae* and holding it's own, does not disappoint. Ever. Also narrated in the form of an incriminating dossier of emails, schematics, transcripts and classified files, *Gemina* continues to tell the story of what happened after an outer space mining colony was attacked by a hostile corporation. But this time, Kady and Ezra take a backseat and let new characters Hanna and Nik drive for a while.

Jump Station Heimdall is an insanely boring place for a teenager, at least according to the station commander's daughter, Hanna. Spoiled, self-entitled, and a demon in the martial arts, Hanna spends her time sexting her boyfriend, buying overpriced jumpsuits and taunting her drug dealer, Nik. Raised by a long family line of criminals, Nik is easy-going, cocky and quite resourceful when it comes to breaking the law. And he definitely has a thing for Hanna.

As in *Illuminae*, when the cow dung hits the fan, the teenagers are the only ones who can save the ship, or jump station, or universe. Your choice, its all there. At the Terra Day celebration, a highly trained elite force

sent by BeiTech, the corporation that attacked the mining colony, invades the Heimdall. Led by a dead-eyed psychopath who finds bliss when everything goes his way, the assassin squad lies in wait for the ship bearing the last refugees from the mining colony. Hanna and Nik, polar opposites, join forces to defend the Heimdall, save their family and friends and prevent BeiTech from destroying the only living witnesses from the colony.

My first impression of Hanna was: "I miss Kady." Hanna is so bratty and self-centered that she is unlikeable and easily dismissed as a tease. *Au contraire, mon ami*, there is more to this little girl than meets the eye. Raised by a military father, this little girl has studied warfare, battlefield logistics and can quote Sun Tzu, Napoleon and the Bhagavad Gita. She's sassy, kickass, and clever, and she grew on me.

Nik, on the other hand, I loved from the beginning. With his life story inked on his body and his heart on his sleeve, Nik is absolutely charming in a bad boy sort of way.

The book is powered by a wicked sense of humor and creative genius. Malware has infected the station's computer system so that a single raunchy pop song is constantly playing: in the elevator, during a gunfight, while being attacked by mutant eels. Did I mention the mutant eels with their psychotropic body fluids? Evil little monsters. I caught a bunch of pop culture references: a computer actually uses a line from Rocky Horror Picture Show, and I'm pretty sure Nik is channeling the Joker from the movie Batman Beyond at one point. I saw the names of at least two young adult novelists on the Heimdall's casualty list. And the texts between the teens, even in moments of crisis or sadness, are hysterical.

There are more twists in this book than in your intestines. So many times my family heard me loudly proclaim how much I hated this book only to follow with "shhh, can't talk, I'm at the good part." It's engrossing and compelling and entertaining and so so so so good. Now, in case you do miss Kady and Ezra and AIDAN, yes, AIDAN, do not worry, they join the story.

What makes the only important difference between *Illuminae* and *Gemina* is the reader's perspective. We know there will be painful twists that gouge our hearts, we know it will make us laugh out loud, make us cry, make us curse the authors and their unborn children (trust me, I did), we went through it all with *Illuminae*. As seasoned readers of the *Illuminae* Files, we know to look for the clues, the crumbs, left by the authors because we know they are there and it is so fun when you find them. And, in the end, on the very last page, when a character asks, "You wanna know how it ends?" my answer was a resounding "Yes. Yes, I do."

The last page always has the best line. Bliss.

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful.

It's ****ing Awesome!

By Jessica S.

Holy ****ing ****! (As they would say in this series!) I thought *Illuminae* was a wicked and wild read that totally blew my mind, but *Gemina* has leveled the playing field, if not topping it! Amie Kaufman and Jay Kristoff prove once again what an excellent writing team they make that they could give us yet another kick*** book to read! Those 659 pages flew by! The downside to reading the ARC, besides having to wait loooooonger for the next book is the lack of pictures. Not all the pictures and artwork were present in the book, but in the grand scheme of things, that's not a total hardship. Granted, I will be awaiting the finished copy to peruse the pages for said artwork and pictures!

My first concern over this book was knowing that we were dealing with new characters. Normally, I long to be with the characters we were just introduced to and if the new characters are soooo new to me, I find I struggle to keep up with the story like I did with a book not too long ago (from reading this book). But

thankfully that was not the case here. It takes place sometime after the events of Illuminae and we find ourselves reading yet another dossier of events that took place on the Heimdall station, the one that Ezra and Kady were trying to reach with the rest of their surviving crew. Here we meet Hanna, the daughter of the ship's commander, and Nik, the nephew of a very dangerous gang. Apparently, being on a space station/ship doesn't prevent that kind of thing from happening, but oh well! Hanna and Nik have an odd relationship to start out with. And it's basically that Nik is Hannah's go to guy for recreational drugs. She's not a druggie or anything, she just wanted to get one drug to bring to her friends for a party.

