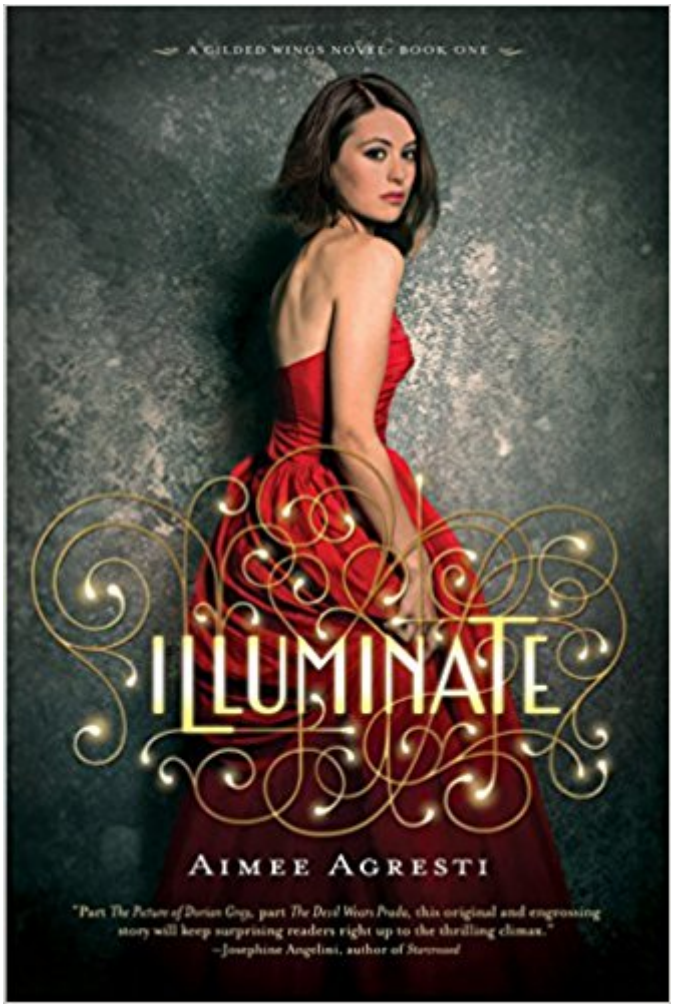
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Illuminate (Gilded Wings (Paperback))



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Synopsis

* Ã¢â ¬Å“Smart, well-crafted and sophisticated; without a doubt, this belongs on the top of the stack of the current crop of angel books. More, please!Ã¢â ¬Â• Ã¢â ¬â •Kirkus Reviews, starred reviewHaven Terra is a brainy, shy high school outcast. But her life changes when she is awarded an internship at a posh Chicago hotel. As Haven begins falling for Lucian, the dashing sidekick to the glamorous hotel owner, she discovers that these beautiful people are not quite what they seem. With the help of a mysterious book, she uncovers the evil agenda of the hotel staff: theyÃ¢â ¬â„¢re in the business of buying souls. Will they succeed in wooing Haven to join them in their recruitment efforts, or will she be able to thwart this devilish setÃ¢â ¬â„¢s plans to take the souls of her classmates on prom night at the hotel?

Book Information

Series: Gilded Wings (Paperback) (Book 1)

Paperback: 544 pages

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Average Customer Review: 3.7 out of 5 stars 84 customer reviews

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Age Range: 12 and up

Grade Level: 7 and up

Customer Reviews

* "Smart, well-crafted and sophisticated; without a doubt, this belongs on the top of the stack of the current crop of angel books. More, please!"Ã¢â ¬â •Kirkus Reviews, starred review"Part The Picture of Dorian Gray, part The Devil Wears Prada, this original and engrossing story will keep surprising readers right up to the thrilling climax."Ã¢â ¬â •Josephine Angelini, author of Starcrossed"Haven is a character who will definitely surprise youÃ¢â ¬â •in the best way possible. Mysterious and

deliciously creepy, Agresti’s debut will keep you turning pages until the explosive climax."Ã¢â ¬â •Cara Lynn Shultz, author of Spellbound"Agresti’s story accelerates to an exciting climax, and the blossoming romance is sweet and satisfying."Ã¢â ¬â •Publisher’s Weekly"Move over, Twilight!"Ã¢â ¬â •US Weekly"Equal parts romantic and mysterious, and will keep you itching for the next installment!"Ã¢â ¬â •Seventeen.com"Such an enchanting book and we canÃ¢â ¬â„¢t wait to read more in the Gilded Wings series. While the cover reels you in (How could it not? ItÃ¢â ¬â„¢s so pretty!), the words inside keep you reading. There Ã¢â ¬â„¢s angels, mystery, beauty . . . which all rolled up into one, makes it magical."Ã¢â ¬â •Just Jared Jr.

