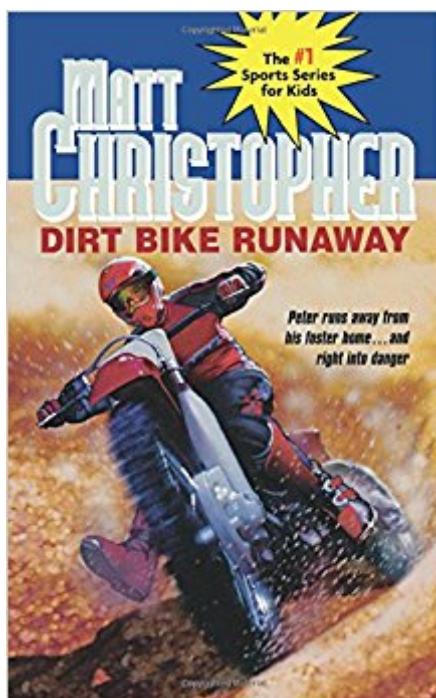


The book was found

# Dirt Bike Runaway (Matt Christopher Sports Classics)



## **Synopsis**

Peter runs away from his foster home ... and right into danger Peter is a genius with dirt bikes. He can take them apart, fix them up, and race them like a champ. But his skill with a bike can take him only so far - and when he runs away from his foster home, he realizes he's in way over his head. He gets mixed up with two dangerous strangers and soon finds himself neck and neck with trouble on and off the racetrack.

## **Book Information**

Series: Matt Christopher Sports Classics (Book 37)

Paperback: 149 pages

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Product Dimensions: 5 x 0.4 x 8 inches

Shipping Weight: 4 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.1 out of 5 stars 23 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #482,926 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #7 in Books > Teens > Literature & Fiction > Sports > Extreme Sports #102 in Books > Teens > Literature & Fiction > Social & Family Issues > Runaways #236 in Books > Teens > Literature & Fiction > Social & Family Issues > Values & Virtues

## **Customer Reviews**

Matt Christopher is the best selling name behind more than 100 sports-themed books for young readers.

Another motivational tool for my classroom library. Several boys didn't want to participate in D.E.A.R. time because they "can't find anything to read." So, I came to and started looking through titles. Matt Christopher popped up as an author of books with a sports theme and I bought several. They were all popular.

It's great. I hope all you dirt bike lovers will read like I said IT IS GREAT thanks for reading

Overall I loved reading this book. I never wanted to put the book down because I was always so

glued to the book and the action in it. The book had accurate descriptions of all motocross bikes and riding techniques. This is very important to me because I felt like I could connect to the book. Throughout the entire story there were twists and turns that made it almost impossible to stop reading. You always feel connected to the characters. The overall premise of the book was sad but made for an amazing plot. If you are a adrenaline junkie who also enjoys a quick read, I would suggest this book immensely. It always keeps you guessing and has the perfect amount of drama, action, comedy and adventure. I know the book says it's intended for ages 8 to 12 but people of all ages will find it entertaining. The book begins slow but rapidly picks up pace and is moving fast just like a dirt bike railing a berm. I still cannot believe how accurate Matt Christopher captured the rush of riding. I could almost smell the exhaust. The book was written with just enough detail to place the image in your mind but still wonder about the next event. The bottom line is whether you ride or not, this is a great read and I would recommend it to anyone looking for a book that not only keeps you entertained that makes it feel as if you are with the main characters every step of the way. I have now read many Matt Christopher books and *Dirt Bike Runaway* is by far my favorite read by Matt Christopher.

My son loves dirt bikes and enjoyed this story. After finishing the book he donated it to his school so other kids can read it.

This book was a great read for my son. He didn't want to put it down, always wanting to find out what happens next! Great Read

This book is so great. I have issues having my boys read, but with this book it made them want to read,

My daughter brought home this book for AR. Since she is reading more than three grade levels above her age, I watch carefully what she is getting into. I had a few concerns after reading the back cover and some of the info on it, so I read the book myself before I let her dive in. I recommend you do the same if you are concerned about what your child reads. There are a number of themes/events that are a little concerning:- underage drinking- abuse of a teenager by other teenagers (including forcing another child to drink alcohol by physical force) and authority figures (headmaster of orphanage)- hotwiring a motorcycle (even though later we get the "innocent explanation" of how this teen knows how to do this)- glamorizing the life of a runaway and

hitchhiking- teens involved in a theft ring (hubcaps, batteries, etc.) that try to coerce and threaten another teen into participating in their illegal activities. The reason that the boy runs away is eventually explained, but it seems to be done in such a way as to make it seem a very reasonable solution to the situation. I don't believe that children the age of the target audience would be able to discern the fact that this was a very poor and very dangerous solution to his problem. In fact, it turns out to be the best thing that ever happened to the main character - not a good message at all. The fact that this is written as such realistic fiction muddies this situation further for the young reader. On a more literary note, the extremely drawn out, jargon filled descriptions of the dirt bike races are likely be terribly tedious to anyone but the most avid dirt bike fans.

UPDATE - 3/19/13 When my daughter was first considering this book, she was 8 years old and in 2nd grade (included in the target audience age listed). Now that she is 10 and in 4th grade, I would be more likely to let her read this book but ONLY with my having read it as well so that we could discuss the key points that I referenced in my initial review. I still feel that it is better suited to a middle school audience (if then) and should be avoided in the primary grades. During the past few years, I have read much better written juvenile fiction, books that would be much more engaging for young men, and many that are less problematic thematically. There are better books out there if you are willing to put in the effort to find them.

Have you ever heard of a dirtbike? Have you ever ridden a dirtbike? If you have then you know how much fun they can be. In the book *Dirtbike Runaway* by the popular fictional sports novelist Matt Christopher, a young boy named Peter gets to live his dreams of riding in a motocross event, makes some lifelong friends, and learns that you can trust no one. Sixteen year old Peter is a foster child who doesn't like sports and doesn't trust anyone. But then a nice family, the Bentleys decides to adopt him. For six months he lives with them, they are the perfect family, or so it seems. After a while, the Bentleys start to work more and more, Peter is left to baby sit their eighteen year old son. The Bentleys son finds some alcohol and wants Peter to have some so Peter runs away. Peter hitchhikes to a nearby town where he stumbles upon a motocross track. There, he is framed and attacked by a bad kid named Dex. Later on Dex causes many problems in Peter's life. It seems like all is lost until Peter meets Giff. Giff understands Peter's problems and becomes his friend. He gives Peter a chance to work on his dirtbike and Peter proves to be a natural. Giff even starts off Peter's motocross career by letting him ride in the motocross events held each Saturday. He even gives Peter somewhere to sleep, and maybe even a home, but you'll have to read the book to find out. I really enjoyed this book and recommend it to anyone who likes books full of action and speed. At

first I was hesitant to read books by a sports author because I don't like sports, but since I own a couple dirtbikes I decided that I'd give it a try. I made the right choice and I even think I might read another novel by a sports author.

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