



# Masterminds

By Gordon Korman

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"A terrific page-turner, full of unexpected twists and revelations. Buckle up."—James Patterson

The first book in a new action-packed series from *New York Times* bestselling author Gordon Korman is perfect for young fans of James Patterson and John Grisham.

Eli Frieden lives in the most perfect town in the world: Serenity, New Mexico. Honesty and integrity are valued above all else. The thirty kids who live there never lie—they know it's a short leap from that to the awful problems of other, less fortunate places.

Eli has never left Serenity . . . why would he ever want to? Then one day, he bikes to the edge of the city limits and something so crazy and unexpected happens, it changes everything. Eli convinces his friends to help him investigate further, and soon it becomes clear that nothing is as it seems in Serenity. The clues mount to reveal a shocking discovery, connecting their ideal crime-free community to some of the greatest criminal masterminds ever known. The kids realize they can trust no one—least of all their own parents.

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## Masterminds By Gordon Korman Bibliography

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## **Editorial Review**

From School Library Journal

Gr 4–6—Serenity, New Mexico is an idyllic community for all its inhabitants. Everyone has everything they need and no one lies. As the local newspaper boasts, "Serenity Voted #1 in USA for standard of living." Eli has always been happy with his life and never had any reason to want to leave. One day though, while on a bike ride past the outskirts of town with his best friend Randy, Eli begins to feel sick. When he recovers from his illness he discovers that Randy, who convinced him to ride out, has to leave town. Randy tells everyone that he is going to his grandparents' house, but he is acting strange and no longer wants to hang out with Eli. After Randy leaves, Eli finds a note that makes him realize this may not be the perfect town after all. Eli and a few friends begin to uncover secrets and discover that honesty may not be at the heart of Serenity. They also realize that they can't trust anyone, especially not their parents. Korman has created a fun and creative story that delves into the philosophy of what makes us human and whether or not we are defined by our circumstances. Told in alternating voices, readers will get insight into life in Serenity and make life-changing discoveries with the characters. This unique and action-packed story is filled with twists and turns that readers will not see coming. A wonderful start to what promises to be a thrilling series.—Kristyn Dorfman, The Packer Collegiate Institute, Brooklyn, NY

## **Review**

"[A] compelling, twisty mystery . . . [with] a truly gratifying payoff" (Booklist (starred review))

"A terrific page-turner, full of unexpected twists and revelations. Buckle up." (James Patterson)

"Masterminds is a masterpiece - a mind-bending adventure in a shocking but all-too-possible present, a tale of friendship and ultimate sacrifice with characters who will reach inside you and not let go. It's that rare book that scares you to the core while you're laughing your head off." (Peter Lerangis, bestselling author of the Seven Wonders series)

"It's hard to express how much I loved MASTERMINDS without spoiling it. Real characters that make you laugh, twists that genuinely surprise, a plot that reveals itself perfectly. Another instant classic by one of my favorite authors." (James Dashner, bestselling author of the Maze Runner series)

"Masterminds takes readers on wild ride with terrific humor, a surprising mystery, and characters you can't help but root for." (Brandon Mull, #1 New York Times bestselling author of Fablehaven and Five Kingdoms)

"This tense, fast-paced story will have readers racing toward the cliffhanger ending." (Publishers Weekly)

"A fresh premise, good pacing, surprising twists and engaging characters all combine to make this a series worth following." (Kirkus Reviews)

"This unique and action-packed story is filled with twists and turns that readers will not see coming. A wonderful start to what promises to be a thrilling series." (School Library Journal)

Praise for UNGIFTED: "Touching, without being overly sentimental, Ungifted is a gem for readers looking for a story where the underdog comes out on top." (Voice of Youth Advocates (VOYA))

Praise for UNGIFTED: “From its lovable-robot jacket art to its satisfying conclusion, this will please Korman’s fans and win him new ones.” (ALA Booklist)

Praise for UNGIFTED: “Donovan has a goofy kindness that charms characters and readers alike ... The message is tolerance, and Korman expertly and humorously delivers it in an unpretentious and universally appealing tale.” (School Library Journal)

Praise for UNGIFTED: “Funny and insightful.” (Publishers Weekly)

Praise for POP: “A brisk, heartfelt and timely novel.” (The New York Times Book Review)

Praise for POP: “Korman goes straight to the heart.” (Kirkus Reviews (starred review))

Praise for POP: “Thought-provoking.” (Publishers Weekly)

Praise for POP: “Fantastic...Perfectly captures the football experience.” (Newsday)

Praise for POP: “Funny, poignant and full of football action, POP hits you hard and doesn’t let up.” (Tim Green, author of the New York Times bestselling Football Genius and Football Champ)

From the Back Cover

Eli Frieden lives in the most perfect town in the world: Serenity, New Mexico. In this idyllic place, every lawn is perfectly manicured and everyone has a pool and a tree house. Honesty and integrity are valued above all else. The thirty kids who live there never lie—they know it's a short leap from that to the awful problems of other, less fortunate places.

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This is the first book in a thrilling new series from bestselling (noncriminal) mastermind Gordon Korman.

## **Users Review**

**From reader reviews:**

**Bobby Bagwell:**

In this 21st millennium, people become competitive in every single way. By being competitive now, people have to do something to make themselves survive, being in the middle of the crowded place and notice by surrounding. One thing that occasionally many people have underestimated it for a while is reading. That's why, by reading a e-book your ability to survive improve then having chance to stay than other is high. To suit your needs who want to start reading a book, we give you this specific Masterminds book as starter and daily reading publication. Why, because this book is usually more than just a book.

**Melvin Bragg:**

Typically the book Masterminds has a lot details on it. So when you check out this book you can get a lot of benefit. The book was compiled by the very famous author. Tom makes some research previous to write this book. This kind of book very easy to read you can obtain the point easily after scanning this book.

**Phyllis Belser:**

You may spend your free time to see this book this reserve. This Masterminds is simple to bring you can read it in the park, in the beach, train and also soon. If you did not possess much space to bring often the printed book, you can buy often the e-book. It is make you much easier to read it. You can save often the book in your smart phone. And so there are a lot of benefits that you will get when one buys this book.

**Robert Ford:**

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