Aimee Agresti is the author of the Gilded Wings Novels, Illuminate and Infatuate. She is also an entertainment journalist whose work has appeared in People, the Washington Post, Mademoiselle, and the New York Observer. As a staff writer for Us Weekly magazine, she interviewed many celebrities and penned the magazine Ã¢â ¬â„¢s coffee table book Inside Hollywood. She lives in Washington, D.C. Visit her website at www.aimeeagresti.com.

Aimee Agresti’s ILLUMINATE is an enchanting, beautifully written, richly detailed and completely captivating story of good versus evil. Set in a glamorous hotel, with a dark past and an even darker present, staffed by an organization whose sinister plan is virtually impossible for anyone to resist, this story has it all - excitement, mystery, nail-biting suspense and a battle whose outcome is anything but certain.When Haven Terra and two of her classmates land an internship at the Lexington Hotel, they can’t imagine a better way to spend the semester. Not only will they be leaving their mundane high school existence behind, but they’ll be earning money, living in a luxurious hotel and gaining experience that will ensure a better future for themselves.Surrounded by beautiful people, guided by knowledgeable and powerful mentors, and working in a hotel that is rich with history, the opportunity sounds like a dream come true. And it is. If the dream were a nightmare.Because the Outfit isn’t just there to give the hotel’s guests a pleasant stay. They are there to take their souls. And they’re looking for Haven, Dante and Lance’s help to do so.ILLUMINATE’s pace is unhurried. Its descriptions elaborate. Its mystery intriguing. Its plot enticing. Its setting both stunning and chilling. And its characters alluring, charming, likable, detestable, gruesome and terrifying.With her days spent capturing the glitz and glamour of the hotel, its staff and its patrons on camera and her nights spent uncovering its secrets, Haven must decide whether to give in to temptation and all that the Outfit has on offer, or to resist and in doing so put her life on the line.Author Aimee Agresti has created a story that sets itself apart for its wonderfully

descriptive passages, its thoroughly developed plot and world-building and its intriguing take on the mythology. And at over five hundred pages, the story and writing maintain an elegant flow throughout, picking up their pace as the story's dramatic conclusion approaches, enabling readers to remain connected to this somewhat longer tale.Told from her heroine Haven Terra's point of view, readers will get a peek at the goings-on at the Lexington Hotel as Haven experiences them and keeping them in the dark until Haven discovers the truth. With only a mysterious book to guide her, and no one she is sure she can fully trust, Haven must prepare to either defeat the evil forces amassing or to join them.Dark, beguiling and opulent, ILLUMINATE is a must for anyone who enjoys a compelling story of good and evil, with a strong and determined heroine, a leisurely pace, a touch of romance and an ending that doesn't leave off on a cliff but will definitely leave them wanting more.

This book was hard to get into due to the intensely high vocabulary used by Agresti, but all in all it was absolutely amazing. It never failed to fill me with suspense and it really keeps the reader coming back for more. Bravo, Aimee. A very great book.

I'm a mom to a teenager and will read whatever she is reading so we can connect with a good conversation about a book. This is one she read first. I was slow to read it, but so glad that I finally did. Great story and great flow for the reader.

I read this book because it was recommended after reading the twilight series! The book was better then I thought it would be. I really enjoyed it!

This book starts off as typical YA, with Devils'a Advocate flavour and it as many flaws. But for me, the ending redeems it all and I will pick the sequel for sure.

Disclaimer: I have been friends with Aimee since we were kids, so many people might consider this review biased.I was intrigued by the storyline from the moment I read the synopsis: a teenager out on her own in "the big world" for the first time, dealing with an unknown past, and finding herself fighting the forces of evil. AND the protagonist is a nerd? Right up my YA alley!The writing is beautiful: Aimee understands how to make the words flow to paint a clear picture in the reader's mind. At times it distracted from the story, especially when the scene was supposed to be urgent and the prose only made for a slower pace.[SPOILER: I do wonder why the internship took place

during the school year. Aimee and I--and our group of friends--were nerds in high school, and I can't imagine any of us taking a semester off like that.]On a final note, I found it hard to immerse myself into the story simply because I do know the author. I kept imagining my former classmates and wondering who Aimee might have modeled her characters after.

I completely fell in love with this book. I love the ties to Dorian Gray, as well as the writing style. We never have enough of a strong heroine storyline!

Found this book by accident and boy am I glad I did. I couldn't wait to read it and was just as excited for book two.

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