



## **Irradiated**

*S. Elliot Brandis*

[Download now](#)

[Read Online](#) ➔

# Irradiated

*S. Elliot Brandis*

## **Irradiated** S. Elliot Brandis

Jade, a headstrong young woman, lives in an irradiated wasteland. She struggles each day to protect her younger sister Pearl, a sweet girl who was born mutated. Their life is tough, but Jade is determined to survive.

One day, Jade returns from a supply run and finds her sister missing. She knows one of two groups is to blame: the fascist society that lives underground, scorning the sun and all mutants, or a fellow scavenger on the surface, acting out of depravity or desperation.

Jade is willing to risk everything to save Pearl, including her own life and morals. With her gas mask fixed tight, and a heavy chain in hand, she sets off on a mission of vengeance. If she fails, Pearl will die.

## **Irradiated Details**

Date :

ISBN :

Author : S. Elliot Brandis

Format :

Genre : Science Fiction, Dystopia, Fantasy

 [Download Irradiated ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online Irradiated ...pdf](#)

**Download and Read Free Online Irradiated S. Elliot Brandis**

---

# From Reader Review Irradiated for online ebook

## Marni says

*I would like to thank the author for providing me with a complimentary copy of this book in exchange for an honest review. Providing such does not sway my review in any way.*

A unique take on the post-apocalyptic world; part fantasy, part dystopian, part Grimm's fairy tales, but altogether original material in a genre that has become very popular and sometimes over saturated with the same type of story lines. The sun comes into play and is part of the story in a way that I never considered. In some ways like the cancerous effects of dioxin and other biochemical waste products.

The story centers around Pearl. She is unique in several ways. She was born irradiated, with sucker caps that remind you of an octopus, pink skin and thin silver hair. Honestly, I wish this book came with pictures. Through the descriptions and my imagination filling in the blanks, I can only hope that what I felt many in the book looked like is close to how the author sees them.

People are drawn to Pearl. Some are drawn to help her, some are drawn to use her for their own benefit in wiping out others. The one constant variable throughout the book is that her sister, Jade, would go to the ends of the world to save her. Jade, an old soul who has seen much in her years, still has the compassion for those that she knows have been done wrong but even then, will strike that person down fast and hard if she knows that they are part of why her sister was taken away.

Being a huge fan of the dystopian/post-apocalyptic genre, I found it really hard to get through this book. Descriptions were murky, story lines were a bit over the top, parts of it having me think Lord of the Rings meets Firefly meets Farscape but minus space and spacecraft and overall it just felt disjointed. The story didn't flow very well, even with the change of POVs, but towards the end it all finally seemed to finally weave together and become much easier to follow.

I don't recommend this to mainstream dystopia readers, but I do to those readers who like a bit of quirkiness interjected. I think that this would be right up their alley and could spread like wildfire by them just by word of mouth. I honestly feel that this would be much better as a graphic novel than how it is presented. There's so much description needed and the people and settings ache to pounce from the written word and be seen in all it's grand tapestry.

Having said all this, I will be following the author and will check out the further books in the tunnel trilogy. He has just scratched the surface in what can become an epic story. Just recently, the second book in the trilogy was released, Degenerated.

---

## Allan Walsh says

Irradiated is about Jade and Pearl. Two sisters fighting for survival in a post-apocalyptic world. Pearl is different, she has a mutation. When Jade comes home to find Pearl missing one day, she sets out to find her.

The Bad Stuff: This is a dark world with some mean characters and yet for some reason I felt it was more suited to a YA audience.

The Good Stuff: This book is well written and has some good characters. The world is gritty and S.Elliot Brandis sure knows how to create a mean antagonist!

This is an original story with some great characters. The author has created a savage world and he has a way with words that makes it a thoroughly enjoyable read. I'm giving it 3 out of 5 Golden bookmarks.

---

### **Kathryn Svendsen says**

Irradiated is the future Earth, the result of global warming and some other catastrophe such as a nuclear war which has left the world in a barely liveable state. Most of the surviving people live underground, and those who have been irradiated (individuals with strange mutations) live on the surface of the planet.

The story begins when Jade is sent away with her just-born baby sister Pearl to live on the surface to escape the fate of irradiated offspring born to those who are part of this underground society. Irradiated then picks up 13 years later when Pearl has reached her 13th year. Her skin is a vibrant pink and she has sucker caps similar to an octopus along her forearms and hands. Eking out a living on the surface of the earth is difficult and dangerous.

