

# Yancey’s ‘5th Wave’ coming to theaters Jan. 15

## Author observes Atlanta filming, awaits final cut of book turned movie

Allie Goudling  
allie.gouldingyb@gmail.com  
Guest Writer

For this story, guest writer Allie Goulding interviewed author of “The 5th Wave,” Rick Yancey, at the Texas Teen Book Festival on Sept. 26.

First Wave: Lights out. A massive EMP strike shorts out all forms of technology. Second Wave: Surf’s up. A tsunami wave wipes out all coastal cities. Third Wave: Pestilence. The “blood plague” wipes out the remaining human population. Fourth Wave: Silencer. Infected human beings pick off the remaining survivors. The 5th Wave: Coming to theaters Jan. 15, 2016.

After taking over the Young Adult bookshelves in libraries and bookstores everywhere, “The 5th Wave” by Rick Yancey is set to hit theater screens as a movie starring Chloe Grace Moretz as Cassie Sullivan and Nick Robinson as Ben Paris.

“I haven’t seen the final cut yet,” Yancey said. “I was there for about 50 percent of the filming in Atlanta last year, so I have seen maybe just a tiny bit more than everybody else. I’m just as excited and nervous as everyone else to see it when it comes out.”

### Aliens Invade Earth

Taking place in the present-day, aliens invade Earth in five distinct waves, with the ultimate goal to wipe out the human race. Cassie Sullivan, the 16-year-old protagonist, sets out in the woods outside of Cincinnati, Ohio, to find the military compound, Camp Haven, where her five-

year-old brother, Sammy, is held captive by the aliens, known as the “Others.”

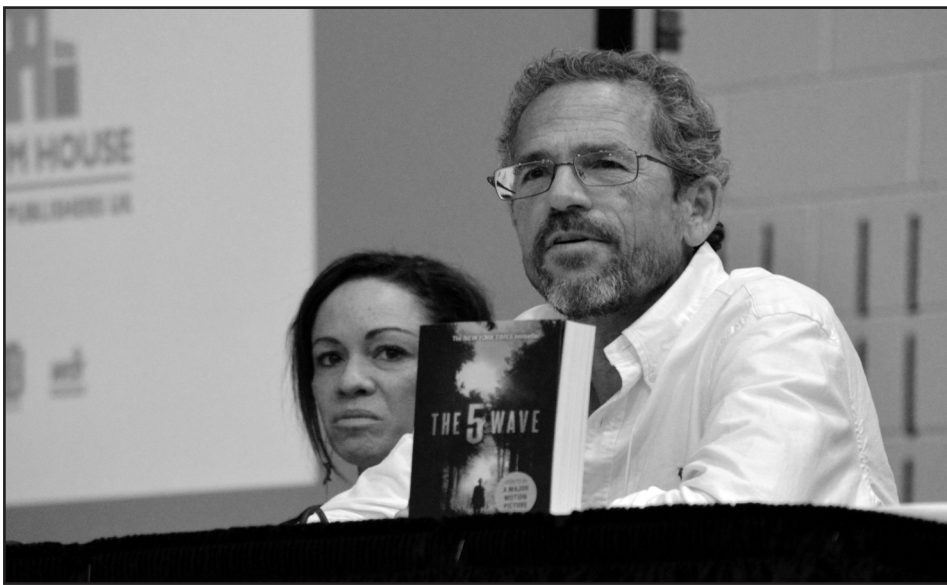
The first three waves of destruction, meant to immobilize and prevent humans from escaping or fighting back, consist of knocking out electricity on a global level, wiping out entire coastal cities with tsunamis, and plaguing the Earth with infected humans. The fourth wave consists of aliens, disguised as humans, assigned to eradicate any remaining humans they come across.

“I am as excited as everyone else to see it when it comes out.”

— Ricky Yancey author

“I was having a conversation with my wife one night and I asked her, ‘What is your greatest fear?’ because I had never asked her that question, and she didn’t hesitate to say ‘Aliens,’” Yancey said. “She said, ‘What would be more horrible than them kidnapping you is if they brought you back, because no one would believe you,’ and that terrified her. So I thought, what if I just approach this by ‘I’m an evil alien, how would I go about ridding the Earth of humanity?’ and that’s kind of how the idea got started.”

The fifth wave, revealed at the end of the book, leaves Cassie trying to survive



At the Texas Teen Book Festival held at St. Edward’s University in Austin on Sept. 26, author Rick Yancey speaks about the upcoming movie based on his book, “The 5th Wave.” Other authors on the “Real Food for Thought” panel included Jesse Andrews, author of “Me, Earl, and The Dying Girl,” and Kauai Hart Hemmings, the author of “The Descendants,” both of whom had movie adaptations of their books. Photo by Allie Goulding

in the alien-infested Earth, now with a war going on between aliens and humans, but this time with a group of kids rather than by herself. Carrying on to the second book, “The Infinite Sea,” Cassie and her group try to find their place in the war.

“I thought you’d have to do it [kill off humanity] in stages unless you just wanted to obliterate the Earth. If they wanted to just wipe us out, all they would have to do is throw a really big rock at the Earth,” Yancey said. “We couldn’t stop it, and it would wipe out 98 percent of life on Earth. There was a reason the aliens approached it in waves, and that’s the riddle answered in ‘The Last Star.’”

### The Last Star

The third book, “The Last Star,” will be released May 2016, giving readers answers to their hanging questions left from “The Infinite Sea.” Until then, fans can watch the story unravel on the big screen.

“I was very pleased with the changes they had to make to fit it into a two-hour movie,” Yancey said. “Each time they rewrote it, it got closer and closer to the book, which was very gratifying to know that they would move back to the source material. I think the readers and people who loved the books will be very pleased.”

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