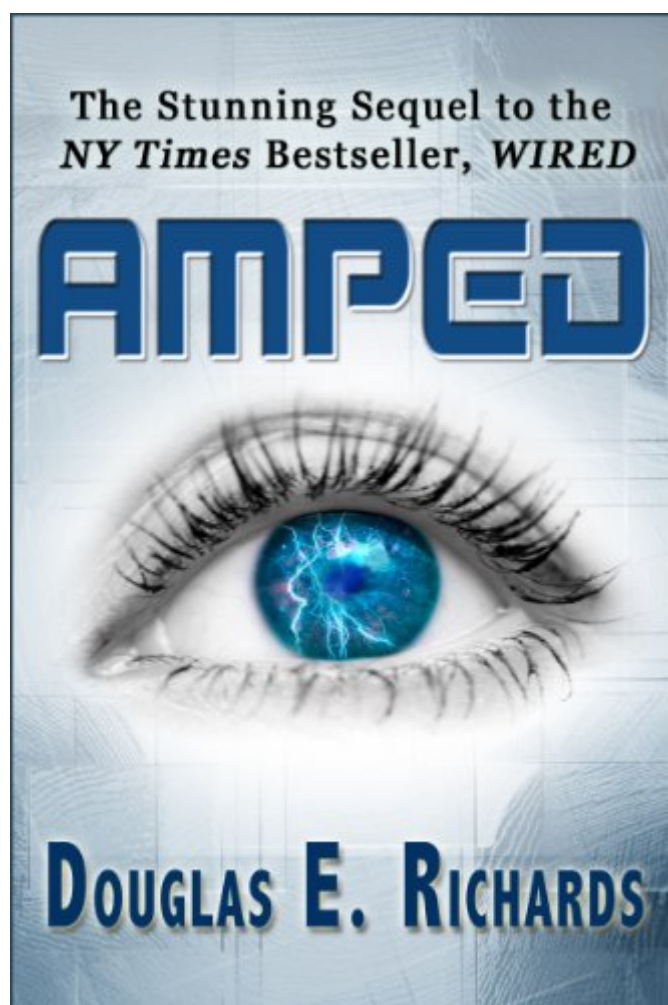


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## AMPED (Wired Book 2)



## Synopsis

WIRED, the novel that introduced Kira Miller and David Desh, was a runaway NY Times bestseller, and the bestselling novel on in the categories of Science Fiction and Thrillers for over a year. Now Miller and Desh return in a breathtaking stand-alone thriller. Kira Miller is a brilliant scientist who discovers how to temporarily boost human IQ to dizzying levels. But this transcendent intelligence brings with it a ruthless megalomania. Determined to use her discovery to propel human civilization to a higher plane, despite this side effect, Kira and ex-special forces operative David Desh recruit a small group of accomplished scientists, all of whom are safely off the grid. Or so they think . . . Soon Kira and her team are fighting for their lives against unknown but powerful adversaries. Worse still, while on the run and being relentlessly attacked from all quarters, Kira comes across evidence of savage acts that the enhanced version of Desh kept hidden, even from himself. Now both she and Desh must question everything they think they know. Can they trust each other? Can they even trust themselves? And all the while, the greatest threat of all may be coming from an entirely unexpected direction. A threat that could lead to devastation on a global scale. And time is quickly running out . . . Like its predecessor, AMPED is a smart thriller crammed with breakneck action, unexpected twists, mind-blowing science, and philosophical and ethical concepts readers will be contemplating long after they've read the last page.

Near Future Science Fiction Thrillers by Douglas E. Richards  
WIRED (Wired 1) AMPED (Wired 2) MIND'S EYE (Nick Hall 1) BRAINWEB (Nick Hall 2) MIND WAR (Nick Hall 3) -- coming in Oct/Nov 2016  
QUANTUM LENS SPLIT SECOND (Nick Hall 4) GAME CHANGER Kids Science Fiction Thrillers (9 and up, enjoyed by kids and adults alike) TRAPPED (Prometheus Project 1) CAPTURED (Prometheus Project 2) STRANDED (Prometheus Project 3) OUT OF THIS WORLD THE DEVIL'S SWORD

