The book that started it all! Hailed by Justin Cronin as “wildly entertaining!”

After the 1st wave, only darkness remains. After the 2nd, only the lucky escape. And after the 3rd, only the unlucky survive. After the 4th wave, only one rule applies: trust no one. Now, it’s the dawn of the 5th wave, and on a lonely stretch of highway, Cassie runs from Them. The beings who only look human, who roam the countryside killing anyone they see. Who have scattered Earth’s last survivors. To stay alone is to stay alive, Cassie believes, until she meets Evan Walker. Beguiling and mysterious, Evan Walker may be Cassie’s only hope for rescuing her brother—or saving herself. But Cassie must choose: between trust and despair, between defiance and surrender, between life and death. To give up or to get up.

Read and Discuss

- Both Ben and Cassie have the will to survive—to keep going when everything seems lost. How are Ben and Cassie similar in other ways?

- Vosch says, “We know how you think. We’ve been watching you for six thousand years.” How does Vosch’s overconfidence help Cassie and her companions to escape?

- What does Vosch not understand about humans? What does Vosch not understand about his own race?

- Why do the Others need psychological and technological warfare?

- Why does Evan fall in love with Cassie?

- One of the most terrifying aspects of The 5th Wave is not knowing whom to trust. After losing her family, Cassie lives by herself in the woods. Does she regain her ability to trust?

- Evan Walker says that some of his race didn’t want to go along with the plan to exterminate humans. Using information from the book, why do you think that group did not prevail?

- Would it be difficult for the Others to live with humans?

- In what ways are humans like the Others?

- How is Manifest Destiny similar to the Others’ takeover of the Earth? How does the American concept of Manifest Destiny differ?

- Describe how The 5th Wave demonstrates that there is more to life than mere survival.
The riveting follow-up to the New York Times bestselling The 5th Wave.

How do you rid the Earth of seven billion humans? Rid the humans of their humanity.

Surviving the first four waves was nearly impossible. Now Cassie Sullivan finds herself in a new world, a world in which the fundamental trust that binds us together is gone. As the 5th Wave rolls across the landscape, Cassie, Ben, and Ringer are forced to confront the Others’ ultimate goal: the extermination of the human race.

Cassie and her friends haven’t seen the depths to which the Others will sink, nor have the Others seen the heights to which humanity will rise, in the ultimate battle between life and death, hope and despair, love and hate.

Read and Discuss

• In The Infinite Sea, Ringer becomes a much more prominent character. How is Ringer similar to Cassie? How is she different?

• Why do you think the author decided to focus more on Ringer in The Infinite Sea?

• Given what we learn about him through his conversations with Ringer in The Infinite Sea, do you think Vosch is an alien? Or is he a human collaborator?

• Why do you think Vosch enhances Ringer with the 12th System? What plans do you think he has for her as the The 5th Wave continues?

• What is the significance of names in The Infinite Sea? For the characters who have multiple names (Ringer/Marika, Razor/Alex, Zombie/Ben, etc.), why do you think the author chooses to use their real names sometimes and their nicknames other times? What do their nicknames tell us about these characters? How do the meanings of their nicknames evolve as the story progresses?

• After reading The Infinite Sea, do you think there are really aliens, or is the invasion a human conspiracy? If you believe there are aliens, what do you think they want?

• Identify the strongest theme from The Infinite Sea for you as a reader. Compare your theme with others. Do you differ? Why/why not?
The heart-stopping finale to the *New York Times* bestselling 5th Wave series.

The enemy is Other. The enemy is us. They’re down here, they’re up there, they’re nowhere. They want the Earth, they want us to have it. They came to wipe us out, they came to save us.

But beneath these riddles lies one truth: Cassie has been betrayed. So has Ringer. Zombie. Nugget. And all 7.5 billion people who used to live on our planet. Betrayed first by the Others, and now by ourselves.

In these last days, Earth’s remaining survivors will need to decide what’s more important: saving themselves . . . or saving what makes us human.

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Rick Yancey is the author of *The 5th Wave*, the highly acclaimed first book in this series, as well as its bestselling sequel, *The Infinite Sea*. His debut young-adult novel, *The Extraordinary Adventures of Alfred Kropp*, was a finalist for the Carnegie Medal. In 2010, his novel *The Monstrumologist* received a Michael L. Printz honor, and the sequel, *The Curse of the Wendigo*, was a finalist for the Los Angeles Times Book Prize. He also wrote the memoir, *Confessions of a Tax Collector*. When he isn’t writing or thinking about writing or traveling the country talking about writing, Rick is hanging out with his family.

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★ “Yancey’s world is so realistic, yet so different from ours, that readers will forget they even hold a book in their hands.”
—*RT Book Reviews* for *The Fifth Wave*

★ “Yancey’s prose remains unimpeachable—every paragraph is laden with setting, theme, and emotion—and he uses it toward a series of horrifying set pieces, including a surgery scene that will have your pages sopping with sweat.”
—*Booklist*, starred review for *The Infinite Sea*

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