There is always danger from others who are irradiated who might want what you have, danger of death by dehydration in the barren, dried up landscape, starvation, and danger from the Shadows that roam the land, who will kill you if they find you. While out trading for necessities, Jade is approached by an individual and told that Pearl is in danger. The strange thing is, Jade and Pearl do not know this person. Upset by this, Jade senses truth in this man's statement and rushes back to Jade, only to find her missing. Thus begins the exciting and dark search in this dystopian world.

Irradiated is a very bleak look at the future of our planet. Fortunately the author did leave us with a feeling that there is perhaps a possibility for hope for the human race. Jade and her sister Pearl were very likeable, living their lives peaceably until they had to stand up for themselves. I think the violence that Jade displayed is there under the surface in some of us more than others, just as it did not surface in Pearl - it's probably what helped make Jade the leader of the two; that and being older than Pearl. Or maybe it was the mantle of leadership that was thrown on Jade that developed the harshness that led to violence?

I also thought that the Queen was an excellent example of someone who exploits others and uses control for power. The Queen maintained her power through fear and was not above killing anyone who got in her way or was no longer useful to her. She was a power-hungry tyrant who would have taken over the world if she could.

The dialogue flowed and seemed quite natural. Descriptions of the scenery were detailed enough to visualize easily without being too detailed to be boring. I liked the addition of Mongrel. To me he seemed to be a character that espoused hope and friendship and future.

I liked the development and growth in Pearl's character. I'm sad at the way it happened, but I'm glad her experience will bring about good things. I especially liked that Irradiated ended on a note of hope; without that, it would have been a depressing novel indeed.

I did find some profanity in this novel, so that is something to note for my readers who are offended by this. There was no graphic sexual content.

I thoroughly enjoyed this dystopian novel. I would highly recommend it to others who enjoy dystopian reads. I gave *Irradiated* 4 stars out of 5. I look forward to the sequel.

Thank you to the author for providing a copy of the novel in exchange for a fair and honest review. A positive opinion was not required. All thoughts are my own.

This review was published on my blog Shelf Full of Books <http://kathrynsshelffullofbooks.blogspot...>

---

## **Michael Hicks says**

S. Elliot Brandis is the type of writer that immediately makes me jealous of his style and strong authorial voice. He has a ridiculously strong command of prose and is utterly methodical in his deliberate word choice, using every word and turn of phrase for maximum impact. Descriptions are lively and on-point, and he's able to crack up the evocative sense of place and nature to 11. He is, without fail, an awesome wordsmith.

*IRRADIATED* is the first book of an ambitious trilogy. The setting is post-apocalypse Brisbane. The city is a rotting husk, its buildings bearing grimy flood lines thanks to regular flooding. The sun itself is poison, its radiation bombarding the Earth.

As the novel opens, Pearl is thrust into her older sister's arms as the two are forced to flee their underground home. Thirteen years later, the two live in the mountains, with their companions Simon and Josh, foraging for scraps and survival. Pearl is a pink-skinned youth, her skin puckered with sucker caps, like those of an octopus. She is irradiated, as is Josh, whose body bears deformities as well.

While on a trade run, Jade is warned that her sister is in danger. The girl has been having visions in her nightmares, and others have been dreaming about her in return. Jade races back to camp, but is too late. Pearl is missing.

Brandis has fashioned an interesting cross-blend of science fiction and spaghetti western. Although we don't learn much about the history of the wastelands his characters inhabit (what was the nature of the apocalypse – nuclear warfare, climate change, or some other mysterious societal collapse?), it's a minor caveat. We don't need to know, really, and the characters and their place in this altered, unfriendly environment is enough to satisfy in situ.

His central heroine, Jade, is a strong, capable actor, as is Pearl. I don't want to spoil much, but I will say there is a wonderfully defining moment when Pearl, being tortured by her captors, summons up a beautiful amount of courage and strength to call bullshit on the central villain's motivations. The Queen has abducted Pearl, with designs on using her dream-visions, in an effort to rid the world of the irradiated. Pearl realizes she is a weapon more than anything else, and dismantles The Queen's egotistical savior ramblings for the trite musings of hatred and prejudice that they truly are. It's a brilliant scene.

Brandis is clearly in his element with the post-apocalyptic genre, and he nimbly maneuvers through the ruins of Brisbane. Like Jade, he knows this dangerous terrain well. The story itself recalls other apocalyptic greats, and shares many similar thematic resonances of works like *THE STAND* and *SWAN SONG*, as well as the recent PlayStation 3 video-game *THE LAST OF US*. The conflict between the tunnel-dwelling remnants of humanity, and their fear of the irradiated may remind readers of HG Wells' infamous morlocks, although Brandis gives them a run for their money with his frightening, and fascinating, Shadows. If you enjoyed any

of these other similar works, IRRADIATED will fit comfortably in your reading list and is well worth the time.

