

# Everything I Learned About Gifted Kids I Found In Children's Literature

Jennifer Schiltz, M.A.E. & Christie McConathy, M.S.E.

## Novel Conversations List 2

### **Airborn**

By Kenneth Oppel

Matt, a young cabin boy aboard an airship, and Kate, a wealthy young girl traveling with her chaperone, team up to search for the existence of mysterious winged creatures reportedly living hundreds of feet above the Earth's surface. L: 760 IL: YA

### **All The Broken Pieces**

By Ann E. Burg

Two years after being airlifted out of Vietnam in 1975, Matt Pin is haunted by the terrible secret he left behind and, now, in a loving adoptive home in the United States, a series of profound events forces him to confront his past. L: 680 IL: 5-8 RL: 4.1

### **Are You There God? It's Me, Margaret**

By Judy Blume

Faced with the difficulties of growing up and choosing a religion, a twelve year-old girl talks over her problems with her own private God. L: 590 IL: 3-6 RL: 3.6

### **Bomb**

By Steve Sheinkin

Examines the history of the atomic bomb, discussing the discovery of the behavior of uranium when placed next to radioactive material, the race to build a bomb, and the impact of the weapon on societies around the world. L: 920 IL: YA

### **Brian's Winter**

By Gary Paulsen

Instead of being rescued from a plane crash, as in the author's book Hatchet, this story portrays what would have happened to Brian had he been forced to survive a winter in the wilderness with only his survival pack and hatchet. L: 1140 IL: 5-8 RL: 6.2

### **The Cat Ate My Gymsuit**

By Paula Danzinger

Thirteen-year-old Marcy Lewis, a ninth grader at Dwight D. Eisenhower Junior High, hates school and life in general until she meets her English teacher, Ms. Finney, who seems to have a new approach to teaching and actually treats kids like human beings. IL: 5-8 RL: 4.5

### **Airhead**

By Meg Cabot

Sixteen-year-old Emerson Watts, an advanced placement student with a disdain for fashion, is the recipient of a "whole body transplant" and finds herself transformed into one of the world's most famous teen supermodels. L:800 IL: YA

### **Also Known As Harper**

By Ann Haywood Leal

Writing poetry helps fifth-grader Harper Lee Morgan cope with her father's absence, being evicted, and having to skip school to care for her brother while their mother works, and things look even brighter after she befriends a mute girl and a kindly disabled woman. L: 800 IL: 5-8 RL: 5.1

### **Athlete vs. Mathlete**

By W. Mack

When their two worlds collide in seventh grade, fraternal twins and opposites Owen and Russell find themselves in direct competition at school, on the court, and at home. L: 610 IL: 3-6 RL: 3.9

### **The Boy Who Loved Math**

By Deborah Heiligman

Presents a brief biography of mathematician Paul Erdos. L: 550 IL: K-3 RL: 1.8

### **Bruiser**

By Neal Shusterman

Inexplicable events start to occur when sixteen-year-old twins Tennyson and Bronte befriend a troubled and misunderstood outcast, aptly nicknamed Bruiser, and his little brother, Cody. L: 820 IL: YA

### **Charlie Collier, Snoop For Hire: The Homemade Suffing Caper**

By John Madormo

Twelve-year-old Charlie's analytical skills win him few friends at school, but when a popular girl in class comes to his private investigation office in his parent's garage asking Charlie's help to find her missing bird, he begins his first real case. IL: 5-8 RL: 4.1

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### **Claudette Colvin: Twice Toward Justice**

By Phillip M. Hoose

An account of fifteen-year-old Claudette Colvin, an African-American girl who refused to give up her seat to a white woman on a segregated bus in Montgomery, Alabama, nine months before Rosa Parks, and covers her role in a crucial civil rights case. L: 1000 IL: YA

### **Counting By 7's**

By Holly Goldberg Sloan

Twelve-year-old genius and outsider Willow Chance must figure out how to connect with other people and find a surrogate family for herself after her parents are killed in a car accident. IL: 5-8 RL: 5.1

### **Dogs Don't Tell Jokes**

By Louis Sachar

Twelve-year-old Gary, known as Goon because of his constant clowning and joke-telling, tries to change his image and make new friends at school.

