

Ames, Iowa

Dear Gordan Korman,

I played video games when I should have been doing homework and I went to my friend's house instead of studying for tests. Now I have changed my ways for the better, thanks to your book series Dive.

Before I read it, I didn't know much about setting goals and then working hard and being persistent to reach those goals. After reading it, I started taking challenges and setting goals. Now I'm more hard-working and persistent.

The kids Kaz, Dante, Adriana, and Star had to face many tough challenges. One of these challenges was to find out about a sunken vessel named the Griffin. They worked very hard to decipher the clues that they found in the sea. Finally, they figured them out and discovered the vessel.

A big challenge I have taken is to join the school band as a clarinet player at the beginning of this school year. At first, I screeched and could not make a nice sound. I was one of the worst players in the band. But I have been practicing a lot and making impressive progress. The hard work has paid off because now I'm one of the best players in the band.

The four kids had also set many goals. Their biggest goal was to raise the Griffin from the bottom of the sea. It required much planning because they had to get the gold out of the vessel that was covered with coral, and it was against the law to destroy coral. But working hard and being persistent helped them reach their goal.

One of the goals I have is to pass the Algebra Aptitude test next May. If I pass the test, I will be able to take ninth grade math as a sixth grader in middle school next fall. To reach this challenging goal, I have been working extremely hard on my two algebra competitions. Working on the competitions also helps me reach my goal.

Your book series Dive have inspired me more than any other books have. Thank you very much for writing it.

Sincerely,

Alex Huang