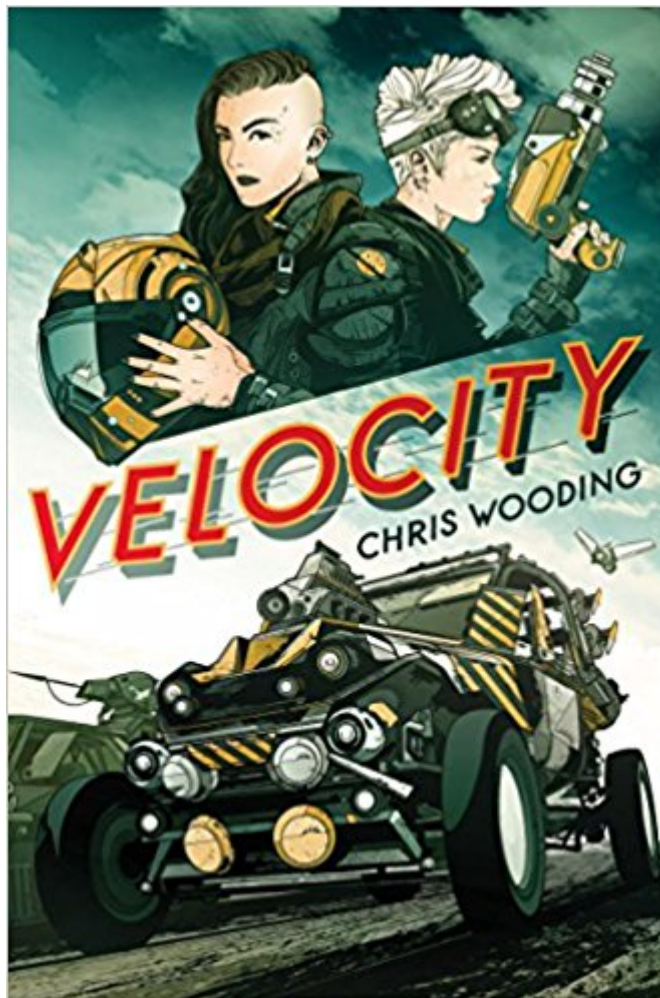




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Synopsis

Buckle up for a fast-paced, high-octane thrill ride! Cassica and Shiara are best friends. They couldn't be more different, but their differences work to their advantage -- especially when they're drag racing. Cassica is fearless and determined, making her the perfect driver for daring, photo-finish victories. Shiara is intelligent and creative, able to build cars out of scrap and formulate daring strategies from the passenger's seat. Now they've set their sights on the Widowmaker -- the biggest, most anticipated, and most dangerous race of the year. The winners get a pass to a life of luxury and fame. The losers, more often than not, die in fiery explosions. And even if Cassica and Shiara survive the deadly three-day challenge... their friendship might be roadkill. This breathless reimagining of extreme sports is perfect for fans of *Mad Max: Fury Road* and NASCAR.

Book Information

Lexile Measure: 780 (What's this?)

Hardcover: 336 pages

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Language: English

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Average Customer Review: 5.0 out of 5 stars 1 customer review

Best Sellers Rank: #405,059 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #3 in [Books > Teens >](#)

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[Science Fiction > Dystopian](#)

Age Range: 12 and up

Grade Level: 7 and up

Customer Reviews

Gr 7 Up — Driver and tech duo Cassica and Shiara are the best racing team in Coppermouth, a tiny town in a postapocalyptic world not unlike that of *Mad Max*. The best friends' successes building and driving cars on the smaller circuits pique the interest of an agent, who offers them a chance to compete in the big leagues. Now with a sponsor, Cassica and Shiara might have what it takes to qualify for the biggest race of the year. But with better drivers and deadly Wreckers set on

eliminating them, the girls must put their skills and friendship to the test to win, and even the smallest mistake might cost them their lives. This title blends the speed of NASCAR with the fight-to-the-death competition of The Hunger Games. The friction between Shiara's practical, safer analysis and Cassica's bolder gut reactions adds to the tension of the dangerous situations. References to the world beyond will heighten reader interest, but don't expect to get much information from or about the rest of the cast. The secondary characters have little development; many appear in just a single chapter or two. In addition, the wait between races can feel like being stuck at a red light, and there are few plot twists as payoff. Cassica and Shiara have great bantering dialogue, though, and are constantly the focus in an intriguing, if little-developed, setting. VERDICT Dystopian fans will relish a new, unexplored world, but they'll have to persevere through slow sections to get to the action. — Thomas Jonte, Horry County Memorial Library, SC

Praise for *The Haunting of Alaizabel Cray* : "An imaginative tour de force." -- Publishers Weekly, starred review "Eerie and exhilarating. -- School Library Journal, starred review "Readers will get finger cramps from rapidly turning the pages of Wooding's gripping tale." --

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