L: 770 RL: 5.4 IL: 3-6

### **Escape From Mr. Lemoncello's Library**

By Chris Grabenstein

Twelve-year-old Kyle gets to stay overnight in the new town library, designed by his hero (the famous gamemaker Luigi Lemoncello), with other students but finds that come morning he must work with friends to solve puzzles in order to escape. IL: 3-6 RL: 5.2

### **The Fingertips Of Duncan Dorfman**

By Meg Wolitzer

Twelve-year-olds Duncan Dorfman, April Blunt, and Nate Saviano meet at the Youth Scrabble Tournament where, although each has a different reason for attending and for needing to win, they realize that something more important is at stake than the grand prize. L: 780 IL: 5-8 RL: 5.2

### **The Fourth Stall III**

By Chris Rylander

Mac and Vince have gotten out of their middle school underworld crime business, but an upstart rival business and a run-in with an old nemesis pull them back in. IL: 3-6 RL: 5.3

### **Cosmic**

By Frank Cottrell Boyce

Twelve-year-old Liam, who looks like he is thirty and is tired of being treated like he is older than he actually is, decides he is going to pose as the adult chaperone on the first spaceship to take civilians into space.

L: 670 IL: 5-8 RL: 4.9

### **Crow**

By Barbara Wright

Moses Thomas's summer vacation in 1898 does not go as planned, and while he deals with family problems and fickle friends, Moses comes to be more aware of the escalating tension between the African American and white communities of Wilmington, North Carolina.

L: 800 IL: 5-8 RL: 5.4

### **The Dreamer**

By Pam Munoz Ryan

A fictionalized biography of the Nobel Prize-winning Chilean poet Pablo Neruda, who grew up a painfully shy child, ridiculed by his overbearing father, but who became one of the most widely-read poets in the world.

L: 800 IL: 5-8 RL: 5.4

### **Every Soul A Star**

By Wendy Mass

Ally, Bree, and Jack meet at Moon Shadow, an isolated campground, to watch a total eclipse of the sun; but soon they begin to learn a great deal about themselves, each other, and the universe. IL: 3-6

### **A Finders-Keepers Place**

By An Haywood Leal

As their mother's manic-depression grows worse, eleven-year-old Esther and her sister Ruth visit various churches hoping to find their father, a preacher named Ezekiel who left them seven years before in 1966.

L: 730 IL: 5-8 RL: 4.6

### **Game Changers**

By Mike Lupica

When the coach's son, Shawn O'Brien, is chosen to play quarterback, eleven-year-old Ben McBain is not surprised--but when he tries to be a good teammate and help the inconsistent Shawn, he is startled to learn that his new friend does not really want the position.

L: 870 IL: 3-6 RL: 5.2

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### **The Gawgon And The Boy**

By Lloyd Alexander

In Depression-era Philadelphia, when eleven-year-old David is too ill to attend school, he is tutored by the unique and adventurous Aunt Annie, whose teaching combines with his imagination to greatly enrich his life.

L: 720 IL: 5-8 RL: 5.9

### **Ghost Dog Secrets**

By Peg Kehret

Sixth-grader Rusty, determined to help an injured dog that is chained outdoors in frigid weather, calls animal control then takes matters into his own hands, aided by his best friend and a ghost collie that leads Rusty to an even deeper secret. L: 780 IL: Adult

### **Gooney Bird Greene**

By Lois Lowry

A most unusual new student who loves to be the center of attention entertains her teacher and fellow second graders by telling absolutely true stories about herself, including how she got her name.

L:590 IL: 3-6 RL: 3.9

### **Hand In Hand: Ten Black Men Who Changed America**

By Andrea Davis Pinkney

Stories of ten men from different eras in American history, organized chronologically to provide a scope from slavery to the modern day.