But the celebration to come, one that the whole ship/station takes part in, is interrupted when bad guys infiltrate the ship. BeiTech strikes again, in attempts to clean up their dirty laundry. With everyone being held hostage all over the ship, Hanna and Nik managed to be outside of the happenings and are soon running for the lives as they try to figure out who these bad guys are and what their plan is. And to add to the danger, there's a new virus being formed, one that could kill everyone on board if it's not stopped.

Once again we get to read a uniquely told story told through the usual emails, IM chats, journal entries and more! I never really thought this kind of storytelling would work for me because it's so different and I worried that the story wouldn't really get told, but after Illuminae, my fears were put to rest at how easily a story can be told through these means.

Gemina really steps up to the plate here! The pacing was spot on! We're talking fast action and an incredible thrill ride!! There was seriously never a dull moment as danger lurked around every corner for Hanna and Nik. It was so intense! And not really understanding what the new virus was, was another creepy factor! This thing can kill you if it gets a hold of you. And yeah, the virus is sort of a living thing! So be prepared to run! I loved having that added danger and suspense into the mix! Not only are there human enemies, but one that is something else and much harder to stop!

The characters that we focused on the most were naturally, Hanna and Nik, but also Nik's cousin Ella, who is terminally ill, but she's one helluva a techie! She can crack into just about anything, even changing her cousin's screen name to something less than favorable much to his frustration! Ella had me in quite a few fits of hysterics! She was a riot! Then of course you gotta love Hanna! She may be the commander's daughter and sort of fits into a "princess" role, but she can kick serious butt as her father trained her well. And then Nik of course is pretty bad*** himself since he's in a crime family, but he holds a few secrets of his own that make you really like the guy! Naturally, these two start to have some chemistry, pretty much from the get-go. Add in the fact, that Hanna has a boyfriend and already I was getting a little love triangle miffed, but thankfully, the action and danger take place SO early on, that romance and drama hardly hold a place in the grand scheme of things!

And we do see a connection between Gemina and Illuminae! Never fear, this won't just be an additional story taking place in the same world! Everything will come together in the end and I cannot wait to see how this series will end! The ending, oh that ending! If you thought Illuminae had a shocking ending, you haven't seen anything yet! Gemina will blow you away and having you gasping for more. But it seems for the meantime, we're all to be left floating out here in space holding our breaths until the final book. Sigh...oops! ;)

Overall Rating 5/5 stars

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful.

Poor Cow Cows

By Christina @ Books and Prejudice

If you're reading this, hopefully you've read *Illuminae*. In that case, you should already know the score with these books: IMs, emails, interviews, radio transmissions. There really isn't much prose to be had. And yet, these are some of the most interesting stories I've ever read.

This story is not about Kady and Ezra. At least not in the traditional sense. Instead, we follow two new main characters, Hanna and Nik. Hanna is the daughter of the commander of Heimdall Station (remember the place the Hypatia was trying to get to?), and Nik is a member of a notorious crime regime, a drug dealer, etc. But BeiTech manages to bring them close as they fight to survive an assault on the waypoint station.

Again, if you read *Illuminae*, then you realize these books don't start suddenly super fast. They may take a bit to get into and understand what is happening. The same goes for *Gemina*. I would say that the beginning isn't quite as confusing as that of *Illuminae*, but I do think it starts off a little bit slower since we don't start off in the middle of the attack on Kerenza.

So as cool as the new problems on the ship are (and gross and weird), I honestly thought the phobos virus was a lot scarier. I mean they were like zombies with minds, right? The new bad thing on the Heimdall that Hanna and Nik have to run from is certainly creepy. It's just not quite up there as phobos creepy.

Gemina had me on the edge of my seat. *Illuminae* was abso-fricken-lutely amazing. And *Gemina* was almost just as good. It had betrayal and surprises around every corner. Don't understand the name of the book? Don't worry, you will!

There were things in this book that just made me laugh. I would be sitting there about to cry, and then this running gag throughout the book would be brought up again, and it never failed to make me burst out laughing. Trust me, you'll know what I mean.

It's so sad that the arc copy has so many pages set as TK. I'll definitely have to check out the beauty of the finished copy.

Reasons to read *Gemina*

- 1) You loved *Illuminae*
- 2) Space opera is totally your thing
- 3) Maps, pictures, drawings, awesome pages, etc

Reasons not to read *Gemina*

- 1) You didn't like *Illuminae*. I understand. It's very different and not for everyone.
- 2) You aren't cool with all the death that happens in space warfare
- 3) You haven't read *Illuminae*. While it's not necessary to read the first book (the main characters aren't the same), you'll have a better understanding of things that are happening if you read *Illuminae* first.

Overall

I really loved it. Maybe not quite as much as the first one, but I still loved it. Definitely recommended if you read and liked *Illuminae*.

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