



Digital Velocity

Reily Garrett

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The deadliest weapons are the ones we never see.

Keyboard prodigy, Lexi Donovan has risen from teenage orphan of the streets to complete independence with little help along the way. When a friend is threatened, Lexi's anonymous message sends police into a firefight, leading to a wounded cop.

Detective Ethan McAllister's well-ordered life turned upside down the day an obscure text message led to a sexual predator's identity. Since then, Callouston PD's finest can't trace the elusive hacker. The latest tip leads him to a brutal mutilation and a riddle indicating the identity of the next murder victim.

The dark net houses a playground for the morally depleted and criminally insane. When Lexi discovers the killer's digital betting arena, she finds herself centered in a cyber stalker's crosshairs bearing equal talent.

Street life strengthened Lexi while toughening her protective shell, but nothing could shield her from the shrewd detective forging a path to her heart.

Digital Velocity Details

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From Reader Review Digital Velocity for online ebook

Christine says

Well, it was time to go outside the box again, and for this go around I selected a romantic suspense novel, Digital Velocity, which is book #1 in the new McAllister Justice series. It is also a police procedural, my favorite genre of all, so, OK, I cheated a bit. In any event, I had a good time with Digital Velocity.

Just prior to digging into this one, I read the prequel novella to the series, Tender Echoes. The prequel introduces us to hacker extraordinaire Lexi, who plays a big role in book #1, and briefly introduces us to the five McAllister brothers. Four are members of the police, and one is a PI. There is also a sister who is an attorney. The McAllister brothers are tightly knit and love to banter and kiddingly insult each other. Ethan McAllister, a police detective and fourth brother, takes center stage in Digital Velocity, along with Lexi.

I really liked these characters. The brotherly ribbing is on the corny side, but that's OK. Ethan's partner Lerrick, a bit of a cowboy type, is a good add to the mix. We get to know Ethan, and especially Lexi, really well, which is a big plus in my book. Both Ethan and Lexi have dogs, Diego and Hoover.

The plot is a good one, though pretty straightforward in that there are not a lot of threads to resolve. Lexi is anonymously feeding cybertips to Ethan in hopes that he can use the info to crack the case of a repeat killer. Eventually, necessity brings Lexi and Ethan together. At that point we get a slow buildup to a highly suspenseful and thrilling climax. In fact, the whole last half of the book had me on needles. The characters at a late point in the story were in such a predicament I saw no way out; that kept the pages turning pretty darn fast!

Ms. Garrett obviously put a lot of time into researching cutting edge technology and the dark web, which are heavily featured here (in a very readable way). As an aside, as I was reading this story, it struck me how technology has partnered with evil to create a much more frightening and violent world than just a few decades ago. A very sad state of affairs in my opinion. It makes one wonder if the marvels of technology are really worth it.

There are two areas where I am in disagreement with most of the readers who have already posted reviews. The majority loved the descriptive passages and Ms. Garrett's writing style. To me there is a little too much description, and the flow suffers on occasion from cumbersome phraseology. On the other hand, several readers found the first half of the book too slow. I actually really enjoyed the build up of the plot and the time taken to develop the two main characters.

I thought the romance arc was exceptionally well done (though I don't have much to compare it with other than the one erotica book I read) with the emphasis on the feelings between Ethan and Lexi rather than pure lust. The sex scenes sizzle in an emotional way.

Overall, I enjoyed my foray into romantic suspense. I highly recommend that Tender Echoes, a fast read, be read prior to Digital Velocity as it provides an excellent introduction to Lexi and her cyber connection with Ethan. I'm very curious to see where Ms. Garrett goes with the next story—perhaps she will feature one of the other McAllister cops?

I recommend Digital Velocity for all fans of romantic suspense.