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## Customer Reviews

When I started reading this sequel, I was curious where the author would take the story. After all, what do you do with these "enhanced IQs"? Kira Miller, the brilliant geneticist who created the gelcap that could allow your IQ to climb to unprecedented levels, is now happily partnered with David Desh or is she? When she comes across some damning evidence that David has kept secret from her, she doesn't know what to believe. Is this the same man she fell in love with? At the same time David has found his own troubling evidence that points him in a direction and paints Kira as the dangerous psychopath the government thinks she is. The stakes are higher than ever: the government is still after them with only one objective in mind--elimination, no questions asked. As if that isn't enough, there is another elusive enemy out there waiting and biding his time for the perfect time to strike out at Kira and David. These 2 events would be enough for most thriller-type novels, but Mr. Richards throws in another fantastic science-fiction scenario at the readers and makes it work. The action is non-stop, the characters are fully fleshed out and the science used is enough to satisfy even the toughest scifi critic. I thought I had figured out the who, what and where only to find out that I had only scratched the tip of the iceberg. I kept reading at a voracious pace to find out what was the "real" story and who were the bad guys. Could I trust my own judgment of character to even figure that much out or would Mr. Richards blow that out of the water too? AMPED is a smart, action-packed thriller that will keep you on the edge of your seat until the last page is read. Fans of science fiction and thrillers will certainly want to add this one to their library. It's a keeper. Highly Recommended.

I thoroughly enjoyed "Wired". While its characters weren't all that deep, and the plot was a bit fanciful even for this genre, it was still grounded in some sense of the real world -- and I love a good romp. "Amped" suffers from the need of any blockbuster (think "Mission Impossible" or any such

series) to outdo its original. The characters here have become more cartoonish rather than deeper; the plot sacrifices plausibility for sensationalism; and it (for me) loses the grittiness that "Wired" had just enough of. The ending, with its cascading personalities managing each other and the dawning of a reluctant world peace was cliched and unrealistic and smacked of desperation to wrap up a narrative that had gotten out of control. I notice that the author has written for the youth audience before, and I was struck in this book by a narrative tone that seemed directed to young readers. Everything was painstakingly explained, almost as if to a child. It was a very straightforward, declarative style of writing that was clear but had no particular music or cadence to it. That's an OK choice for the author to make, but by the end I was tired of what felt like parental story-telling. The Kindle edition had some egregious errors in it, thing like "baited breath". I hope that was a function of whatever magic turns print into electrons and wasn't in the original.

Douglas Richards, in *Amped*, does a fantastic job of picking up the storyline from *Wired* as we follow the progress being made towards reaching the goals that David Desh and Kira Miller have set for helping the world take that next big step (through a series of baby steps) to save it from self destructing. The sequel provides interesting insights into the amped mind and, as in the first novel, there are a number of interesting twists and revelations about the second level of boosted intelligence. However, since the Amped genie is out of the bottle, Kira and her group are not the only ones with access to her gene therapy and not the only ones with a plan. There are some twists you'll see (or suspect) coming, but most you won't. *Amped* is a fast forward read that holds you attention as it doesn't really have slow parts. If you liked *Wired*, you'll appreciate *Amped* and will want to know when the next book in the series is being published.

*AMPED* delivers all the fast-paced action and thought-provoking science as its prequel, *WIRED*. Kira Miller and David Desh are back, along with the friends and allies they made in the first novel. Now they're trying to use Kira's awesome intelligence-enhancing gellcaps to aid mankind at large, but there's a problem. Someone out there means to destroy them -- and this someone has access to Kira's enhancement technique! Plus, there's somewhat of a distraction to their plight -- a potential alien invasion of Earth. I would be hard-pressed to say which of the two novels, *WIRED* or *AMPED*, I enjoyed the most. Just as well written as the first novel, this second installment is a thrill-ride of excitement, intrigue and far-reaching imagination that is just as difficult to put down as the first one. Do NOT start reading this at bedtime -- you'll be up much later than you intended. Kudos to Douglas E. Richards for another excellent novel, and here's hoping there will be lots more to come! If you

enjoy action, suspense, science fiction, intrigue, betrayal, humor or any combination of the above, I highly recommend this book.

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