IL: 5-8 RL: 7.5

### **Heist Society**

By Ally Carter

Fifteen-year-old Kat schemes her way into the best boarding school, hoping to leave the thieving antics of her family behind her. Hal appears on campus to tell Kat that a powerful mobster believes her father stole art from a priceless collection. In order to save him, Kat will have to recover the paintings. L: 800 IL: YA RL: 5.9

### **Hideout**

By Gordon Korman

Luthor's former owner, Swindle, is back trying to reclaim his dog, and it is up to Griffin Bing, Savannah Drysdale and their friends to hide the Doberman until they can come up with a plan to rescue him from the vicious crook. L: 750 IL: 3-6 RL: 5.0

### **The Genius Files: You Only Die Twice**

By Dan Gutman

As thirteen-year-old twins, Coke and Pepsi McDonald, continue their dangerous road trip, they find themselves being chased by an evil Elvis impersonator and trapped by flesh-eating soda pop.

L: 750 IL: 3-6 RL: 5.1

### **The Giver**

By Lois Lowry

Jonas's world is perfect. When Jonas turns 12 he is singled out to receive special training from The Giver. The Giver alone holds the memories of the true pain and pleasure of life. Now, it is time for Jonas to receive the truth. There is no turning back.

L: 760 IL: 5-8 RL: 5.7

### **The Great Gilly Hopkins**

By Katherine Paterson

An eleven-year-old foster child tries to cope with her longings and fears as she schemes against everyone who tries to be friendly.

L:800 IL:5-8 RL: 5.3

### **Hattie Ever After**

By Kirby Larson

In 1919, seventeen-year-old Hattie leaves the Montana prairie--and her sweetheart Charlie--to become a female reporter in San Francisco.

L: 720 IL: YA RL: 4.6

### **Hero**

By Mike Lupica

Fourteen-year-old Zach learns he has the same special abilities as his father, who was the president's globe-trotting troubleshooter until "the Bads" killed him, and now Zach must decide whether to use his powers in the same way at the risk of his own life.

L: 730 IL: 5-8 RL: 4.6

### **Hold Fast**

By Blue Balliett

On a cold winter day in Chicago, Early's father disappeared, and now she, her mother and her brother have been forced to flee their apartment and join the ranks of the homeless--and it is up to Early to hold her family together and solve the mystery surrounding her father. L: 780 IL: 3-6 RL: 5.5

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### Holes

By Louis Sachar

The story about an unlucky boy who goes from loser to hero when he beats the odds (and solves a mystery) at Camp Green Lake, a detention center where he is made to dig holes every day. L: 660 IL: 5-8 RL: 4.6

### The Homework Machine

By Dan Gutman

Four fifth-grade students--a geek, a class clown, a teacher's pet, and a slacker--as well as their teacher and mothers, each relate events surrounding a computer programmed to complete homework assignments.

L: 680 IL: 3-6 RL: 4.8

### The Hypnotists

By Gordon Korman

Twelve-year-old Jackson Opus is descended from two powerful hypnotist bloodlines, but he has just begun to realize that he can control other peoples' actions with sometimes frightening results--especially when the head of the Sentia Institute plans to use Jackson for his own benefit. IL: 3-6 RL: 5.1

### Independence Hall

By Roland Smith

Quest and his stepsister Angela are thrust into the dangerous world of the American Secret Service and the Israeli Mossad when they learn Angela's real mother was a former Secret Service agent who was killed by a terrorist group. L: 660 IL: 5-8 RL: 5.0

### The Kite Fighters

By Linda Sue Park

In Korea in 1473, eleven-year-old Young-sup overcomes his rivalry with his older brother Kee-sup, who as the first-born son receives special treatment from their father, and combines his kite-flying skill with Kee-sup's kite-making skill in an attempt to win the New Year kite-fighting competition. L: 880 IL: 5-8 RL: 5.9

### Laugh With The Moon

By Shana Burg

Massachusetts thirteen-year-old Clare, grieving after her mother's recent death, reluctantly travels with her father to spend nine weeks in a remote village in Malawi, where new friends and experiences help open her mind and heart. L: 740 IL: 5-8 RL: 4.5

### Homecoming

By Cynthia Voigt

Abandoned by their mother, four children begin a search for a home and an identity.

