



Transcendence

G.S. Jennsen

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What does it mean to be human? What if the price of saving humanity is giving up your own?

The year is 2322, and we stand upon the precipice of extinction.

The invading Metigen armada has decimated the eastern third of settled space in a matter of days, leaving tens of millions dead. Determined to save the heart of human civilization, Earth and Seneca at last put aside their differences to face the threat together. But even this may not be enough to stop the fleet of colossal dreadnoughts inhabited by advanced AIs.

Alex Solovy and Caleb Marano hold the key to defeating the invaders, for they know the secrets the aliens wage war to protect. Now they face a deadly gauntlet of relentless alien hunters and assassins sent to kill them before they can unleash a potent new weapon. They will risk everything in a bid to save their families, their loved ones, the entire human race—even if it means they can't save each other.

The lines blur between man and machine, ally and enemy, and soldier and civilian. In a final stand against an ancient, powerful foe intent on eradicating it from the universe, humanity comes face to face with its destiny.

When faced with its greatest challenge, will humanity rise to triumph or fall to ruin?

Aurora Rising is an epic tale of galaxy-spanning adventure, of the thrill of discovery and the unquenchable desire to reach ever farther into the unknown. It's a tale of humanity at its best and worst, of love and loss, of fear and heroism. It's the story of a woman who sought the stars and found more than anyone imagined possible.

Transcendence Details

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From Reader Review Transcendence for online ebook

Roberto Abella says

What a brilliant and amazing book. Hands down actually topped my favorite sci-fi novel and took its place. This trilogy has been incredible in more ways than one. The writing style, the plot and THE CHARACTERS YEEEESSSSSS. Though its really hard for me to enjoy books with more than 2 POV's, Jennsen did a hell of a job because I enjoyed this book so much. Best conclusion I could've asked for this amazing trilogy and also to my amazing luck I just found out aurora rising is act 1 of 3 and Jennsen already released her first novel "Sidespace" to her act 2 "Aurora Renegades"! I found out immediately after I finished "Transcendence" and I immediately bought it on amazon when I found out! So I can't wait to start on that book because I can tell that this story has so much potential to create even better novels than the "Aurora Rising" trilogy. (If that's possible)

Peter says

I wrote a perhaps excessively harsh review of the first book, after having given up at 150 pages in. However I returned to it a week or so later persevered through to the end of the third book. Actually, the 3 books together are almost OK. There's a decent structure to the story and some nice sci fi ideas.

But. Oh my god, a decent editor could have cut this 3 volume series down to a pretty decent single volume of about 500 pages. There are too many characters who are corny at best and one dimensional at worst, and the dramatis personae at the front is very little help as it gives insufficient information to help you recall instantly forgettable characters.

Even the main characters are poorly drawn and their relationships are corny.

And the sex scenes were gratuitous, appallingly written and went on for page after page - luckily you could skip about 10 pages or so at times. Haven't read anything like that since the 1970s frankly.

I won't be reading any more of Jennsen's books although I was cussed enough to finish the 3 I'd already bought because they sounded so good in the blurb I read and had decent reviews here. I'd give the series 1.5 stars overall. Not truly terrible (except in parts), almost OK. And with a bit of work on character writing and the addition of a good editor maybe she'll write a good sci fi book one day.

Jason says

4.5 Stars

Transcendence, Aurora Rising #3 by G.S. Jennesen is a fantastic science fiction thriller with a tiny twist of romance. Great characters, cool science and an amazing heroine make this story work. I was so intrigued by the spaceship Siyane that I really hope it is even more of a feature in the later books. The second book was no let down. The additional backstory of our heroes was very welcome.

Loved it

Stephen says

WOW Terrific space opera!!

If someone told me after I read the last of the Aurora Rising trilogy that it was the authors' first effort, I would've been convinced the person was completely misinformed. I have been in touch with GS Jennsen thru email right after around her first book. Became clear to me that she had a deep and abiding desire to make sure all her readers were satisfied with her effort . Are you kidding me? Each book just keeps getting better and better . Plots are extremely well developed and the insite she provides into the lives and thoughts of characters is amazing . After a while I felt like I was in the book watching everything as it happened. I can hardly wait to see what she comes up with next . Follow this author and purchase her books . You will not be disappointed!!

Marcus Dean says

Transcendence shows us where every thread comes together, from seemingly insignificant details to confusing mysteries.

The way that GS Jennsen outlined her novels before finishing the first really benefits the reader in this book. It is very clear that this first trilogy is one cohesive story. While each novel has its own distinct voice and story, each of those are a piece of a much larger story. Transcendence is probably the heaviest novel on science fiction and space opera, and it works amazingly. It becomes clear that the various plotlines discussing artificial intelligence is really where the story was heading all along. Now that we are familiar with the characters from the previous novels, it is the perfect time to subject them to some serious science fiction. And of course, some great space battles.

While Transcendence seems like the ultimate conclusion of the trilogy, it also leaves you with the sense that you have really only scratched the surface of this tale!

Katie Cross says

The best of all three.

That's really all I have to say.

Gabrielle says

How is it that these books just keep getting better and better? I love them!!