Victoria says

DIGITAL VELOCITY IS BOOK 2 IN THE MCALLISTER JUSTICE SERIES. I REALLY LOVE THIS SERIES. IT HAS EVERYTHING YOU WANT IN A GREAT READ. IT IS FAST PACED, LOTS OF ACTION, MURDER, SUSPENSE, ROMANCE AND WONDERFUL CHARACTERS. I LOVE ETHAN AND LEXI. BOTH ARE COMPLEX CHARACTERS ESPECIALLY LEXI WHO HAS LIVED A HARD LIFE. I FELT THAT LEXI IS REALLY AMAZING AND STRONG. DESPITE EVERYTHING SHE HAS BEEN THROUGH, SHE REMAINS STRONG AND CONTINUES TO USE HER SKILLS TO HELP OTHERS. ETHAN IS A VERY DETERMINED COP WHO IS OUT TO CATCH A SERIAL KILLER. EVEN BEING SHOT, DOES NOT DETER HIM. ETHAN AND LEXI ARE DEFINITELY MEANT TO BE TOGETHER AND THEIR CHEMISTRY IS SO STRONG. TOGETHER THEY CAN OVERCOME ANYTHING. I REALLY LOVED WATCHING THEIR ROMANCE AND LOVE DEVELOP SLOWLY. ETHAN WAS VERY PROTECTIVE OF LEXI BUT UNDERSTOOD HER NEED FOR HER OWN INDEPENDENCE. HE GAVE HER THE SPACE SHE NEEDED AND DID NOT TRY TO CONTROL HER. WHAT AN AMAZING MAN! WILL ETHAN AND LEXI BE ABLE TO STOP THE KILLER BEFORE ITS TOO LATE NOW THAT LEXI IS THE TARGET?

DIGITAL VELOCITY WAS A FAST READ FOR ME AND I THOUGHT THE SECOND BOOK WAS EVEN BETTER THAN THE FIRST. I LOVED LEARNING MORE ABOUT THE MCALLISTER BROTHERS AND A SISTER. I THOUGHT THE BROTHERS WERE REALLY CUTE AND ADORABLE WITH THEIR CONSTANT TEASING AND BICKERING. WHAT A CLOSE KNIT FAMILY. I WOULD LOVE TO READ EACH OF THE BROTHERS AND SISTER'S STORIES.

DIGITAL VELOCITY IS A MUST READ. IF YOU ARE LOOKING FOR A GREAT BOOK FILLED WITH MURDER, SUSPENSE, ACTION, ROMANCE AND SOME AMAZING CHARACTERS. YOU WILL LOVE THE AUTHOR'S WRITING. SHE DRAWS YOU INTO THE STORY WITH HER WORDS AND CREATES THESE AMAZING COMPLEX CHARACTERS AND STORY LINES. YOU WILL BE ON THE EDGE OF YOUR SEAT GUESSING WHAT IS GOING TO HAPPEN NEXT. WHAT A WONDERFUL SERIES

Strider28 says

I loved this book! Author Reily Garrett sucks you into this book from page one until the very end! Digital Velocity is a series that will each be a standalone book but with many of the same characters. There is a family with four very protective alpha males and their awesome sister.

In this book Homicide detective Ethan McAllister keeps getting tips for murders from an anonymous source. Unfortunately the tips are sometimes too late.

After one gruesome murder that is personal for the tipster she finally comes forward but only to Ethan. It turns out Lexi is a computer whiz and has been learning about these crimes on the dark web. But the more time Lexi spends searching for clues in the dark web the faster the killer escalates his killing spree.

With the help of Ethan and later his brothers Lexi begins to try and play the killer's sick game. This puts her in extreme danger and as Ethan's feelings for Lexi grow he's determined to keep her safe. But with another computer genius on the loose, one who always seems to be one step ahead of them can he really keep Lexi safe?

The mystery and intrigue of this book kept me on the edge of my seat! I could not put this book down.

Trying to figure out who the killer was about drove me crazy.

I loved the characters in this book. Ethan was so protective of Lexi but Lexi was strong and independent. She led the way in the investigation using her internet skills. There is some comic relief in that Ethan and two of his brothers are in law enforcement and don't want to know about Lexi's illegal hacking into so many computers.

I can't wait for the next installment of this series to come out!

I reviewed this book voluntarily.

Sabrina Marlborough says

I want to first thank you, author, for reaching out to me and asking me for the privilege to review Digital Velocity. The first of the McAllister Justice series and I am curious to see where the series goes next. An engaging read and kept my attention throughout. Super climatic (no pun intended). Both the action and romantic elements are super intriguing and captivating.

Mandi Schreiner says

I have to dnf this. The beginning is just a bit too - chaotic or jumbled. I can't get into it.

Petula says

Detective Ethan McAllister and his partner are on their way to a possible crime in progress. An anonymous online source has given him the information. What they find when they get there proves they are dealing with a particularly vicious and sick minded individual. Is his anonymous tipster involved or not??.

Lexie Donovan is a hacker who stumbled across a killer's website. She has done her best to hide her identity, but he has her in his sights.

This is a seriously scary and clever killer our hero is after. Can our heroine trace him before he makes her the star of his latest work??

Once you start this you will not be able to put it down. Although there is a bit of tech speak in it, it's not enough to confuse us that are not so well versed. There is also no possible way you can guess the killer until our author tells you who it is.

A really intense read, I loved it.