---

## **Michelle Bacon says**

### **Dystopian adventure**

Living in underground tunnels because the surface is not livable and yet a creature called The Shadow is on the hunt commanded by The Queen. Pearl and Jade are sisters and only one is not irradiated. Will Jade save her sister before she dies at the hands of The Queen?

---

## **Ceinwen Langley says**

3.5/5

While the style of writing was much more poetic than I prefer to read (but a really interesting choice for a dystopian novel), what really excited me about Irradiated was the world Brandis created. Post-apocalyptic Brisbane, alternately ravaged by floodwater and a hostile sun, is a mean new frontier. Mutants scavenge the surface while 'pure' humans live in a totalitarian society in dark tunnels underground. The imagery in this novel is so cool that I really hope it finds a strong fanbase, because I can't wait to see the fan art and costumes!

I liked the choice to frame the story around two sisters, and only wish I could have seen more of them together before the story kicks in, but this novel hits the ground running, and the plot is well thought out and well paced. I'll definitely be tuning in to see what Brandis has planned next for this charming hell hole.

---

## **Stephanie says**

" I suppose it's a dark world."

From the prologue, a treacherous and uncertain world is set for eight year old Jade and her newborn sister Pearl. Pearl is given to Jade and she is told to run, get out of the only home she had even known. Jade and Pearl must escape from the darkness and safety of the Tunnels and go to the surface, Pearl was born irradiated, mutated because her father spent too much time in the sun. Years later, Jade, Pearl and two other surface dwellers have made a life for themselves by scavenging and trading. Pearl, who was born with pink skin and sucker caps up and down her arms has been having strange dreams, dreams where she can see other people and how they live. She doesn't know that all these people also see her in their dreams and that they are coming to take her away.

I loved the concept of this dystopian world, the sun's rays are now so intense that people are being mutated (this happens now, but we just call it skin cancer). Such a simple thing that causes so many issues, it is

difficult to live on the surface, water is scarce, the air is hardly breathable, food is scarce and those born irradiated might have a unique gift. Jade was the character I identified with the most, the writing switches back and forth from Jade and Pearl's point of view, Jade was continually struggling to make everything right, find food, keep dangers away and protect her sister. When Pearl is taken, Jade steps up and becomes quite the vigilante. Towards the end, there is some insight into the hierarchy of the Tunnel dwellers. I was interested in who The Queen was...but I have my ideas. This was a shorter work, but part of a series. I'll have to see what happens next.

This book was received for free in return for an honest review.

---

### **Karyn Folan says**

First the disclaimer: I received a copy of *Irradiated* from StoryCartel.com in exchange for my honest review.

This book was tough for me. I wanted to like it-- and there were aspects of it that were compelling for me-- but on the whole I just couldn't quite enjoy it.

I'm a huge fan of the post-apocalyptic/dystopian genre and enjoyed the author's vision of a desolate future with a poisoned, sun-baked atmosphere. The combination of the air quality and the sun's incessant rays cause mutations in children born to humans who have been over-exposed to them. These mutants--the irradiated--are usually killed. When Jade's younger sister Pearl is born irradiated their parents are killed and Jade and baby Pearl barely escape from the tunnels where humans live to avoid the sun and the killer air. On the surface, Jade has scrounged and scavenged to survive while raising Pearl. When Pearl is kidnapped, Jade sets on mission back into the tunnels beneath the city to find her.

The story is narrated in shifting points of view between the two sisters. But at times the writing's lyrical quality detracted from the story's forward motion for me. I found the "Pearl" chapters much clearer and easier to read. I struggled mightily with the "Jade" chapters in spite of the many beautiful descriptions. After a while those descriptions overcame the action, knocked it to the ground and beat the crap out of it, leaving me, the reader, re-reading sections trying figure out what happened. The author also used the phrase "rose to her feet" enough times for me to notice it with annoyance. I mean, unless the character doesn't have feet, "she rose" should be sufficient to describe the action, right?

In fairness, I'll admit I like my science fiction action-packed and page-turning--even when it is bleak, harrowing and shattering, like *The Road*. This approach to "Literary science fiction" was a stretch of the genre that probably speaks more to my own limits than the author's abilities. I'm willing to admit to being a philistine--or the swine before whom these pearls went unappreciated.