L: 630 IL: 5-8 RL: 4.4

### Hothead: A Novel

By Cal Ripken, Jr.

Connor Sullivan, All-Star third baseman on his Babe Ruth League team, has a terrible temper and problems at home, but when the sports editor of the school paper threatens to publish an embarrassing story about his tantrums, Connor must make a change. IL: 3-6 RL: 5.6

### I'd Tell You I Love You, But Then I'd Have To Kill You

By Ally Carter

As a sophomore at a secret spy school and the daughter of a former CIA operative, Cammie is sheltered from "normal teenage life" until she meets a local boy while on a class surveillance mission. L: 1000 IL: YA

### Jacob Have I Loved

By Katherine Paterson

Feeling deprived all her life of schooling, friends, mother, and even her name by her twin sister, Louise finally begins to find her identity.

L: 880 IL: 5-8 RL: 5.8

### Kitty Hawk

By Roland Smith

The president's daughter has been kidnapped by the elusive and lethal Ghost Cell. Quest (Q) and Angela are in hot pursuit with vicious winds and blinding rain thwarting them at every turn.

L: 620 IL: 5-8 RL: 4.7

### Liar & Spy

By Rebecca Stead

Seventh-grader Georges adjusts to moving from a house to an apartment, his father's efforts to start a new business, his mother's extra shifts as a nurse, being picked on at school, and Safer, a boy who wants his help spying on another resident of their building.

L: 670 IL: 5-8 RL: 3.8

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### **The Lightning Thief**

By Rick Riordan

Percy, expelled from six schools for being unable to control his temper, learns that his father is the Greek god Poseidon, and is sent to Camp Half Blood where he is befriended by a satyr and the daughter of Athena who join him in a journey to the Underworld to retrieve Zeus's lightning bolt. IL: 5-8 RL: 4.9

### **The London Eye Mystery**

By Siobahn Dowd

When Ted and Kat's cousin Salim disappears from the London Eye ferris wheel, the two siblings must work together--Ted with his brain that is "wired differently" and impatient Kat--to try to solve the mystery of what happened to Salim. L: 640 IL: 3-6 RL: 4.1

### **Maximum Ride: The Angel Experiment**

By James Patterson

After the mutant Erasers abduct the youngest member of their group, the "birdkids," who are the result of genetic experimentation, take off in pursuit and find themselves struggling to understand their own origins and purpose. IL: YA

### **Middle School: The Worst Years Of My Life**

By James Patterson

When Rafe Kane enters middle school, he teams up with his best friend, "Leo the Silent," to create a game to make school more fun by trying to break every rule in the school's code of conduct. L: 700 IL: 3-6 RL: 4.5

### **Mister Max: The Book Of Lost Things**

By Cynthia Voigt

When Max's parents leave the country without him, he must rely on his wits to get by, and before long he is running his own--rather unusual--business. IL: 5-8 RL: 6.4

### **Navigating Early**

By Claire Vanderpool

Odyssey-like adventure of two boys' incredible quest on the Appalachian Trail where they deal with pirates, buried secrets, and extraordinary encounters L: 790 IL: 5-8 RL: 5.2

### **The Lemonade Crime**

By Jacqueline Davies

When money disappears from fourth-grader Evan's pocket and everyone thinks that his annoying classmate Scott stole it, Evan's younger sister stages a trial involving the entire class, trying to prove what happened. L: 670 IL: 3-6 RL: 4.6

### **The Master Puppeteer**

By Katherine Paterson

A thirteen-year-old boy describes the poverty and discontent of eighteenth century Osaka and the world of puppeteers in which he lives. L: 860 IL: 5-8 RL: 5.8

