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"The Little Fugitive"



June 8th 2006

This moving remake of Morris Engel's 1953 portrait of lost boys on Coney Island is set in present-day Brooklyn, and explores how two brothers are failed by their parents and social workers but saved by each other. David Castro and Nicholas Marti Salgado play Joey (aged seven) and Lenny (aged 12). Their father is an incarcerated dwarf, their mother overworked and sometimes suicidal. Left to look after his brother on his own birthday, Lenny cruelly tricks Joey into thinking he is dead in order to get him off his back. Joey, believing he has killed his older brother, flees to Coney Island, where he meets a teenage girl who employs him, together with some unnerving specimens of sideshow life and an apparent mermaid (played by Sophie Dahl).

Joanna Lipper, the film's writer and director, has made two documentaries about young people: "Inside Out: Portraits of Children" and "Growing Up Fast". Her experience shows. The two boy actors are deftly directed, and "The Little Fugitive" has an assured mixture of charm and depth. The film is playing for one night only as part of the Brooklyn International Film Festival.

[Brooklyn Museum](#), 200 Eastern Parkway, Brooklyn. Tel: +1 (718) 638-5000. For tickets see the festival's [website](#). Visit the film's official [website](#).

It is 1:10 p.m.
Wednesday in New York, 61°F/16°C
(Forecast)

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