



Momentum

Saci Lloyd

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In the near future, energy wars are raging across the globe, blackouts are a regular occurrence, and the privileged Citizens and the desperate Outsiders of London live very separate lives. Hunter is a Citizen whose father works for the government; yet he cannot help being fascinated by the Outsiders' ingenuity and, in particular, their mastery of free running. But when he meets Uma, an Outsider, he is quickly drawn into her world and finds himself racing against time — and against the government's cruel Kossak soldiers — to protect everything the Outsiders hold dear.

Momentum Details

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Author : Saci Lloyd

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Anne says

Hunter lives in a near-future London where the world has depleted their energy supplies, there are frequent blackouts, and the people are divided into two distinct groups: Citizens and Outsiders. Hunter is a Citizen with a very influential father, yet he is fascinated by the Outsider culture. The Outsiders have managed to create their own sustainable energy sources plus they have mastered an art they call "free running." He is drawn into their world and an unexpected friendship with a girl named Uma when attacked by the government's nasty, vicious Kossak soldiers. Full of action and adventure, a fair amount of violence – although nothing truly graphic, and some predictable characters and plot twists. Those looking for a serviceable dystopia will find it here; may also have appeal for Alex Rider fans due to the chase scenes and some interesting tech gadgets.

Raeesa says

[the whole thing is a series of clues to get the encryption codes which has to do with the dreamline and holds the identities of all outsiders and there is only three copies of it. the keeper has the codes, and uma's aunt zella was the keeper but she is captured so she gives them to uma to find the next keeper. when they finally fin

Nicole says

"...but it is not enough to patch up the system. We must live differently. Here we fix things ourselves, grow things ourselves, make things ourselves, and by doing this we have made ourselves strong again.'

'So basically, your plan is for us to give everything up and go back to living in caves again?...

'No caves for us. Outsiders are masters of technology. But that's just it, we're masters not slaves. We use it to bring us together, not to make us stupid and separate like you to.'"

Quite poignant I thought to some modern grassroots movements of today's society. Through the classic boy-meets-girl from the other side of the tracks, Lloyd shows both sides to the haves and have nots, managing not to fall into too many cliches along the way. For someone not familiar with the arguments surrounding peak oil, Lloyd holds their hand and paints a picture of where it all moves toward quite well. The other book she wrote that I've read, Carbon Diaries 2015, was similarly interested in the issue of the energy and oil, and it had strong female protagonists too.

Lloyd knows how to spin a completely believable near future like no one's business. And the setting of London depicted is amazingly rich and detailed, with an interesting mix of far East tech and Central-South music and living.

She seems to be leaving room for a sequel, though I'd be content as is; seems every teen book is a series these days.

Mel Raschke says

Hunter was born to a life of security as a Citizen, but secretly envies the Outsiders for what he perceives to be their great freedom. Through a series of events, he finds himself tangled up in the secret life of Uma, an Outsider who has a life or death errand to perform. If she fails, Outsiders throughout the world will be hunted down and killed by Kossaks, the government's soldiers who will stop at nothing to make sure the government is always right

Alex Newton says

When I originally picked up this book, I figured it would be the typical young adult story. I thought it would be the same, recycled, two teens from completely different worlds fall in love. I am pleasantly surprised to say that it is the exact opposite. While there is a bit of a underlying love story, it is brilliantly overshadowed by the incredibly well written story and future created by Saci Lloyd. The story follow Hunter and Uma. Hunter is a priveleged teen who wants nothing more than to be able to be a free runner like the poor Favelados. Uma is a independent young Outsider(Favelado), a group of poor civilians who constantly have to fight back the government raiding there neighborhoods. The two teens' paths cross when a raid of an Outsider funeral occurs where Hunter is practicing free running. One thing needs to another and Uma ends up giving Hunter the most important piece of Outsider tech in the history of England(the books setting). Chaos ensues as Hunter and Uma struggle to keep the tech out of the government's hands. This is arguably the best young adult novel I have ever read. The action and story are written perfectly and aren't saturated by an unrealistic, in your face love story. I recommend this to anyone who is into action or young adult novels.

Roo MacLeod says

This story doesn't stop for breath, it flies and soars. Hunter lives the good life as a citizen, and citizens are rich and privedged, but they seek a greater state of Nirvana by living through the net in virtual reality. Uma is an outsider, a poor person, living in the slums and their paths cross because Hunter despairs of the virtual world and seeks adventure by practising the art of free running, the skill the Outsiders employ to outrun the Cossacks and the helicopters that hunt them.

The novel centres around a secret enigma of codes, kept by the keepers, but passed onto Uma, who passes it onto Hunter she is caputred by the Kossack security forces. The deal is to find the new keeper, keep the codes from the Kossacks and discover love. And it is all dealt with during a great old chase through the dystopian streets of London Town.

