

Mad Max: Fury Road

Spine

Apocalypse wandering Max inadvertently gets swept up in a revolution where he must decide between saving his own skin and those that need his protection in a world that he has rejected.

Act 1

In a brief car battle, Max is captured by marauders in the desert wastelands near Fury Road. He is taken to the stronghold of Immortan Joe, cult leader of a group of pale war boys and grudging provider of water and nutrition for a rabble of wastelanders. Max attempts an escape, running through the inner tunnels of the mountain stronghold and fighting off war boys as he goes, but is re-captured, chained, and labeled a feral blood-bag as he is found to be O-, a universal donor. Max is strung up and a stent is put in his head for transfusing blood from him to the sick war boys.

Act 2

A resource gathering party is sent out by Immortan Joe to gather supplies from neighboring Gas Town and Bullet Town. Lead by Imperator Furiosa, a minor leader within Immortan Joe's cult, one of the convoys goes off course from its supply route and starts heading into enemy territory, much to the concern of the convoy's participants. Imperator Furiosa, it turns out, is secretly smuggling Immortan Joe's harem of wives away to safety. Immortan Joe is furious at Furiosa's betrayal and the war boys are deployed to bring them back. However, the war boys are defeated when Furiosa intentionally drives directly into a gigantic desert sandstorm which tosses the war boys cars around like leaves. Furiosa's larger war rig survives.

Act 3

Max, who was brought to battle as a mobile blood-bag for a war boy named Nux, also survives the storm. Seeing Furiosa's war rig as a means for escape and saving himself, assaults Immortan Joe's wives and holds them hostage, forcing Furiosa to help Max escape as they both flee the approaching war party sent out by Immortan Joe and the leaders of Gas Town and Bullet Town. Having a common enemy, Furiosa and Max begin to rely on each other to reach a legendary safe haven, the Green Place, but are devastated to find that the Green Place no longer exists--having been taken over by the ever growing wastelands. Max, Furiosa, the wives and survivors of the Green Place band together to take over the one place that still has water, Immortan Joe's stronghold. Realizing that all his war boys and reinforcements are out in the wastelands trying to recapture his wives, Immortan Joe is horrified to see Furiosa racing back and engages them in battle, only to be slaughtered, along with his allies, by Furiosa's party. Furiosa and Max display the dead cult leader's body at his stronghold to the remaining war boys, proving that oppressive, Immortan Joe was no god. They are received as heroes. Max sneaks off during the chaos to continue his wandering.

Interest

The story of Mad Max: Fury Road matters to me because the world is so different from our current one, with different lands that specialize in one or two things and nothing but suffering in between them. Max and Furiosa banding together to fight off tyranny in a world decaying is an inspiring story of hope in a hopeless place. Max and Furiosa are also badasses, and that helps keep it interesting if a bit ridiculous at times.