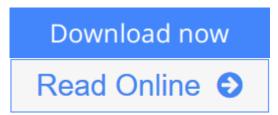


Airman

By Eoin Colfer



Airman By Eoin Colfer

Conor Broekhart was born to fly.

It is the 1890s, and Conor and his family live on the sovereign Saltee Islands, off the Irish coast. Conor spends his days studying the science of flight with his tutor and exploring the castle with the king's daughter, Princess Isabella. But the boy's idyllic life changes forever the day he discovers a deadly conspiracy against the king. When Conor intervenes, he is branded a traitor and thrown into jail on the prison island of Little Saltee. There, he has to fight for his life, as he and the other prisoners are forced to mine for diamonds in inhumane conditions. There is only one way to escape Little Saltee, and that is to fly. So Conor passes the solitary months by scratching drawings of flying machines into the prison walls. The months turn into years, but eventually the day comes when Conor must find the courage to trust his revolutionary designs and take to the skies.



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Airman By Eoin Colfer Bibliography

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Editorial Review

From **Booklist**

Author of the popular Artemis Fowl series, Colfer ventures into slightly different territory in this fantasy, which has the heft of historical fiction; a subset of characters whose physical attributes reflect their evil natures; dry humor; visceral horror; and swashbuckling action that keeps the story from becoming overly dark. Born in the basket of an air balloon, Conor Broekhart is sure he is destined to fly. But at 14, he accidentally witnesses the murder of his tutor and the sovereign of the tiny Saltee Islands where he lives, and everything changes. Villainous Marshall Bonvilain throws him into prison, convincing him that his family believes him guilty of the crime. Thus begins his new life as inmate Conor "Finn," who devotes his considerable abilities to breaking out of prison. Colfer grapples somewhat awkwardly with a few literary issues here: should he, for example, allow his hero to commit murder? There are also huge time gaps that are distracting and occasionally stall momentum. Readers may not notice, however, with so much else going for the book. Grades 10-12. --Stephanie Zvirin

Review

Praise for Airman: 'Swashbuckling high adventure ... His strongest work yet' - Guardian 'Better fun than this will be hard to come by' - The Times 'A classic swashbuckling adventure' - Irish Independent Review Praise for other books by Eoin Colfer: 'Wickedly brilliant' - Independent (on Artemis Fowl) 'As ever, Colfer's story rattles along at a tremendous pace with a cast of eccentric and explosive characters' - Guardian (on The Supernaturalist) 'Unputdownable' - Irish Times (on Half Moon Investigations)

About the Author

Eoin Colfer is the *New York Times* best-selling author of the Artemis Fowl series, *Half Moon Investigations*, *The Supernaturalist, Eoin Colfer's Legend of...* books, *The Wish List, Benny and Omar*; and *Benny and Babe*.

He lives in Ireland with his wife and two children.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Nancy Adams:

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