### **Me And The Pumpkin Queen**

By Marlane Kennedy

Although Aunt Arlene tries to interest her in clothing and growing up, ten-year-old Mildred is entirely focused on growing a pumpkin big enough to win the annual Circleville, Ohio, contest, as her mother dreamed of doing before she died. L: 790 IL: 3-6 RL: 4.5

### **The Middle Of Somewhere**

By J.B. Cheaney

Twelve-year-old Ronnie loves organization, but traveling with her grandfather who is investigating wind power in Kansas brings some pleasant, if chaotic, surprises. L: 900 IL: 5-8 RL: 5.4

### **The Mystery Of Missing Everything**

By Ben H. Winters

When a treasured trophy disappears from the display case at Mary Todd Lincoln Middle School and the principal cancels the eagerly anticipated eighth grade class trip, Bethesda Fielding has no choice but to solve the mystery. L: 910 IL: 3-6 RL: 5.4

### **Nerd Girls: The Rise Of The Dorkasaurus**

By Alan Lawrence Sitomer

Three misfit middle school students team up to try to beat out the catty and mean "ThreePees"--pretty, popular, and perfect girls--at the school talent show. L: 660 IL: 5-8 RL: 4.7

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### **On A Beam Of Light: A Story Of Albert Einstein**

By Jennifer Berne

A biography of physicist Albert Einstein.

L: 680 IL: K-3 RL: 3.4

### **One Crazy Summer**

By Rita Williams Garcia

In the summer of 1968, after traveling from Brooklyn to Oakland, California, to see their mother, eleven-year-old Delphine and her two sisters arrive to a cold welcome as they discover that their mother is resentful of their visit and wants them to attend a nearby Black Panther summer camp. L: 750 IL: 5-8 RL: 4.6

### **Outcasts United: The Story Of A Refugee Soccer Team That Changed A Town**

By Warren St. John

Jordanian Luma Mufleh founds a youth soccer team comprised of children from Liberia, Iraq, Afghanistan, and the Balkan states, bringing the children together to discover their common bonds as they adjust to life in a new homeland. L: 980 IL: YA

### **The Puzzler's Mansion**

By Eric Berlin

Winston attends a weekend of puzzles at a famous musician's mansion, but when he and other young guests pursue a thief, they find themselves in big trouble. Puzzles for the reader to solve are included throughout the text. IL: 3-6 RL: 4.6

### **Ruby Redfort: Take Your Last Breath**

By Lauren Child

Skilled code-cracker and detective Ruby Redfort has an adventure at sea in which she must crack the case of the Twinford pirates while avoiding a vile sea monster and the evil Count von Viscount.

L: 840 IL: 5-8 RL: 6.6

### **Saving Lilly**

By Peg Kehret

Sixth-grader Erin Wrenn is determined to save an elephant named Lilly from being sold by a circus to a hunting park. L: 740 IL: 3-6 RL: 5.7

### **The One And Only Ivan**

By Katherine Applegate

When Ivan, a gorilla who has lived for years in a down-and-out circus-themed mall, meets Ruby, a baby elephant that has been added to the mall, he decides that he must find her a better life.

L: 570 IL: 3-6 RL: 3.6

### **One-Handed Catch**

By MJ Auch

After losing his hand in an accident in his father's butcher shop in 1946, sixth-grader Norman uses hard work and humor to learn to live with his disability and to succeed at baseball, art, and other activities.

L: 710 IL: 5-8 RL: 4.7

### **The Project**

By Brian Falkner

After discovering a terrible secret hidden in the most boring book in the world, Iowa fifteen-year-olds Luke and Tommy find out that members of a secret Nazi organization intend to use this information to rewrite history. L: 820 IL: YA

### **Roll Of Thunder, Hear My Cry**

By Mildred D. Taylor

An African-American family living in the South during the 1930s is faced with prejudice and discrimination which its children do not understand.

L: 920 IL: 5-8 RL: 6.9

### **The Running Dream**

By Wendelin Van Draanen

When a school bus accident leaves sixteen-year-old Jessica an amputee, she returns to school with a prosthetic limb and her track team finds a wonderful way to help rekindle her dream of running again.

