



## Speedwell

*Alex Martin*

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Living in the fast lane tests everyone's limits

Katy and Jem enter the 1920's with their future in the balance. How can they possibly make their new enterprise work? They must risk everything, including disaster, and trust their gamble will pay off.

Cassandra, juggling the demands of a young family, aging parents and running Cheadle Manor, distrusts the speed of the modern age, but Douglas races to meet the new era, revelling in the freedom of the open road. Can each marriage survive the strain the new dynamic decade imposes? Or will the love they share deepen and carry them through? They all arrive at destinies that surprise them in Speedwell, the third book in the Katherine Wheel trilogy.

## **Speedwell Details**

Date : Published July 30th 2015 (first published July 25th 2015)

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Author : Alex Martin

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## **From Reader Review Speedwell for online ebook**

### **Jules says**

Can't wait to read (fingers crossed) Woodbine & Ivy .

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### **Gary David Reed says**

#### **Read all three of the series.**

I became caught up in this series. A few very late nights still up and reading. All characters were very well developed. I need Kleenex at times, but that's what tells you your in love with these characters. I would have liked to know more about the manor and the children. What happened with the other dear ones. Do you think another book might let us know the answers ? Will definitely recommend to friends.

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### **Suzanne J says**

Loved this series...very well written, informative and well-drawn out characters

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### **Mary Byrnes says**

#### **Great story**

I only hope that the next book comes. I love these characters and their stories. I finished this one in one day as well. Would love to read more about their lives. The setting was great and the historical aspects were very interesting to read.

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### **Cindy Norris says**

The only thing I can use to relate this to, is the beginning of Chitty, Chitty Bang Bang. In my mind I see those rattley, old cars whipping around the corners of the road, as they pushed the limits of what the current engineering could do. Another great book that kept me interested in the characters and their lives.

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### **Carol Rioux says**

#### **Heartbreak and Happiness**

This was a fitting end to this trilogy. I enjoyed meeting all the characters in the Katherine Wheel books.

Every character has their flaws, but with the exception of three characters you will root for them to overcome sadness and find a happy ending.

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### **Patricia Morse says**

Piece Lilly and Daffodils are the 1st and 2nd books to this series. Awesome books. You will love, laugh and cry.

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### **Judith Barrow says**

Wow, to put it in the vernacular of the era of Speedwell, what a rip-roaring book. I loved it. Weaved against the background of life in the nineteen twenties, the story of the protagonist, Katy Phipps, continues with as many joys and tragedies that have haunted her all her life. It is obvious that Alex Martin has done her research thoroughly of the world in which her characters move. In this latest of the Katherine Wheel novels the characters have grown and developed. The story of Katy and Jem, struggling to make a success of their garage, of the affluent Cassandra Flintock-Smythe and her American husband Douglas, living in style on their Wiltshire estate, run parallel - but are inextricably joined together. As I read, I felt the various emotions that they did; the laughter, the triumphs, the anger, the despair. I've loved all three of this author's books; I admire her style of writing and the density of sense of place. But I have to say, this one is my favourite. I don't give spoilers in my reviews but here's just a hint; fortunes can be changed. And the joys of success can sometimes go hand in hand with utter sorrow. I thoroughly recommend Alex Martin's Speedwell.

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### **Karen Kepner says**

#### **Third in the Katherine Wheel series**

Follow Katy, Jen, Cassandra and Douglas through trials and tragedy, failure and success as the series name finally makes sense. Kids growing, world expanding. Characters and story well developed. On to the last book!

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### **Nancy Knox says**

#### **Enjoyed it**

I really enjoyed the third book in this series. I'm hoping there is a fourth book as the ending left a few unanswered questions. I wasn't sure I would like it as well with the racing theme but it blended into the story well. I would recommend all three books.

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### **Eddi says**

This third book wasn't quite as engaging to me as the other two, though I did wish the series continued! What was most interesting was to read about the impact of the automobile on community life. During the war Katy had worked as an ambulance mechanic. Jem returned home with a wooden prosthetic arm, and thus could not return to his beloved work as a farmer. They eventually started a new venture, selling gasoline and repairing cars along a roadway. Although difficult to get established, this was a case of being in the right place at the right place. Katy, Jem, Cass and her husband, Doug began participating in a new pastime of car racing, and then working on the development of leak-proof rubber seals for hydraulic brakes. It was interesting to read about a problem (leaky brakes), and how Katy problem-solved to come up with a way to solve it. Then they struggled to create a process to develop, manufacture and sell their product. It was difficult, to say the least, and resulted in tragedies as well as triumphs.

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### **Shelly N says**

#### **Can't Wait for Book 4!**

I am in love with these characters. This series could go on forever and I'd be perfectly happy to follow to the end. (But I don't want it to end)

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### **pat goode says**

#### **Enjoyed**

Was good to see what happens to Jem and Katy :) , very sad its the end of the series , hope she will write more

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### **Sydney Trimble says**

A little much of that racing stuff for me, but still an outstanding book!!

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### **Anne Marie Macdonald says**

A fantastic book as are the others in the series. I can't wait for book 4 to come out. A great everyday story set just after the war with the hardships of starting again. A real page turner.

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