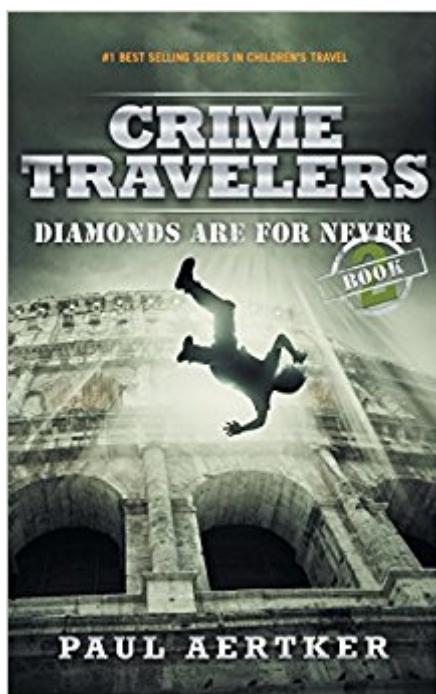


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# **Diamonds Are For Never: Crime Travelers Spy School Mystery Series Book 2 (Crime Travelers: A Lucas Benes Mystery)**



## Synopsis

"An unforgettable page-turner withÂ Â thrilling plots, humor and wild journeys.Â Â " - The Denver PostParents, teachers, and librarians will appreciate theÂ Â worldwide geographyÂ Â and appropriate language forÂ Â Ages: 8 - 14 Grades: 3 - 8Â Â |Â Â #1 best selling travel series for children | NOW WITH ILLUSTRATIVE MAPS!The exciting sequel to the CRIME TRAVELERS SPY SCHOOL MYSTERY SERIES | Also available: BOOK 1: BRAINWASHED & Book 3: PRICELESS |Â Â FUNNY. SMART. ACTION.Â Â If your children love excitement, don&apos;t miss this action-packed series!Lucas Benes is yet again a boy on a mission. After sabotaging a mass kidnapping in Paris, Lucas Benes faces a new and perilous threat from Siba GÃƒÂ nero and her anything-but-good Good Company. When a briefcase-toting kid from the Falkland Islands joins the New Resistance Spy School, 14-year-old Lucas learns the truth about his mother and becomes a boy on a mission.Â Â Lucas and friends speed in and around Rome--from the Colosseum to the Vatican--until they stowaway on a cargo ship carrying diamonds that could unlock the secret to Lucas&apos;s past and destroy the Good Company&apos;s future.In this action-packed second installment of the Crime Travelers mystery series, author Paul Aertker takes readers on a gripping world tour filled with adrenaline, humor, and pure excitement.Diamonds Are For Never is the second book in the bestselling Crime Travelers collection. The first book in the series, Brainwashed (#1 Best Selling Children&apos;s Travel Books), tracks the secret urban adventures of the New Resistance, a network of international teenage spies. This humorous and exciting middle school series with short chapters is perfect for school reading lists. "This mystery book is like a secret diary of lost kids in adverse international settings." A secret spy rider uses Kano, Minecraft, and Psion to help the kids travel the planet. Parents, teachers, and librarians will appreciate the worldwide geography and appropriate language for ages 9 - 14."I am a 5th grade teacher, and this "spy school" series has exciting international plots, interesting characters, great hidden geography lessons, and short chapters that keep the pages turning for middle grade readers. Perfect for summer reading lists."Â Â "If you likedÂ Â Alex Rider, you&apos;ll love Crime Travelers."This middle grade series readsÂ Â like the Bourne Identity, but for kids."Shelve under: books for boys, books for girls, books for kids, travel with kids, books for kids age 9 - 12, books for middle grade, books for boys 9 - 12, books for girls 9 - 12, funny hilarious stories for kids, diary of a wimpy kid readers, reluctant readers, Alex Rider, Minecraft readers, appropriate books for kids, librarian-approved.

## Book Information

Series: Crime Travelers: a Lucas Benes Mystery

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## **Customer Reviews**

A funny and smart spy school mystery series that feels like James Bond in middle school. Librarians should shelve this middle grade series under: books for boys, books for girls, books for kids age 9 - 12, books for middle grade, funny, hilarious stories for kids, diary of a wimpy kid readers, Alex Rider, Minecraft readers, appropriate books for kids, librarian-approved. Diamonds are for Never is a fabulously exciting trip with the New Resistance from Las Vegas to Italy and on! This book touches the adventurer in all of us and although geared toward the preteen (and books for boys or rather series for boys) it is a really fun read for all ages! If you prefer crocheting tea cozies for your bridge group this book is probably not for you. However, if you have a pulse and remember when you dreamt of saving the world, strap on for this amazing ride! I found a book my boys would love! As a mother of three boys, this book is ideal. I'm three quarters of the way through and I know they'll love this whole series!!! This is what summer reading is all about. Fun, action, and high adventure. Reminds me of Nancy Drew and the Hardy Boys. I'm adding this whole series to my summer reading list this year for 4th, 5th, and 6th grade readers.