L: 650 IL: YA

### **Savvy**

By Ingrid Law

The adventures of Mibs Beaumont, whose thirteenth birthday has revealed her "savvy"--a magical power unique to each member of her family--just as her father is injured in a terrible accident.

L: 1070 IL: 5-8 RL: 6.0

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### **Scumble**

By Ingrid Law

Mibs's cousin Ledge is disappointed to discover that his "savvy"--the magical power unique to each member of their family--is to make things fall apart, which endangers his uncle Autry's ranch and reveals the family secret to future reporter Sarah. L: 900 IL: 5-8 RL: 5.3

### **Singing Hands**

By Delia Ray

In the late 1940s, twelve-year-old Gussie, a minister's daughter, learns the definition of integrity while helping with a celebration at the Alabama School for the Deaf--her punishment for misdeeds against her deaf parents and their boarders. L: 690 IL: 5-8 RL: 4.9

### **A Single Shard**

By Linda Sue Park

Tree-ear, a thirteen-year-old orphan in medieval Korea, lives under a bridge near a potters' village, and longs to learn how to throw the delicate celadon ceramics himself. L: 920 IL: 5-8 RL: 6.6

### **Spy Camp**

By Stuart Gibbs

As almost thirteen-year-old Ben, a student at the CIA's academy for future intelligence agents, prepares to go to spy summer camp, he receives a death threat from the evil organization SPYDER. L: 740 IL: 5-8 RL: 5.4

### **Stargirl**

By Jerry Spinelli

Stargirl, a teen who animates quiet Mica High with her colorful personality, suddenly finds herself shunned for her refusal to conform. L: 590 IL: 5-8 RL: 4.1

### **Stealing Air**

By Trent Reedy

Three sixth-grade boys band together to build an experimental aircraft, enduring social and practical difficulties in the process. L: 650 IL: 3-6 RL: 5.1

### **Simon Bloom: Gravity Keeper**

By Michael Reisman

Sixth-grader Simon Bloom finds a book that enables him to control the laws of physics; but when two thugs come after him, he needs the formulas in the book to save himself. L: 690 IL: 5-8 RL: 4.9

### **Slob**

By Ellen Potter

Picked on, overweight genius Owen tries to invent a television that can see the past to find out what happened the day his parents were killed. L: 740 IL: 3-6 RL: 5.0

### **Splendors and Glooms**

By Laura Amy Schiltz

When Clara vanishes after the puppeteer Grisini and two orphaned assistants were at her twelfth birthday party, suspicion of kidnapping chases the trio away from London and soon the two orphans are caught in a trap set by Grisini's ancient rival. L: 670 IL: 5-8 RL: 5.1

### **Spy School**

By Stuart Gibbs

Twelve-year-old Ben Ripley leaves his public middle school to attend the CIA's highly secretive Espionage Academy, which everyone is told is an elite science school. L:740 IL: 5-8 RL: 5.3

### **Steel Trapp: The Challenge**

By Ridley Pearson

On a two-day train trip to enter his invention in the National Science Competition in Washington, D.C., fourteen-year-old Steven "Steel" Trapp, possessor of a remarkable photographic memory, becomes embroiled in an international plot of kidnapping and bribery that may have links to terrorists. L: 660 IL: 5-8 RL: 5.0

### **Storm Runners**

By Roland Smith

Twelve-year-old Chase Masters travels the country with his father, a "storm runner," but he is tested in ways he never could have imagined when he and a new friend are caught in a hurricane near St. Petersburg, Florida. L: 630 IL: 3-6 RL: n4.2

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### **Tales Of A Fourth Grade Nothing**

By Judy Blume

Peter finds his demanding two-year-old brother an ever-increasing problem. L: 470 IL: 3-6 RL: 3.8

### **A Tangle Of Knots**

By Lisa Graff

Destiny leads 11-year-old Cady to a peanut butter factory, a family of children searching for their own Talents, and a Talent Thief who will alter her life forever. L: 840 IL: 3-6 RL: 4.5

