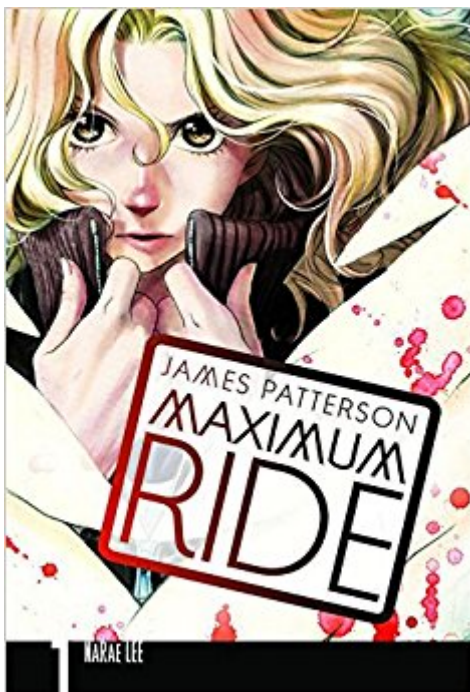


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# Maximum Ride: The Manga, Vol. 1



## Synopsis

Fourteen-year-old Maximum Ride knows what it's like to soar above the world. She and all the members of her "flock" - Fang, Iggy, Nudge, Gasman, and Angel - are just like ordinary kids, except they have wings and can fly! It may seem like a dream come true to some, but for the flock it's more like a living nightmare. When the mysterious lab known as the "School" turns up and kidnaps their youngest member, it's up to Max to organize a rescue, but will help come in time?

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Grade 8 Up  
Hiding out in the wilderness of Colorado, Max Ride, 14, and her ragtag family of mutant kids think they're safe from the clutches of The School, a secret government lab that has erased their memories and turned them into human/bird creations. When Angel, the youngest of them, is kidnapped by the Erasers' cruel half-man/half-wolf enforcers for The School, Max and several of the kids set off in search of her. Despite outwitting them in several instances, the Erasers are able to intercept them. But all is not as it seems when Max is released from her confinement only to be told the secret of her origin—that she was created to save the world. The story is based on Patterson's popular Maximum Ride series (Little, Brown), and Lee does a superb job of translating his text into attractive manga-style illustrations. Although the narrative is a bit slow at first, the action quickly picks up and is bound to keep readers turning the pages. Bridging the gap between contemporary YA fiction and manga/manhwa,

Maximum Ride is a fine first choice for sci-fi/thriller-heavy collections. --Dave Inabnitt, Brooklyn Public Library, NY Copyright © Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved.

Patterson's fantasy-thriller series is readily adapted here into a manga format. This opening volume introduces a handful of avian DNA-enhanced youths whose communal freedom is threatened when one of them is kidnapped and held captive in an evil lab. Teenaged Max and her charges, who include slightly younger Fang, blind Iggy, and the little kids Gasman and Angel, leave behind a nearly idyllic retreat and go into a world where they are threatened by paramilitary beasts. They learn soaring techniques from birds of prey, find temporary comfort with a small family of "regular people," and are imprisoned by the man whom they thought was their foster father. All this plotting is presented with boisterous and nicely stylized images that purposely exploit manga features, postures, and symbolism. Young manga fans will find this a fast read, and suspense readers may be engaged by the combination of visual and textual elements. The volume ends on a cliffhanger that will entice readers to seek the next in the series. Grades 7-10. --Francisca Goldsmith

My husband and I are retired folks, ages 80 and 76. We bought the first in the series because we enjoy James Patterson books. We did not expect to actually like it! Although it was fantasy, it was compelling and fascinating. The Bird Children were splendid, with well developed feelings and personalities...and wings! It was believable and fantastic. We travel weekly to our second home 100 miles away. We enjoy listening to audio books to pass the time on an otherwise boring drive.

I have read every book in the Maximum ride series and now am getting my 12 year old into them. I bought her this one and she loves it. I am enjoying talking about the characters, plot and science of it with her. The writing style and content are good for pre teen to adult, although I will say the last book had some adult themes in it that would keep me from letting her read it. This first book is my favorite of the series. Honestly, I think each one gets a little less realistic (if kids with wings are realistic at all) and there is a lot of repetition as the books progress.

I read this book back in 2007 and fell in love. I originally read "Where the Wind Blows" which "Maximum Ride" first gets it's start. It seems that "Where the Wind Blows" and it's sequel "The Lake House", were the more adult versions of the story of Max, then rewritten towards a more young

adult audience as the actual "Maximum Ride" series. I would highly recommend reading the originals before diving into "Maximum Ride" books, even though they are two completely series and the books do not match up. I will also add that I received this book in incredible condition. I did order a used copy and there is no sign of this book ever being used. It looks as brand new. I am extremely happy with this purchase!

My daughter read this book first. She started with a library copy, and when the Kindle books went on sale, I bought the entire series. She devoured them and this series is one she can't stop talking about (in addition to Hunger Games and Divergent). Because she loved it so much, I took my Kindle to the 8th grade reading class where I work. We were struggling to get the kids to read because they were intimidated by the thickness of books, so I was hoping that the books in Kindle format would be less intimidating. One girl started reading Maximum Ride and enjoyed it. But she was struggling to maintain focus, so I bought the Audio Book through Audible. While I was listening to the beginning to sync up the audio book with where she was in the book, I noticed that there were whole sentences missing from the audio. Not sure why this is, but for a student who is reading the book along while listening to the audio, this might get a little confusing, especially if they have tracking issues. Otherwise, seems to be a popular book with the teens!

All it took was just this first book and my son was hooked on Maximum Ride Manga books. He now has all 5 volumes by James Patterson and has read and reread them several times. He really likes the story line and I love that he is reading.

Fast-paced adventure story featuring the pack of winged children chronicled in other Patterson books. Very short chapter lengths are mildly annoying, but apparently popular with others. Quick read.

James Patterson, for better or worse, is one of the most prolific and bestselling authors of all time. Such a title doesn't come without its hard knocks. For instance, any rummaging through reviews will reveal that while there are those who love Patterson's work, there seem to be many who dislike it with a passion. I'd heard enough negative or mixed things that I'd shied away from Patterson's work (it's not like I didn't have other things to read), but through a free offer on my Kindle, I had a chance to read through Patterson's The Angel Experiment, the first book in the Maximum Ride series. Maximum Ride isn't your ordinary fourteen year old girl. First of all, she hangs out with some

pretty weird people--Fang, Iggy, Nudge, the Gasman, and Angel--not your typical crew. Even stranger, Max and crew aren't completely human. They have wings. Created by the School in experiments combining human and animal DNA, they are the successes. Well them and the half-wolf/half-humans called Erasers that do the School's dirty work. Several years ago, Max and her friends escaped from the School with one of the scientists, who they think of as their father. But he's been missing for a while now, and the group has been forced to cope on their own. But the School and the Erasers are closing in on them, with the result being a wild, frenzied chase with several interesting and unexpected twists. All in all, *The Angel Experiment* was enjoyable. Nice, mindless beach read, good for entertainment. The writing quality is mediocre at best, but the pace flows well and makes for an easily read, fast-paced story. The book's cliffhanger ending intrigued me, but not enough to where I want to go out and read the next book, at least not if I have to pay for it. For those interested in stories like this, I'd advocate reading Sigmund Brouwer's books *Broken Angel* and *Flight of Shadows*. Patterson's goal appears to be to just merely entertain, which it does well, and obviously it sells. But I think I'll be sticking to authors who give me a bit more meat with my literary feast.

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