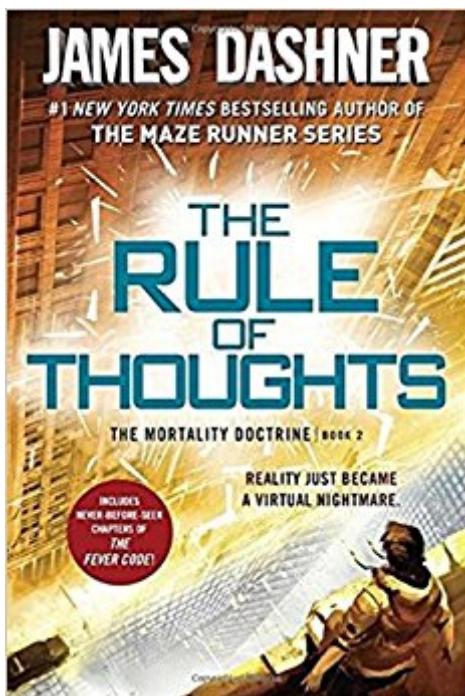


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# The Rule Of Thoughts (The Mortality Doctrine, Book Two)



## Synopsis

From James Dashner, author of the #1 New York Times bestselling MAZE RUNNER series, comes the second book in the bestselling Mortality Doctrine series, an edge-of-your-seat cyber-adventure trilogy that includes The Eye of Minds 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! Michael thought he understood the VirtNet, but the truth he discovered is more terrifying than anyone at VirtNet Security could have anticipated. The cyber terrorist Kaine isn't human. It's a Tangent, a computer program that has become sentient. And Michael just completed the first step in turning Kaine's master plan, the Mortality Doctrine, into a reality. The Mortality Doctrine will populate Earth entirely with human bodies harboring Tangent minds. The VNS would like to pretend the world is perfectly safe, but Michael and his friends know that the takeover has already begun. And if they don't stop Kaine soon, it will be game over for humanity.

Praise for the Bestselling 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 captures [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

## Book Information

Series: The Mortality Doctrine (Book 2)

Paperback: 352 pages

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ISBN-13: 978-0385741422

Product Dimensions: 5.5 x 0.8 x 8.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 6.4 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 stars 267 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #14,721 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #32 in Books > Teens > Literature & Fiction > Boys & Men #37 in Books > Teens > Literature & Fiction > Social &

Family Issues > Emotions & Feelings #83 in Books > Teens > Literature & Fiction > Action &

Adventure > Science Fiction

Age Range: 12 and up

Grade Level: 7 and up

## Customer Reviews

Gr 7 Up  
Beginning where *The Eye of Minds* (Delacorte, 2013) left off, *The Rule of Thoughts* finds Michael reeling from the knowledge that he is—or was—a Tangent: a nonhuman string of code that lived only in the VirtNet. Thanks to Kaine's experiments, Michael now possesses the body and mind of human Jax Porter, and he is doing his best to process what has happened. He realizes that Kaine is out to get him and that Agent Weber, from VirtNet Security, isn't going to protect him as promised. Michael/Jax reunites with Sarah and Bryson and the "Trifecta to Dissect-ya" heads back into the Sleep, to code and hack their way to find answers. As in *The Eye of Minds*, Dashner's action-packed short chapters are divided into numbered sections. The gamers leap from one dangerous situation to another in the Wake and in the virtual reality of Lifeblood Deep. Dashner's descriptions are screenplay-ready, with Portals in malls, virtual battles, and a giant purple Ray of Power. This book will satisfy the author's fans, reluctant readers, and gamers in search of an adrenaline rush. Suggest to fans of Debra Driza's "Mila 2.0" trilogy (HarperCollins) and William Campbell Powell's stand-alone *Expiration Day* (Tor, 2014). This title will please older teens comfortable with a slower narrative pace.  
—Maggie Knapp, Trinity Valley School, Fort Worth, TX  
--This text refers to the Hardcover edition.

Praise for the Mortality Doctrine Series:  
"Dashner takes full advantage of the Matrix-esque potential for asking 'what is real.'  
"Set in a world taken over by virtual reality gaming, the series perfectly captures [Dashner's] hallmarks for inventiveness, teen dialogue and an ability to add twists and turns like no other author."  
"A brilliant, visceral, gamified mash-up of *The Matrix* and *Inception*, guaranteed to thrill even the non-gaming crowd."  
"An exhilarating adventure story with touches of Anthony Horowitz's Alex Rider books and Orson Scott Card's Ender's Game."  
"More realistic and addictive than any video game."  
"The Eye of Minds sucked me in from the very first page. The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo meets *The Matrix* in a vividly rendered world of gamers, hackers, and cyber-terrorists. I can't wait to read the next

book in the series! Kami Garcia, #1 New York Times bestselling coauthor of Beautiful Creatures and author of Unbreakable A gripping page-turner, Dashner's latest is sure to please. BookPage A "Dashner's descriptions are screenplay-ready...This book will satisfy the author's fans...[and readers] in search of an adrenaline rush."-School Library Journal A "Full of action [and] a rather surprising twist that will leave you flipping pages." fanboynation.com A "High on concept, this is an intriguing read for the digital generation." Kirkus Reviews "Dashner once again creates a dystopian world in which nothing is what it seems."-VOYA A Junior Library Guild Selection A YALSA Teens Top Ten Pick From the Hardcover edition.

