



Ungifted

By Gordon Korman

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From #1 *New York Times* bestselling author Gordon Korman comes a hilarious and heartfelt novel in which one middle-school troublemaker accidentally moves into the gifted and talented program—and changes everything. For fans of Louis Sachar and Jack Gantos, this funny and touching underdog story is a lovable and goofy adventure with robot fights, middle-school dances, live experiments, and statue-toppling pranks!

When Donovan Curtis pulls a major prank at his middle school, he thinks he's finally gone too far. But thanks to a mix-up by one of the administrators, instead of getting in trouble, Donovan is sent to the Academy of Scholastic Distinction, a special program for gifted and talented students.

Although it wasn't exactly what Donovan had intended, the ASD couldn't be a more perfectly unexpected hideout for someone like him. But as the students and teachers of ASD grow to realize that Donovan may not be good at math or science (or just about anything), he shows that his *gifts* may be exactly what the ASD students never knew they needed.

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Ungifted By Gordon Korman Bibliography

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- 288 pages

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Editorial Review

From School Library Journal

Gr 5-8-Donovan Curtis is an impulse-driven prankster who, at the start of *Ungifted*, manages to alienate both the students and faculty of his middle school. First he mocks the basketball team over the school PA system with a derisive cheer and then he whacks the school's statue of Atlas with a stick, knocking the huge globe off and sending it rolling down the hill where it smashes into the gymnasium and stops the big game. When Donovan ends up on the carpet, the district superintendent accidentally adds his name to the roll of gifted students at the Academy for Scholastic Distinction. Although he flounders at his new school, Donovan ends up humanizing a program that focuses on academic achievement and ignores the social aspects of students' success. From his first day when he startles the robotics team by naming their robot, to his saving the class from summer school by drafting his pregnant sister as the answer to a missed credit in Human Development, Donovan finds that his gift lies in helping the smart kids by teaching them how to be "normal." Using an ancestor who survived the Titanic as inspiration, Donovan has a goofy kindness that charms characters and readers alike. Reminiscent of Stanley Yelnats and Joey Pigza, he careens through life much like the out-of-control globe from Atlas's statue. The story is told from the points of view of various characters (each chapter titled with an Un-word), and readers hear from teachers and administrators, students-both gifted and not-and family members. The message is tolerance, and Korman expertly and humorously delivers it in an unpretentious and universally appealing tale.-Jane Barrer, Steinway Intermediate School, New York Cityα(c) Copyright 2011. Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc. No redistribution permitted.

Review

"Touching, without being overly sentimental, *Ungifted* is a gem for readers looking for a story where the underdog comes out on top." (Voice of Youth Advocates (VOYA))

"From its lovable-robot jacket art to its satisfying conclusion, this will please Korman's fans and win him new ones." (ALA Booklist)

"Donovan has a goofy kindness that charms characters and readers alike ... The message is tolerance, and Korman expertly and humorously delivers it in an unpretentious and universally appealing tale." (School Library Journal)

"Funny and insightful." (Publishers Weekly)

Praise for POP: "A brisk, heartfelt and timely novel." (New York Times Book Review)

Praise for POP: "Korman goes straight to the heart." (Kirkus Reviews (starred review))

Praise for POP: "Thought-provoking." (Publishers Weekly)

From the Back Cover

The word gifted has never been applied to a kid like Donovan Curtis.

It's usually more like *Don't try this at home*. So when the troublemaker pulls a major prank at his middle school, he thinks he's finally gone too far. But thanks to a mix-up, instead of getting in trouble, Donovan is

sent to the Academy of Scholastic Distinction (ASD), a special program for gifted and talented students.

It wasn't exactly what Donovan had intended, but there couldn't be a more perfect hideout. That is, if he can manage to fool people whose IQs are above genius level. But after an ongoing experiment with a live human (sister), an unforgettably dramatic middle-school dance, and the most astonishing come-from-behind robot victory ever, Donovan shows that his gifts might be exactly what the ASD students never knew they needed.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

William Reynolds:

Have you spare time for the day? What do you do when you have more or little spare time? Yep, you can choose the suitable activity for spend your time. Any person spent their particular spare time to take a stroll, shopping, or went to often the Mall. How about open or perhaps read a book entitled Ungifted? Maybe it is to become best activity for you. You already know beside you can spend your time with the favorite's book, you can more intelligent than before. Do you agree with its opinion or you have other opinion?

Ramon Hudson:

Nowadays reading books become more than want or need but also be a life style. This reading routine give you lot of advantages. The benefits you got of course the knowledge the rest of the information inside the book this improve your knowledge and information. The knowledge you get based on what kind of publication you read, if you want drive more knowledge just go with education books but if you want really feel happy read one together with theme for entertaining for example comic or novel. Typically the Ungifted is kind of reserve which is giving the reader unpredictable experience.

Raul Warren:

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