As a traveler and multilingual teacher, Paul has clocked nearly half his life outside the US. When he was a teenager, he slept on the streets of London to watch a royal wedding. He took the CIA exam because he wanted to be a spy for the good guys (and not the Good Company). He was an au pair in France and built a children's library in Africa. "I write shorter stories that I would have

wanted to read when I was ten, eleven, twelve-- realistic and exciting international espionage novels steeped in mystery, intrigue, and deception. I want children to see that the impossible may, in fact, be possible and that children may have more power than they think. This middle school series is set in international locales because travel has made me feel alive and given me an insatiable curiosity to learn. A former middle school teacher, Aertker says he writes for this age group because he relates to it." I act like a child," he says with a laugh. "My emotional level doesn't really go past age eleven! For me to write for this age group is easy because I can get there pretty quickly."

"Diamonds Are For Never." I'm smiling as I write that title after just finishing Aertker's second rip roaring installment to his brilliant Crime Travelers Series. Read it and you'll know why I'm smiling. Like the first book, Brainwashed, Diamonds is not just a great read, it's a "ride". I couldn't put it down and when I did, I was thinking about what I was missing while my real life was in session. I bought Brainwashed for my children, who read it in a few sittings and ended up reading it myself - and loved it. When Diamonds Are For Never arrived I dove in before the kids and was reminded why I like this series so much. The pace is brisk. It's actually kind of remarkable how there are no chapters that end where you can say, "Oh, I can stop reading here." I got sucked in deeper and deeper with each new revelation or twist. (And I'm not 11 years old") Lucas Benes's world is populated with characters so vivid, sympathetic and fun, plucked from the far corners of the globe and drawn with respect for the multitude of cultures they represent, making each character compelling and likable. If you want a book with an authentic global/international flavor that reads like a classic spy novel, Diamonds Are For Never is it. The villains are as fun to hate and as diabolical as Dr. No, Lex Luther or Cat Woman. Siba Generro, CEO of aptly and ironically named, The Good Company enters her scenes with dazzling visual renderings and sizzling lines. I love her even though I'm supposed to hate her. She's brilliant, hilarious and not at all nice. The book is funny. I read a bio of Aertker where he claims he still has the mind of an 11 year old even though he's a grown man. It's true. The stuff he inserts for comic effect is so kid-like, and on point for his audience (my 11 and 13 year olds). I found myself giggling with this book - a lot. And throughout the book, Aertker sends a positive message to his child readers (and this dad) that the world and its problems are not in the hands of only the adults. The book's child characters convey the message that kids have the wit, determination and intelligence to contribute to the undoing of many of the "bad" things the world must struggle with- in this case, the dirty work of The Good Company. In reading both books in this new, squeaky clean and fast paced series, I kept seeing the movie in my head. With any luck

someone will turn this into an explosive, internationally set, action packed kids' movie. Don't worry mom, I'll volunteer to take the kids.KC - New York City, North America

repelling, breaking and entering, flying half way around the world, a giant container ship, and that evil Ms. Good. This second book is like the first, action and adventure that's screaming to be made into a movie, and the maps are fantastic,- what a great addition! When can I get my hands on Crime Travelers book 3?

Mr. Aetker has something great going on here with his Crime Traveler's series. I have thoroughly enjoyed both books and I know kids will too! Congrats Paul. I'm waiting on the movie series.Tom Bouchie (reviewer)

Diamonds are for Never is a fabulously exciting trip with the New Resistance from Las Vegas to Italy and on! This book touches the adventurer in all of us and although geared toward the preteen it is a really fun read for all ages! If you prefer crocheting tea cozies for your bridge group this book is probably not for you. However, if you have a pulse and remember when you dreamt of saving the world, strap on for this amazing ride!

Keeps a fast pace. I can also visually see all the action and characters - hoping this turns into a film for middle grade to enjoy! Anxiously awaiting the next installment!

My 10 year old son devoured these books. I thought they'd be a nice change from fantasy/Magnus Chase/Harry Potter stuff. He was skeptical but finished all three books in about 2 1/2 days. Apparently a hit!

I loved this book with Lucas this is a great mystery book a few traitors but it is a great book overall so don't be a traitor and not read this book

My son (2nd grade) read both books in the series, he loved both of them. He said they were funny and mysterious.

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