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Gordon Korman

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#1120335 in Books Turtleback 2009-04-15Original language:EnglishPDF # 1 7.40 x .80 x 4.90l, .55
Binding: Library Binding256 pages | File size: 66.Mb

Gordon Korman : Swindle (Turtleback School Library Binding Edition) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Swindle (Turtleback School Library Binding Edition):

3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. A well-written, fast-paced enjoyable page-turnerBy Daniel BerensonGordon Korman has been around for what? 30 years at least and the guy still knows how to write. SWINDLE comes across like an OCEAN'S ELEVEN or MISSION IMPOSSIBLE for kids.Griffin Bing is "The Man with a Plan," and his plans are often huge. The book starts off with Griffin's plan to spend a night with a bunch of his classmates in a creaky, old, rumored-to-be-haunted, ready-to-be-torn-down house, a plan that doesn't exactly come off with a bang. At least not the one he intended. The only person to show up is Ben Slovak, the runt of the sixth grade and Griffin's best

friend. The first part of the book is intended to draw in youthful readers with gory tales and details of gruesome events that allegedly took place in the house. It works. I've read a few negative comments that the author endorses lying to one's parents and like sentiments. Korman doesn't endorse such behavior; he uses it to create characters. The book is not intended to be hagiography. Find me a child who's never lied to his/her parents. Find me a parent who's never lied to her/his child. Santa Claus, anyone? Anyway, without giving much of the plot away, Griffin finds something quite valuable in the house, but is quickly swindled out of it by a slimy "antiquities" dealer. So Griffin has to concoct another scheme to get his treasure back. Kudos to Korman for his pacing. With a hundred pages to go, the master plan is already being implemented. "How's he going to stretch this thing out that far?" I wondered. But he does, with surprises, twists, screwups, and backstabblings that pop up at breakneck speed throughout the long, climactic event. Of course, much of the overall premise is ludicrous, if you're going to get technical. Everything is timed to the second; missteps can be corrected within two pages, a bad guy's hands are within inches of a treasure right as the good guys steal it away with a Batman or James Bond like device. Real life isn't like this. But this is not written as a realistic crime thriller. It's written for kids and the main thing that will attract them is the fast-paced action in which kids outwit adults. Any of your typical bank heist movies could use whizzes like these. And in the end, good triumphs over evil, Griffin saves the day (though inadvertently), and kids have devoured an entertaining read. I did have some problems keeping all the characters apart at times, but Korman helps by assigning one or two distinctive traits/talents to each character, kind of like a baseball scorecard might assign positions to players. One girl is the climbing expert, another is an "animal whisperer," another has narcolepsy, etc. I also commend him for salting the early part of the story with details that will become important later on. So SWINDLE may not be chock full of vitamins for kids, but it is a very enjoyable bowl of popcorn, perfectly seasoned. If I had this book in sixth grade, I would have loved it. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. A Fun Heist for Middle Grade! By J.S. Roberts When a valuable baseball card is stolen by a swindling store vendor, an unlikely group of kids join forces to get it back. Quirky characters and hilarious mistakes break up the tension as a group of kids face dangerous guard dogs and almost get arrested. A great read for kids looking for adventure! 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. g??o??o??d?? b??o??o??k?? By Rajesh Thatha T??h??i??s?? b??o??o??k?? i??s?? j??u??s??t?? a??m??a??z??i??n??g??. B??u??y?? t??h??i??s?? b??o??o??k?? a??n??d?? y??o??u?? w??i??l??l?? d??o?? y??o??u??r??s??e??l??f?? a?? f??a??v??o??r??. T??h??i??s?? i??s?? c??o??m??i??n??g?? f??r??o??m?? a??n?? e??x??p??e??r??i??e??n??c??e??d?? r??e??a??d??e??r??.

FOR USE IN SCHOOLS AND LIBRARIES ONLY. After a mean collector named Swindle cons him out of his most valuable baseball card, Griffin Bing puts together a band of misfits to break into Swindle's compound and recapture the card.

Praise for the Swindle series: "Goofball-funny and addictive." -Kirkus s "Pure fun from top to bottom." -School Library Journal "Korman's fast moving, feel-good suspense novel will have middle schoolers, especially boys, turning the pages." -Voice of Youth Advocates About the Author Gordon Korman is the author of The 39 Clues Book 2: One False Note, which debuted at #1 on the New York Times bestseller list, and The 39 Clues Book #8: The Emperor's Code. Gordon has written more than sixty books for kids and young adults, including Zoobreak, Swindle, and Son of the Mob, as well as the On the Run series and the Island, Everest, Dive, and Kidnapped trilogies. A native of Ontario, Canada, Korman now lives with his family in Long Island, New York.