Aly says

This is my first book from this author. I enjoyed this book very much. Lexi Donovan and Ethan McAllister are great characters. The dark net is not new but is a great setting for scenes in this book. I thought this book was very up to date for the times and I enjoyed trying to guess what would happen next in this book (which I try to do in many books I read). A little sweet romance was a good addition in this book for me as well. This book has quite a bit to be proud of for me. I enjoyed this book and would read more from this author. * I received this book from the author and this is my honest review*

Vickie says

3.5 Stars

The deadliest weapons are the ones we never see.

Digital Velocity is book one in Reily Garrett's McAllister Justice Series although it was slow paced to start with once the pace picked up I couldn't put it down.

Ethan McAllister is a police detective who is on the hunt for a serial killer. When he and his partner Lerrick Robertson receive an anonymous tip off about a possible robbery they get more than they bargained for. Leaving Ethan shot.

Lexi Donovan has risen from a teenage orphan living on the streets to a keyboard prodigy, sending anonymous tips to the police the last thing she wanted to do was get one of them shot but when she discovers the "Dark Net" houses a playground for the morally depleted and criminally insane she has no choice but to turn up at Ethan's door and try to discover their identities once and for all.

Romantic suspense is one of my favourite genres and I wasn't disappointed with this one. Although it was slowed paced to start and at times didn't really hold my interest I decided to keep reading and was glad I was as once the pace picked up I could put it down. Overall an enjoyable read. A well thought out plot with likeable characters. I will continue with the series.

Recommended to fans of romantic suspense.

Arc provided courtesy of the Author in exchange of an honest review for Words Turn Me On

Guilty Pleasures Book Reviews says

First let me say that there is a free novella called Tender Echoes that sets up Digital Velocity, it's not a romance, it solely gives you background on the characters in DV. You can read Digital Velocity without reading Tender Echoes, however Tender Echoes is a quick read and FREE.

Digital Velocity started out slow for me, I kept reading because I was intrigued by Ethan, Lexi and the secondary characters, about halfway through the pace picked up and I could not put the book down.

Lexi has lived an extremely hard life and is very guarded. She is loyal to those who helped her survive life on the streets and determined to help as many people as she can with her ability to hack into pretty much anything, illegally. Ethan is a hard core, straight edged police officer who is determined to solve every case that comes his way. Lexi sends Ethan anonymous tips to solve crimes, until one crime forces her to reveal herself to Ethan. They team up to solve this murder but have to tread lightly because they are on opposite

sides of the law. Their undeniable hot chemistry makes it impossible for them to not fall for each other. Ethan is everything I would want in a man, he is sexy, alpha and protective, while still letting Lexi have the space she needs to do her job and be the strong woman she is. I loved Ethan, his partner and his family, their interactions adds some comedy to a truly suspenseful story.

With characters you can't help but love, amazing chemistry and a plot that will keep you guessing until the end, Digital Velocity is a must read for romantic suspense fans!

Review copy provided for a voluntary review.

Tammy Tate says

Digital Velocity is a suspenseful tale about two detectives responding to an anonymous tip to do a welfare check on a local resident. Upon arriving, the detectives, who have been partners for three years, take humorous jabs at each other as they search the grounds and try to get a glimpse inside the house to substantiate concern for the woman's well being.

After seeing blood spatter and her motionless body on the kitchen floor through a window it gives them probably cause to enter. They soon learn they are not alone. Two masked intruders are still inside the house. One of the men they subdue and the other flees but not before delivering an unexpected shotgun blast to Ethan's thigh.

The home invasion raises many questions for Det. Sanders. Especially with a killer terrorizing the Pacific Northwest.

I highly recommend this action packed thriller to anyone searching for a well-written story abundant with superb description and witty dialog.

Julie says

This is the first book I've read by Reily Garrett and while I jump into this one totally blind, I really didn't know what to expect on these pages. I found the blurb to be pretty interesting, so when the author asked me to give it a read, I jumped on it.

The beginning of the book was a little slow for me and I think that it's because you're meeting multiple characters and you're caught in a game of catch up at first while you're delving into the plot. It's all completely necessary information but it did slow the book down a little bit for me. I found out after the fact that there is a novella that precedes this book. While I'm under the impression that it's not a "must read" for the series, I'm fairly certain that the back story included in that novella would have enriched what I was reading in this one and maybe make things seem more like a reintroduction rather than an overwhelming jumble.