Still, however, my honest review is that *Irradiated*, despite its descriptiveness, or perhaps because of it, was just okay for me.

---

### **Ashley Martinez (ilovebooksandstuffblog) says**

I received this book from the author and Paranormal Romance and Author That Rock.

Irradiated is a short scifi post-apocalypse novel.

When Jade was given her baby sister and told to run and escape from the tunnels. Now thirteen years later, her sister Pearl is coming of age. Pearl has sucker caps on her arms and hands, her skin is coral pink and her dreams are filled with strange nightmares. Pearl doesn't understand these dreams but soon it becomes apparent that they mean something. Two groups of scavengers come after Pearl because of who she is, irradiated. Jade races to find her sister as Pearl struggles to survive against a dangerous enemy.

It was an interest and unique story. Irradiated is unlike anything I've ever read. The overall story was good. It was written well and you could get a feel of what the new world was like. It was almost more poetic and descriptive. The characters where scavengers struggling to survive in a harsh world and it showed in their thoughts and actions. The best part was with the antagonist. I was hoping for more explanation of things but it was just enough combination of exciting elements of a story to making it intriguing.

For fans of post-apocalypse thrillers looking for a short adventure will enjoy this book.

I would rate this 3/3.5 fangs.

---

## **A.B. Shepherd says**

So remember when I told you I asked my Australian Writers group to pitch me their dystopian novels? Well this is another one that I purchased based on their recommendations. Irradiated is the first of a trilogy. Book two, Degenerated, is also available now, but book three is yet to come.

In the world of Irradiated, something horrible has happened. We are never told what, but most would assume a nuclear blast or some sort of nuclear fall-out because the world above ground is no longer safe for human habitation due to radiation.

Most people live underground, in tunnels. When those who are desperate enough venture forth and are exposed to radiation, the radiation causes mutations of genes and their future offspring become "Irradiated" = mutated in some ways. The tunnel dwellers fear this irradiation and kill those who are irradiated. In this particular story the mutations are quite varied.

Jade, our heroine was born before her father ventured forth, but her baby sister Pearl is irradiated. Jade's sole purpous in life is to protect her sister from those left in the tunnels who would kill her for being irradiated, and from the ruthless land dwellers who would kill them both to steal anything they could use to survive.

It's a story about the love between sisters, and how far you might have to go to survive.

This is a book that is very well written. The author has an almost poetic gift for his (often grisly) descriptions of this horribly bleak world. The story is strong and the plot well thought out. I can find no fault with this book at all. The only thing that kept me from giving it a perfect score is because it IS so bleak. While this book is everything I asked for in a dystopian novel, it was a bit dark even for me. If dark is your thing, you will love this book. Even if that isn't your thing, you might enjoy it.

---

## **Stephanie Embry says**



This book took me a while to finish by NO fault of its own; my kindle had issues part way through. I finally finished it though and I'm excited to start the next.

Literally my only negative is that I wanted to know more about whatever catastrophe that created this world. Otherwise, this book is fantastic. Someone else compared it to HG Wells and that is spot on. Also, the very literary, poetic style puts me in mind of some of those great "new weird" writers that are getting shoved into the "Literature" section of bookstores (VanderMeer, Mieville).

The chapters from Pearl's POV are my favorites, but I didn't find it hard to love Jade either. This book has quite a bit of darkness; no off-screen horror here; but it fit so nicely into this quirky weird genre-bending area that I love so much, that I could easily accept the sometimes harsh parts.

Some of the other reviews mention that it's hard to follow, and I don't agree. Again, emphasizing the very "new weird" feeling I got from the writing, it fits a particular type of story structure that maybe not everyone is familiar with; but it's definitely a full, solid tale with no glaring holes to fall into.

DEFINITELY reading books 2 and 3.

---

### **Desiree Putaski says**

The world has gone to hell... we don't know why... we aren't ever told...but it doesn't really matter. My guess would be that it was some sort of nuclear war that ended everything as we know it, because radiation is causing children to be born with strange defects. Many fled to the tunnels beneath the city and that's where they've been living for who knows how long, but there are also those on the surface and they are mutated because of their exposure or their parents exposure.

Jade was born in the tunnels and by all accounts she is "normal", but her father was one of those restless folks who ventured from the tunnels and was exposed to the radiation on the surface. Pearl was born irradiated and therefore could not be allowed to live in the tunnels. Jade's parents were killed (at least that's what she was told when she was ushered from the tunnels) and for whatever reason the people in the tunnels helped her escape so that Pearl would not be taken and killed by the Shadows.