As I said the story rocks along with running and jumping and dare devil leaps from tall buildings in single bounds.I loved this book and am keen to read more of Saci Lloyd.

Wally says

Hunter, a middle class Citizen, falls in with Uma, an outcast Outsider, and her friends in a high-energy action adventure that pits the secure and security-minded upper classes of rich London against the DIY lower classes. When Uma ends up with the top secret access codes to the Outsider movement's communication networks, Hunter helps her keep them from the authorities, including his father, who works for the government but who has very mixed feelings about his job.

This is a solid action novel that pits the underdogs against ruthless villains and terrible odds, but the characters were weak and the writing was fairly clichéd. Some of the premises of the near future – energy rations and rolling blackouts, an Occupy-type movement that seeks to make life better for all people – were not fleshed out very much, although the likely sequel will fix that. Still, for boys looking for another reading thrill along the lines of Anthony Horowitz or James Patterson, this should work. Recommended for sixth grade on up

Candy Wood says

Momentum is an apt title for this YA novel that is on the 2011 *Guardian* longlist. The action rarely slows except for a few Romeo and Juliet moments between the central characters. The setting is London, not very far into our own future. Hunter is a Citizen who looks for excitement by climbing abandoned tower blocks in the East End, while Uma is an Outsider who lives in the Bow favela. The Internet is central to the plot: Citizens stay plugged in through RETScans that can be sources of information, communication devices, and virtual reality games. Outsiders have found a way to control the Dreamline instead of being controlled by it and have also begun to develop their own energy sources, while Chinese conglomerates seem to have taken over everything else. Violence is everywhere, from games to the Kossaks, eagerly torturing and killing in the name of order. The specific London details emphasize the warning: as the mentor-character says, “if the governments sleep, the people must rise.”

Venec M. says

A book that is as exciting as it is creative. Let me just say, it is VERY creative. In a world where people are consumed by virtual reality, there are places where no one but the Outsiders go; the Dreamline. It contains dark secrets. Dangerous secrets. And Hunter Nash just might find some of those secrets out.

Joan says

This novel is set far in the future and in a London struggling to maintain life as we know it amidst energy wars and a deep gap between standards of living for its residents. The story is very fast paced and involves young people living a very technologically aware life. A fascinating but frightening glimpse of the future if we do not take more care of our world.

Adolfo Yanez says

I think this book is great, is not boring it always keeps you reading even when you don't have time to read

you want to keep reading this book it just that good, this book is really good in how it described the moments I enjoy the book.

Angela says

London is under crisis. The world is running out of oil, and the city is constantly fighting to keep their power on. There's a huge divide between the classes—the upper-class Citizens live in luxury, in London proper, and the Outsiders live in the slums. The two aren't meant to mix. Ever. The slums are periodically raided, destroying the lives of the Outsiders. Resentment is everywhere.

But Hunter, a Citizen, has always been interested in the Outsiders. His Citizen lifestyle is constrictive. As fate may have it he encounters Uma, an Outsider, and gets caught up in their fight. The two don't trust each other at first, and they're not even sure if they *can* trust each other—although they want to.

We all know the story. Two people from two different sides of the tracks mesh together. They learn about each other; they fight to build a better world. And though the underlying plot is fairly typical, this future London is addictive. Hunter's father works for the government, which makes this family the highest of the highest citizens. And to learn that his son is running around with an Outsider? What is the world *coming to*?

Even though its dystopian plot has been done before, and the writing itself is fairly standard, I enjoyed this story. I'd love to read the series and learn more about this world they live in and learn how they plan to save it. Because you *know* societal walls are going to crumble, and you have to learn who to trust—if you can trust anyone. And just *how* are they going to fix a world-wide energy crisis?

(3.5 stars)

Kirsten says

Just finished this book...

It's safe to say that I didn't think it'd be my kind of book, and I did find it hard to get into, but after getting about quarter of the way through, you're saddened when you need to put it down! I didn't want it to end!

So much suspense and excitement, sadness, loss, love... :3

It was a very entertaining read! :)

Susie says

I love this author. I had to order this through the British leg of our book vendor, but it was worth the wait! She is so edgy and her writing seems so premonitional! Is that a word? I just feel like I am seeing the actual future of our world, even though it so bleak and divisive. I liked the Carbon Diaries just a bit more, if only because they were less bleak...a bit more hopeful. But Lloyd is just wonderful!

Alma Ramos-McDermott says

As I was reading “Momentum,” I was struck by its similarities to the classic book “The Outsiders” by S.E. Hinton. Just as in “The Outsiders,” the characters in “Momentum” are separated Rich versus Poor. In “Momentum,” the poor, known as “Outsiders,” have rebelled against the government for its wastefulness, especially concerning energy, and have been forced to live in slum housing, trying to live the best they can.

Read the rest of my review at: <http://shouldireaditornot.wordpress.c...>