Now once you get into the book and past the beginning where you're meeting everyone, things do speed up. I was blowing through pages but then it slows down again and speeds up. I soon found myself on a literary roller coaster. Which made the book lag and then add in the fact that personally, it was just a little too descriptive and you have another lag. I just prefer to have a lot of excitement and a book that chugs along at a fairly quick pace. I'm pretty sure it's because I have to put down and then pick up whatever I'm reading multiple times throughout the day so I need something that chugs along quickly or I become lost and bored within the plot.

The characters were okay. I really didn't have this massive connection to Lexi and like I said before, I'm pretty sure I would feel differently if I had read the novella. Apparently, that is where you get to know Lexi on a deeper level and really dive into who she is and what her motivations are. I did like Ethan but ... this will sound weird ... I liked him better when he was with his brothers. When you first meet Ethan's brothers ... you'll fall in love with them immediately. I'm totally serious; all of them were absolutely fabulous and the camaraderie between them was wonderfully ornery and endearing. So when Ethan was with his brothers, the story came to life for me.

When it comes down to it, I think that the reason this wasn't a five star book for me was because it was a little too descriptive for my tastes and I didn't really connect with the main characters. But those are all just personal things and this book is rated highly on Goodreads and Amazon, so don't take just my word for it.

** I received this novel in exchange for an honest review **

Check out more of my reviews at Little Miss Bookmark!

Siobhan says

Digital Velocity was a truly wonderful read, a prime example of why Reily Garrett quickly became one of my favourite authors. Before I give an in-depth review, however, I which to make a couple of quick points.

First up: I was fortunate enough to be given the chance to beta read this story. It was my first time beta reading, and I found it to be a wonderful introduction to the world of beta reading. My rating and review, however, are not influenced by this fact.

Second: it's a very strong four-star read, and could have been a five-star rating were I kinder with my five star ratings. I so rarely give out five star ratings. With this one, I opted out of doing so because it's not my favourite Reily Garrett read. Yes, it's a very strong four-star rating, but I didn't quite love it as much as I loved her Carnal Obsession book. As I did not give her Carnal Obsession a five-star rating, I realised I couldn't quite give this a five-star rating. Despite this, it's left me with the firm belief that Reily Garrett will one day be one of the few authors to pull a five star rating from me.

Third, and finally: you should go and give Tender Echoes a read. Tender Echoes is a wonderful prequel to this story. Although not a necessity, it is certainly a worthwhile read. Truthfully, I read it after reading Digital Velocity and enjoyed it just as much after the fact as I would have if I'd read it first. Still, it makes more sense to read it first.

Now, onto the important stuff. How I felt about this one.

Digital Velocity is the first book in the McAllister Justice series. After just one book, I'm super excited to see where the series goes next. I know from prior Reily Garrett books that she writes a wonderful series, and this series is promising to be just as addictive as her other work. Honestly, I cannot wait to get my hands on the next book. The sooner I can read it, the sooner I'll be a happy fangirl. Without a doubt, Reily Garrett has guaranteed I'll be following another of her series.

Digital Velocity has many of the trademarks of her Carnal series. There's lots of action. There are many hot moments. There's beautiful chemistry. Digital Velocity is without the kink seen in the Carnal series. Such a thing fails to lessen the impact of this story though. The romance is just as steamy, leaving you more than pulled into the story.

From the moment you start, you're unable to put the story down. There's so much mystery and suspense that you're constantly one edge to see what happens next. It's a gritty read, with events happening back to back. Every time you think things may be calming, you're hit with another element of the story. The suspense and action of this story is done so well, undoubtedly leaving you pulled in. I really don't want to say too much about it, because of spoilers, but know the story will leave you addicted and second-guessing. It's more than worth the read if you're a lover of suspense.

Of course, it's a romantic suspense. Fear not lovers of the romantic element, as that is just as well done. As I've already said, it's a steamy read. There's so much more to it than the simple joining of bodies, though. The chemistry between the main characters is wonderful, and watching as they slowly come to trust each other is so enjoyable. Kendra and Connor are still my favourite Reily Garrett couple, but Ethan and Lexi are certainly a strong second place. I was just as addicted to the romance element of the story as I was the action.

Overall, Digital Velocity is another wonderful Reily Garrett read. It is a wonderful standalone read, whilst ensuring you want more in the form of the rest of the McAllister Justice series.

Mary Meredith says

I dove into digital velocity from the beginning excited about the murder, mystery, and who done it style. It certainly didn't disappoint and I was guessing right up until the murderer made it known. I had suspicions along the way, but didn't count on the killer being who they were.

This story covers the meeting of Lexi and Ethan. We also got to me the whole McAllister clan and although a small part, I hope we get more about their Mom and sister. This big family was always making sure their younger brother, Ethan, was harassed and looked out for in any way possible.