James says

A fantastic conclusion to this epic sci-fi series and definitely one of my favourite books of the year!

I loved the ending to this grand sci-fi trilogy. Transcendence picks up right where Vertigo left off – in the middle of a war. Fortunately, humanity has managed to unite itself and overcome differences in the face of extinction by the invading Metigen armada. Alex and her friends must rush to come up with a plan to defeat the invaders without tipping their hand – difficult to do since it seems the aliens have eyes and ears everywhere in the universe. The fate of humanity rests in a dangerous idea Alex has come up with – the use of unrestrained artificial in warfare. Not everyone is on board with this idea and while Alexis and Caleb face down opposition from their own governments at every turn, the invaders are busy doing everything they can to ensure they never make it back to Earth alive.

I won't go into any more detail about the story except to say it's another action-packed, suspenseful and thrilling ride. The story is well-paced and well-written so that it is easy to get drawn in. You get to see Alexis' character reach her full potential and step up to the plate to save humanity – such a contrast from the jaded and cynical character first introduces in Starshine. There are also all the great themes about respect, letting go of old prejudices, fostering trust, love, and unity in the face of adversity. If you like your sci-fi action-packed with plenty of anything else (romance, suspense, mystery, plot twists, awesome technology, and a fantastically detailed view of a futuristic society) woven through the story – this book and the rest of the series is definitely for you. The three books of the Aurora Rising trilogy have been some of my favourite reads ever and I recommend them to everyone.

Sarah says

I'm wanting to say that this was a great end to a really good series. But the end of this book left me hoping that maybe there is more to come...it wouldn't at all disappoint me if we got to read more about Alex and her adventures. This series had a fairly extensive character list and world building and because of that I'd love to see more to come!! My one disappointment with this book was that I didn't get enough of the main character (ok, maybe I'm wanting to have my cake and eat it too, after all, it's hard to have an in depth list of characters and world building if you don't write about them). I think Alex's fight just wrapped up a little too easily for me. Or maybe it's just that I didn't want the story to really end!! In fact, I think I'm going to go buy the novella for this series just so I can get a bit more.

Kaleb says

I'm am at a loss of word for how undeniably awesome the Aurora Rising trilogy was it was by far one of the best series of books I have ever read and I can't wait to read more books from Aurora Rhapsody! As for Transcendence itself it was arguably the best book in the trilogy I read almost half of it in a day it was just too hard to put down for any extended period of time.

Burt Md says

Awesome Space Opera:

Transcendence represents a great conclusion to a terrific trio of novels. The author has created a complex, wonderful universe in the future with politics, intrigue, alien nasties, space battles and some interesting hard scifi. Keep up the great work Ms Jennsen!

Julie says

Absolutely brilliant. There is intrigue, action and romance. What I love about the previous books are the characters and they grow so much more in this one. There is an intensity to this book that really puts us among them, feeling what they feel. It's a roller coaster thrill ride that at times will leave you breathless with its speed. And yet everything is tied up nicely, I wasn't left feeling like I'd missed something or there were loose ends.

I'm sorry to see this trilogy end but the way is open for more so here's hoping we get it. This is one of those collections that will be read over and over because it is just that good.

Beth Johnson says

A great ending to an amazing trilogy. I particularly loved the way the characters grew and changed over the course of the three novels. No one stayed particularly static, and they learned from their mistakes (mostly). I was also impressed that Jennsen wasn't afraid to pull any punches when it came to the more psychotic/sociopathic characters and their terrible, awful decisions. Bonus points for the unexpected twist at the end. I really did not see any of that coming.

Terry Dawson says

As their space cruiser – stealthed by technology ‘acquired’ from the aliens – slips through the space-time portal in the Metis nebula, Alex and Caleb return to a Galaxy threatened by a fleet of superdreadnoughts controlled by a far from benign Artificial Intelligence.

The demands of Hyperion, the ethereal being apparently controlling that artificial intelligence, are simple: the Earth Alliance and Senecan Federation will withdraw from a vast and already colonised area of space or face annihilation by the Metigen fleet. And, after that capitulation, humans will make no further attempts to explore what lies beyond the Metis portal.

The second ethereal being – Mesme – is more sympathetic to the future of civilisation. Alex's new-found understanding of the Metigen's technology and AI capabilities should, in her view, be sufficient to counter the threat.

The ultimatum is rejected and, as battle is joined, a decision is taken to link a small number of humans to

experimental AI units (including, of course, Alex and the aptly named Valkyrie). The initial intention is for them to analyse and advise at a tactical/strategic level; the control of all weapons systems must, at all times, remain under the control of humans.

It doesn't work out and, in a brilliantly written Galactic-spanning conflict, the risks (and advantages) of linking an Artificial and human comes into increasing focus.

It's an issue Ms Jenssen will, I suspect (along with the hitherto shadowy role of Hyperion and Mesme) develop in 'Sidespace', the first part of the 'Aurora Renegades' trilogy due to be released on November 9.

Read and enjoy.

T.A. says

[Jenssen does a fantastic job of portraying the development of the Artificials as they connect with their human counterparts, and each of them have unique voices and personality that make you won
