



Chasing the Falconers (On the Run)

By Gordon Korman

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Two kids break out of a juvenile detention center and become fugitives in order to clear their convicted parents' names in this heartstopping series from kid-read master Gordon Korman.

Aidan and Meg Falconer are their parents' only hope. The Falconers are facing life in prison -- unless Aidan and Meg can follow a trail of clues to prove their innocence. The problem? Right now they're trapped in a juvenile detention center. Until they escape one night -- and find themselves on the run, both from the authorities and from a sinister attacker t who has his own reason to stop them. The Falconers must use their wits to make it across the country ... with plenty of tests along the way.

Gordon Korman takes readers into FUGITIVE territory -- with thrilling results.

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Chasing the Falconers (On the Run) By Gordon Korman Bibliography

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Editorial Review

From School Library Journal

Grade 4-7—In what CNN called the trial of the new millennium, Aiden and Meg Falconer's parents were convicted of treason and sentenced to life in jail. Respected criminologists with PhDs, they were asked by CIA Agent Frank Lindenauer to develop profiles that would help U.S. operatives identify terrorist cells throughout the world. He disappeared, and the FBI charged the Falconers with passing classified information to enemies. Their children were placed in a juvenile detention facility in Nebraska for their own safety. When the novel opens, they have been at Sunnysdale Farm for four months. Aiden accidentally lights the place on fire and they escape. He remembers that nine years earlier he hid a picture of Lindenauer, known to him as Uncle Frank, in their summer house on Lake Champlain. If they can find him, perhaps they can prove their parents' innocence. With no plan and no money, they set off for Vermont. The police are in hot pursuit, but Aiden and Meg, along with another escapee, Miguel, elude them in one close call after another. At the book's abrupt and unresolved ending, the kids make it to their destination, where Miguel, mistaken for Aiden, is shot by a mysterious intruder. Short on character development and at times melodramatic and straining credulity in the children's ability to elude authorities, this is a fast-paced, action-packed adventure that kids will read in one sitting. Appropriate for reluctant readers and those addicted to television action shows, it is the first in a projected six-title series.—*Connie Tyrrell Burns, Mahoney Middle School, South Portland, ME*

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From [Booklist](#)

Gr. 4-7. After their parents' conviction for treason in a high-profile case, Aiden and Meg Falconer were given a different last name and placed at Sunnysdale Farm, a juvenile corrections facility in Nebraska. Still, they remain convinced of their parents' innocence. At the first opportunity, they escape and make their way across the country toward the family's summer cottage in Vermont. With little chance of evading detection, the children do whatever it takes (lying, breaking and entering, hopping a freight train) to remain free and gather evidence that might overturn their parents' conviction. The sympathetic though quickly sketched characters lead readers on an exciting chase that becomes more intense as they near the cottage. There, the young fugitives learn that they now have two pursuers: the police and a mysterious man who wants to kill them. When this fast-paced adventure ends, rather abruptly, some readers will theorize about the man's identity, while others will simply wait expectantly for the second book in the projected six-volume On the Run series. *Carolyn Phelan*

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Review

Booklist

(May 15, 2005; 0-439-65136-0)

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fugitives learn that they now have two pursuers: the police and a mysterious man who wants to kill them. When this fast-paced adventure ends, rather abruptly, some readers will theorize about the man's identity, while others will simply wait expectantly for the second book in the projected six-volume *On the Run* series.
--Carolyn Phelan Copyright 2005 Booklist

Publishers Weekly
(May 2, 2005; 0-439-65136-0)

Korman gets his *On the Run* series off to a snappy start with this quick-moving caper. Fifteen-year-old Aiden Falconer and his 11-year-old sister, Meg, have been exiled to a juvenile detention center in rural Nebraska since their parents were sentenced to life in prison. (They are criminologists who were recruited by the CIA to help identify international terrorist sleeper cells, and were falsely convicted of treason.) The siblings believe they can clear their parents' names if only they can track down Frank Lindenauer, an old family friend and CIA operative who recruited the couple and then disappeared. But first Aiden and Meg must escape from the center. They get their chance when Aiden inadvertently starts a fire, and the ensuing chaos allows them to slip away into the night. The twists and turns of their mission and the police in hot pursuit contribute to a pageturner of a plot. A few coincidences and some implausible luck cut into the tale's credibility, but its deftly honed suspense and the protagonists' likable personalities will keep kids hooked. Though they may feel let down by the story's dangling conclusion, readers are apt to reach for the series' next installment, *The Fugitive Factor* (0-439-65137-9), due out in June. Ages 9-12. (Apr.) Copyright 2005 Reed Business Information.

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Users Review

From reader reviews:

Edward Capps:

Do you have something that you enjoy such as book? The guide lovers usually prefer to opt for book like comic, small story and the biggest some may be novel. Now, why not striving *Chasing the Falconers* (*On the Run*) that give your satisfaction preference will be satisfied by simply reading this book. Reading practice all over the world can be said as the means for people to know world a great deal better then how they react towards the world. It can't be explained constantly that reading routine only for the geeky individual but for

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Lupita Kirch:

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James Smith:

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