Lexi fell into helping Ethan after he helped her once before. This story is the prequel novella and I would like to check it out. I feel we will learn more about Lexi. She has a background that is jaded, guarded, and lonely. All this makes her into a character that has severe trust issues unless it involves a computer or a dog. There is a sick twisted killer about in this small town and Ethan and his partner must stop the killer before they go on a spree. Ethan's partner provided much comedic relief during some tense times while investigating. This investigation will have you looking at clues with them and forming your own plan of who did it and why.

The story was well written with vivid imagery and wordage. While I found it riveting at times, it wasn't until I was almost halfway through that it picked up and moved along. I found the first half a little sluggish for me personally. There was suspense, drama, love, and tragedy. I would recommend this to anyone that enjoys romantic suspenseful reads.

Rosie Amber says

Digital Velocity is book #1 in the McAllister Justice series of American police crime. The book is set in Callouston city and opens with police officers Ethan McAllister and his partner Lerrick acting on an anonymous tip-off.

They find the body of a brutally tortured, abused woman, and get caught in crossfire from two intruders. Ethan takes a bullet in his leg, but they do take down one of the men. Feeling guilty that Ethan got shot, anonymous caller Lexi visits him in hospital to apologise. In a past incident, Ethan had put away the pimp who had threatened Lexi, and enabled freedom for some friends of hers. He's earned her respect.

Lexi works in computing and is an expert hacker. The dead women had previously taken a chance on Lexi, helping her get out of the gutter, get a home, a job and a better life. Lexi owes it to Frannie to help find her killer; but she's unwilling to become more than a secret informant.

With Ethan on sick leave until his leg recovers, he slowly gains Lexi's confidence and the pair work together behind the investigation scenes. Lexi digs deep through the dark net in an unsavoury world of hackers and villains, and discovers a site boasting about the murder and taking bids on video footage for the next victim. However, the perpetrator is clever, and she can't find out anything about him through her back door methods.

Romantic feelings grow between Ethan and Lexi as they work alongside Ethan's police brothers and his partner. Possible clues lead them to frustrating dead ends, and the victim list grows, until Lexi makes one too many illegal moves and becomes next on the murderers agenda. Can Ethan keep his promise to keep her safe?

This is a good solid murder mystery, written in a relaxed style with plenty of banter and innuendo between the male characters. There is a good twist at the end and some believable red herrings along the way. The author draws from her own experiences as a private investigator and member of the military police, to add an authentic touch to the incidents and procedures. A good start to the series.

Books Laid Bare says

4.5 Stars

Kicking off a new series from Reily Garrett, Digital Velocity has everything that you could possibly be looking for.

Ethan McAllister is a cop and a darn good one but when he is shot at the site of an anonymous tip off, it opens up a whole new direction for his personal and professional life.

Lexi was the one that supplied the tip off that led to Ethan and his partner Lerrick discovering not only the body of a woman but also being caught in the hail of bullets that ensued. Feeling more than a little responsible for the fact that one of the good guys on the force is injured.

Ethan helped her in past and she has never forgotten that when she needed someone to believe and help her, it was Ethan that did just that and helped not only her but others to escape a situation that had potentially dire consequences for them all.

Frannie had been important to Lexi in a way that she had never been able to repay, so now that she was gone, Lexi felt as if she owed it to her to help track down her killer but she was happy behind her computer screen, the face to face stuff, well that was where Ethan came into play.

His getting shot meant that they had time to spend together working the details of the case as his leg recovered and the more time they spent together the more connected their feeling became. Digging behind the scenes, she uses her skills as a hacker to search the internet for clues to help Ethan and the force to bring Frannie's killer to justice but all that rooting around means that she is suddenly front and centre in the investigation and firmly in the cross hairs of the killer with a target will a truly painted on her back.

The struggle now was one that no-one could have anticipated because now Ethan had to face the fact that he had to keep her safe, all the while trying to track down the killer before he strikes again?

There is a lot that I could say, not only about the storyline but also about the pace and style of the book but in all honesty, this is a story that should be experienced, the depth of detail and authenticity of the actions and incidents were second to none. I thought the author was able to place me centrally into the storyline and to orchestrate the story all around me, I felt engaged and engulfed. Ethan and Lexi were superb but I thoroughly enjoyed all the sharp banter that all of the guys brought to the page. These were guys that I wanted to spend time with and that I would have loved to have been a fly on the wall in the squad room with, they called it as they saw it and took their opportunities when they were presented.

A superb start to the series, can't wait for the next book!!