### **Temple Grandin: How The Girl Who Loved Cows Embraced Autism And Changed The World**

By Sy Montgomery

Examines the life and accomplishments of Temple Grandin, whose childhood diagnosis of autism and love of cows led her to revolutionize the livestock industry. L: 960 IL: 5-8 RL: 7.2

### **The Templeton Twins Have An Idea**

By Ellis Weiner

Abigail and John, the Templeton twins, and their dog Cassie, foil a pair of inept kidnapers intent on stealing one of their father's newest inventions. L: 850 IL: 3-6 RL: 5.3

### **Theodore Boone: The Activist**

By John Grisham

Aspiring lawyer Theodore Boone takes the stand to protect his political and environmental freedoms in the fourth installment of the series. IL: 5-8 RL: 5.6

### **The Thief Lord**

By Cornelia Funke

Orphaned brothers Prosper and Bo, having run away from their cruel aunt and uncle, decide to hide out in Venice where they fall in with the Thief Lord, a thirteen-year-old boy who leads a crime ring of street children. L: 640 IL: 5-8 RL: 5.3

### **Trash**

By Andy Mulligan

A group of fourteen-year-old boys, who make a living picking garbage from the outskirts of a large city, finds something special and mysterious that brings terrifying consequences. L: 850 IL: YA

### **True Legend**

By Mike Lupica

Fifteen-year-old Drew "True" Robinson loves being the best point-guard prospect in high school basketball, but learns the consequences of fame through a former player, as well as through the man who expects to be his manager when True reaches the NBA. L: 850 IL: YA RL: 4.5

### **The Vengekeep Prophecies**

By Brian Farry

Jaxter Grimjinx, born into a clan of thieves, learns his family members are supposed to be the next heroes of Vengekeep, and, with the help of a new friend, he faces off against flaming monsters, a bazaar of thieves, and a renegade sorcerer while trying to become a hero. L: 780 IL: 3-6 RL: 5.1

### **Wanting Mor**

By Rukhsana Khan

Jameela must depend upon memories of her beloved mother Mor to sustain her when her stepmother abandons her in a busy market in Afghanistan and she ends up in an orphanage run by the same army that killed many of her family members. L: 540 IL: YA

### **What We Found In The Sofa And How It Saved The World**

By Henry Clark

Finding a rare zucchini-colored crayon leads twelve-year-old River Monroe and his friends on an adventure with their eccentric neighbor to save Earth from invading interstellar storm troopers. L: 730 IL: 3-6 RL: 4.7

### **When You Reach Me**

By Rebecca Stead

As her mother prepares to be a contestant on the 1980s television game show, "The \$20,000 Pyramid," a twelve-year-old New York City girl tries to make sense of a series of mysterious notes received from an anonymous source that seems to defy the laws of time and space. L: 750 IL: 5-8 RL: 4.6



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### **Wilma Unlimited: How Wilma Rudolph Became The World's Fastest Woman**

By Kathleen Krull

A biography of a self-taught scientist who photographed thousands of individual snowflakes in order to study their unique formations.

L: 730 IL: K-3 RL: 4.8

### **The Year Of The Book**

By Andrea Chang

Follows a young Chinese American girl, as she navigates relationships with family, friends, and her fourth-grade classroom, and finds a true best friend.

L: 590 IL: 3-6 RL: 3.6

### **With The Might Of Angels: The Diary Of Dawnie Rae Johnson**

By Andrea Davis Pinkney

Twelve-year-old Dawnie Rae Johnson, a tomboy who excels at baseball and at her studies, becomes the first African American student to attend the all-white Prettyman Coburn school, turning her world upside down. L: 740 IL: 5-8 RL: 5.1

### **Zero Tolerance**

By Claudia Mills

Seventh-grade honor student Sierra Shepard faces expulsion after accidentally bringing a paring knife to school, violating the school's zero-tolerance policy.

IL: 5-8 RL: 6.5