

Supernova

Kass Morgan

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Supernova is the second and final novel in the Light Years series. It features the same four main characters from the first novel, which includes Orelia, Arran, Vesper and Cormack. These characters are 4 young adults from 4 very different worlds who are chosen to enter the elite Quatra Fleet Academy, a space academy. The story picks up from the cliffhanger of the first novel and transitions from the classroom setting to the real world with higher stakes. Orelia has been arrested for espionage for being a Specter spy and providing the location for the secretive Academy. Thanks to Orelia, Cormack's squad (including Vesper and Arran) foiled a Specter attack on the Academy. They are praised as heroes, but the good news doesn't last for long as new problems arise. Vesper, who dedicated 5 years of her life to enter the Academy, faces a new roadblock. She and Arran are assigned a new ship without Cormack and Orelia, which gets attacked. They are nearly expelled into outer space as a result. Cormack, who is not really Cormack, is worried that someone has realized his secret/identity and his ability to stay at the Academy is up for question. His relationship with Vesper which was previously stable, faces trouble because he is threatened with blackmail and can't tell Vesper who he really is.

Along with Lieutenant Zafir Prateek, Orelia is instructed to open peace negotiations with the Specters. While her role is mainly for symbolism purposes, the negotiations could potentially be greatly impactful and result in peace. As for Arran, he has been awarded the Valor Medallion and is instructed to figure out what happened to his ship when it was attacked (or whether it was an attack at all -- sabotage is a consideration as well). He was left heartbroken at the end of the first book and beginning of Supernova but finds someone similar to his personality, in contrast to his ex.

This novel had greater emphasis on relationships (romantic and platonic) than the actual plot. However, it was enjoyable to see the four characters Cormack, Vesper, Arran, and Orelia grow their bond, particularly after the exciting first novel in the series. There was sufficient action to have a gripping plot, without being overly confusing and fast-paced to follow. The ending also nicely concludes the novel. One downside of the novel is it pretty rapidly shifts between the four points of view, which could be confusing to some readers. The age group of 13+ would be an appropriate target audience for this novel because of the romantic relationships and sophistication of plot. This novel can be borrowed from libraries for recreational reading.

Recommended titles:

Light Years by Kass Morgan

The 100 by Kass Morgan
The Raven by Kass Morgan