I bought it for my son when he was in 7th grade, after he finished reading the first part and I ended up loving it.... right now I am planning to order the third book because I cannot wait it to know how this trilogy ends. I recommend this book for both kids and adults, even if you are not a fan of sci-fi. It is a great way to engage kids in reading and a nice conversation starter for parents and their kids.

Hmmm. I'm disappointed. The first book was so great, I absolutely loved it. But this book kinda let the first one down. It seems like not enough happened in the story to be completely satisfying. I gave it three stars only because I really liked some of the ideas Dashner implemented into the book. The first 3/4 of the book was Michael reuniting with his friends and finding out that Kaine, the villain, was way more powerful than he'd previously thought. And then the last 1/4 was him and his friends planting a device to destroy Kaine, but they find out that something went wrong. I won't spoil anything for anyone, but the ending and the ideas were the only reason this book got three stars. Otherwise I'd have to say to. Please note that you will need to read this book if you intend to finish the trilogy.-- Content Ratings: Violence - 5/10 Sex - 2/10 Language - 3/10-- Quality Ratings: Plot - 4/10 Characters - 7/10 Beginning - 3/10 Ending - 9/10 Cliffhangers - 4/10-- OVERALL RATING --Christian - 5/10 Secular - 5/10

I loved it. Absolutely loved it. I love the idea of the technology world, and I love the plot. I love how everything wasn't obvious. I loved all of it. Almost. It bothered me that Michael (I think that's how you spell it) and Sarah weren't really a thing. Don't you think you could have lengthened it out a tiny bit and at least end it when they kiss? And, the cliff hanger bothered me. I absolutely hate them. I understand what they are for, but really?! This is almost as bad as Mark of Athena (percy jackson, written by Rick Riordan. The first book is The Lightning Thief. It's amazing, and If yo love Cliffies he

is for you) but did you really have to make it that bad of a Cliffie???Okay, now that I have that off of my chest, let me go to my next point: some things were confusing at first. I'll admit that. But once I caught on, it was amazing. And let me talk about that ending. That ending was nothing close to what I thought would happen. Heck, I didn't even have a clue what I thoughtless happen! I just know that was not what I was expecting. You explained it perfectly. I want you to know how amazing this was to me: I finished it in a little over a day. And, I ha a play yesterday. And school. I could not stop reading! It was that good! If you are thinking about reading this book, just know it ripped my heart out, and threw it to the ground. And you know it's a good book when that happens. Oh, the FEELS!

I am amazed by James Dashner; again. I read The Eye of Minds in 4 days and I read this one even faster. If you thought the first one was good then you'll like this one even more. I like this book because there is a lot of action. No scary nightmares; like Maze Runner. Even though I really enjoyed that series. If you enjoy James Dashner, then you'll love The Rule of Thoughts. I own all of James Dashner's published books (I'm pretty sure) This was my Second Favorite, my first was The 13TH Reality Series. Which is an everybody book. On the other hand, This book isn't all Rainbows and Lollipops the whole way through. Not one part is actually. There is barely any sexual themes involved. Although, as I mentioned, there is a lot of Gore and Action. I recommend this book for preteens and teens, but mature 9 year olds can read.

The Mortality Doctrine has so far been an amazing journey that I have been taken on along with Michael, Sarah, Bryson, and their whole futuristic world. Dashner truly is an artist among artists, and these books are so detailed. This has an Inception/Matrix vibe to it, but also has a bit of mystery as well. I'm looking forward to reading the final book, and not looking forward to the emptiness of not having a book to read. I recommend this book and the rest of the series. If I could rate ten stars, I would. This was so great.

If you are into computers and playing games on them this is a story that will make you think that one day it can all be real.

Dashner is an incredible writer with an amazing imagination of coming up with stories that keep you reading when you're way past bedtime, can barely keep your eyes open, but you can't stop wanting to find out what comes next! The cliff hanger ending is killing me, as I now have to wait a year until the next one comes out. But that's ok as long as they continue to be this good, I'll wait (impatiently!).

I don't mind rereading the first two again to remember where things left off, because good books are ones you enjoy rereading over and over. Isn't that why you buy them instead of borrowing or renting from the library? Thanks Dashner for all the great fun of this story so far! I can't wait to see where you take us next in the plot.

My son seemed to the books written by James Dashner. He has now turned his other 11yr old comrades into Dashner fans. As a kid diagnosed with Dyslexia and ADHD I'm shocked he couldn't put it down. For a mom who has spent hours on homework and both of us in tears .. Dashner books are a God-send!

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