I like Jade. She's head-strong, foul-mouthed, and if you get on her bad side you are in for a rough day. By all accounts she would be about 21. She was 8 when she fled the tunnels with her baby sister and survived on her own in a cruel world. She does what she has to do to provide for her sister and her friends (somewhere along the line, she picked up Simon and Josh, who are both irradiated... unsure of Simon's age, but it was rather evident he was older than Jade and Josh is Pearl's age). She's never been one to back down from a challenge and I liked that about her. Pearl is innocence personified. Even though she has terrible nightmares...visions of horrible places and people... she believes in the good in people. She loves her sister fiercely and I think she even has a thing for Josh. Simon and Josh, even though we don't know how they came to be with Jade and Pearl, are fiercely loyal to the girls. Definitely good guys to have around. And this is probably the fourth or fifth book I've read where an animal plays a character part. Mongrel is a dog that sort of adopts Jade. Pearl's character evolves over the course of the book, perhaps not under the best circumstances, but it's exactly what needed to happen to lead into book two.

But there is something about Pearl that draws people to her. And not everyone who is drawn to her wants to be her friend. The Queen of the tunnels wants her for her ability to find others who are irradiated; so they can

be exterminated. The people in the tunnels are scared of those who are irradiated, and those who are irradiated are scared of the people from the tunnels... well, maybe not all the people from the tunnels, but definitely the Queen's elite force of the Shadows. Pearl is taken one day... this is the story of Jade trying to find and rescue her sister... after making a "deal with the devil".

No time is wasted in telling us how the world came to be, because that isn't the important part of the story. Of course, there is a lot of world building and the author does an excellent job of this. Unlike most dystopian novels of late, this isn't the story of the end of the world, but what happened after the world ended. His descriptions are great and it's easy to picture the people and places in the book. You feel as though you are exploring the city along with Jade as she scavenges. The dialogue between characters is easy and natural. The banter between Pearl and Josh is light and fun, as two young people should be. Jade is more serious and, of course, can have a pretty foul mouth.

All in all this was a good afternoon read. It's not your typical dystopian story, but fans of the genre will still enjoy it none the less.

I received a copy of this book through RABT book tours.

---

### **Melanie says**

Good enough. Some interesting mutations. Bit icky in places. Well, maybe a lot icky in places. Nothing stellar or mind blowing, and while I'm intrigued what exactly happened to cause the difficulties prefacing this story I'm not intrigued enough to carry on with the series I don't think. Also if there was a lot of icky in the first book, I'm a bit dubious about this escalating in the following books. Didn't sign up for torture scenes - just sayin'.

---

### **Kenneth A. Mugi says**

Irradiated is a novel about how far love and the need to survive will push people. Sometimes it makes them do terrible things, sometimes it spurs them into a charitable acts they might not live to regret. Whatever the situation, Irradiated asks the reader questions. "How far would you go?" it queries. "Do you truly love your brother, your friend? Even at the brink of despair, will you push on, hatchet in hand?"

S. Elliot Brandis provides no easy answers or simple characterisations. The residents inhabiting his world are fully developed, each with their own desires and goals. Although I didn't agree with all of them or their choices, I certainly understood their motivations and sympathised (as best as I could) with why they'd opted to travel that particular road. Simply put, Irradiated made me care. With sparse dialogue and well-developed set action pieces, I got to know everyone. Their hopes, dreams and fears. On that basis alone, I suggest picking up this novel.

However, there's also S. Elliot Brandis' way with English. It's literary, yet also poetic. Every sentence falls into place, as if part of a magnificent tapestry drawn in constants and vowels. I didn't struggle reading this work and often found it difficult to put down even though I had work the next morning.

Essentially, if you're looking to be challenged, or a different take on the science fiction genre, then I'd highly

recommend Irradiated. It's excellently written, flows beautifully and pulls you deep into the world created.

---

**Barb McKinley says**

**INTERESTING FIRST BOOK IN THIS TRILOGY.**

Why a 3 rating you may ask....I am still not sure if this is earth after some cataclysmic event or a different world all together. I would have liked more background information. I feel as if I started in the middle and missed the 1st book.

That aside...I enjoyed the book. It is an interesting take on radiation. I think that the characters are interesting; however, suffer from a lack of development. I was starting to get into what was happening and BOOM end of book. I am left wondering what just happened?

This story is interesting enough that I am going to read the 2nd book in this trilogy. This world sounds like an awful place to live while at the same time, seems plausible in our world today. I am hoping that book 2 will fill in blanks for me.

I recommend this book to any dystopian fan. Let's see where it goes.

---