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Silver

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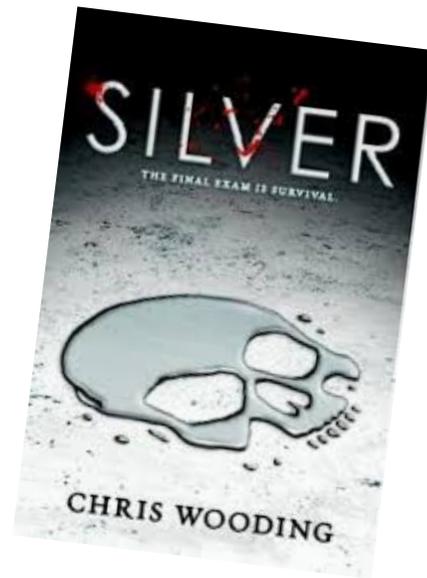
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Book Review

Title: Silver
Author: Chris Wooding
Reviewer: Lisa Packard
Publisher: Scholastic Press
Year: 2013
ISBN: 9780545603928
Pages: 313
Interest Level: Intermediate
Rating: Excellent



Review

Paul and Mark go to the same school and have absolutely nothing in common until they have to fight for their lives. It's a normal day until Mark discovers a silver beetle, metallic with circuits. Meanwhile, Paul sees a large silver dog outside his window and chases after it, almost getting killed by the dog. They soon discover that the metal creatures have an incurable disease and are infecting everyone. The infected turn into zombies and try to infect anyone they can get their hands on. Barricading themselves in a building, Paul, Mark, and three other students are barely able to escape. It's a new world now, and they must adapt quickly to survive.

Wooding not only tells a story of horror and fear, but one of strength and courage. Each chapter is split into sections, mimicking how the disease spreads in stages. Because there are several main characters, the author switches perspectives to hook readers into the story. The theme of *Silver* centers on man vs. man and man vs. himself. Not only do the students have to fight off their infected peers, but they also have to look past their differences and work hard as a team. Paul and Mark experience a lot of inner conflict as they try to overcome family loss and seek social acceptance. Overall, a very wonderful book for those who want a heart-racing thrill as these teens try to beat all odds.

*Contains moderate language.