



***Runaway***  
**(2001, 87 minutes)**  
**Directed by: Kim Longinotto and Ziba Mir-Hosseini**  
**Study Guide**

**Synopsis**

*Runway* is a documentary about young Iranian girls who runaway from home each with a different tale of abuse or torment. Many come from good homes and are just looking to gain independence. The scene is set in a desert oasis that is run by a group of Islamic nuns who consult the young women about being abandoned, and the nuns soon become a bridge between broken families and the troubled teens.

**Study Questions**

- What role do women play in the Tarhan culture?
- Here in the States, children runaway quite often. Contrast how each culture affects its youth and their psyche.
- Teenagers usually want freedom and independence. Have you ever considered running away from home? What were the factors?

**Discussion Questions**

- How does the culture that they live in impact the girls decisions?
- Who was the person that you were drawn to in the story, which story impacted you the most?
- How did abuse play a role in the girls who ran away?
- How did the way the filmmakers chose to shoot the film make you feel: more or less empathetic and sympathetic for the girls?