***Book List for Gifted Readers***

**By Donalyn Miller on March 7, 2009, http://blogs.edweek.org/teachers/book\_whisperer/2009/03/mind\_the\_gap\_engaging\_gifted\_r.html**

Gifted readers prefer books that are more complex in genre, vocabulary, structure, perspective, or theme. The following books are divided by these categories.

\*Parents, please remember to preview these books before choosing them for your children. There may be topics or themes you do not feel comfortable with.

**Distinctive Language and Word Play**

[**Chess Rumble**](http://www.amazon.com/Chess-Rumble-G-Neri/dp/1584302798/ref%3Dpd_bbs_sr_1?ie=UTF8&s=books&qid=1236482331&sr=8-1) by G. Neri
[**Palindromania**](http://www.amazon.com/Palindromania-Jon-Agee/dp/0374400253/ref%3Dsr_1_1?ie=UTF8&s=books&qid=1236484708&sr=1-1) by Jon Agee

**Challenging Structures**

[**The View from Saturday**](http://www.amazon.com/View-Saturday-E-L-Konigsburg/dp/0689817215/ref%3Dsr_1_1?ie=UTF8&s=books&qid=1236482493&sr=1-1) by E.L. Konigsburg
[**Skeleton Creek**](http://www.amazon.com/Skeleton-Creek-Patrick-Carman/dp/0545075661/ref%3Dsr_1_1?ie=UTF8&s=books&qid=1236484629&sr=1-1) by Patrick Carman

**Unusual Perspectives or Points of View**

[**Beastly**](http://www.amazon.com/Beastly-Alex-Flinn/dp/006087418X/ref%3Dsr_1_1?ie=UTF8&s=books&qid=1236484558&sr=1-1)by Alex Flinn
[**Blood Red Horse**](http://www.amazon.com/Blood-Red-Horse-K-Grant/dp/0802777341/ref%3Ded_oe_p)by K.M. Grant

**Ambiguous Endings**

[**Life As We Knew It**](http://www.amazon.com/Life-Knew-Susan-Beth-Pfeffer/dp/0152061541/ref%3Dsr_1_1?ie=UTF8&s=books&qid=1236482827&sr=1-1) by Susan Beth Pfeffer
[**The Giver**](http://www.amazon.com/Giver-Lois-Lowry/dp/0440237688/ref%3Dsr_1_1?ie=UTF8&s=books&qid=1236482760&sr=1-1) by Lois Lowry

**Thought Provoking Content:** Social and Emotional Issues

[**Drums, Girls, and Dangerous Pie**](http://www.amazon.com/Drums-Girls-Dangerous-Jordan-Sonnenblick/dp/0439755204/ref%3Dsr_1_1?ie=UTF8&s=books&qid=1236482912&sr=1-1) by Jordan Sonnenblick
[**Waiting for Normal**](http://www.amazon.com/Waiting-Normal-Leslie-Connor/dp/B001F0R9P8/ref%3Dsr_1_1?ie=UTF8&s=books&qid=1236484832&sr=1-1) by Leslie Connor

**Thought Provoking Content:**Historical and Cultural Themes

[**Fever 1793**](http://www.amazon.com/Fever-1793-Laurie-Halse-Anderson/dp/0689848919/ref%3Dsr_1_1?ie=UTF8&s=books&qid=1236483107&sr=1-1) by Laurie Halse Anderson
[**Under the Blood Red Sun**](http://www.amazon.com/Under-Blood-Red-Sun-Graham-Salisbury/dp/0553494872/ref%3Dsr_1_1?ie=UTF8&s=books&qid=1236483470&sr=1-1) by Graham Salisbury (more appropriate than the Tuscan Sun!)

**Role Models**

[**Miss Spitfire: Reaching Helen Keller**](http://www.amazon.com/Miss-Spitfire-Reaching-Helen-Keller/dp/1416925422/ref%3Dsr_1_1?ie=UTF8&s=books&qid=1236483170&sr=1-1) by Sarah Miller
[**The Wall: Growing Up Behind the Iron Curtain**](http://www.amazon.com/Wall-Growing-Behind-Curtain-Caldecott/dp/0374347018/ref%3Dsr_1_2?ie=UTF8&s=books&qid=1236483224&sr=1-2) by Peter Sis

**Gifted Protagonists**

[**The London Eye Mystery**](http://www.amazon.com/London-Eye-Mystery-Siobhan-Dowd/dp/0375849769/ref%3Dsr_1_1?ie=UTF8&s=books&qid=1236483308&sr=1-1) by Siobhan Dowd
[**The Mysterious Benedict Society**](http://www.amazon.com/Mysterious-Benedict-Society-Trenton-Stewart/dp/0316003956/ref%3Dsr_1_1?ie=UTF8&s=books&qid=1236483568&sr=1-1) by Trenton Lee Stewart

Considering Austin’s book categories, is it any wonder that so many gifted readers love fantasy and science fiction? These genres offer the abstraction and complexity gifted readers crave. Here are a few of my students’ top picks:

**Fantasy**
 [**Everlost**](http://www.amazon.com/Everlost-Neal-Shusterman/dp/0689872380/ref%3Dsr_1_1?ie=UTF8&s=books&qid=1236483662&sr=1-1) by Neal Shusterman
[**Inkheart**](http://www.amazon.com/Inkheart-Movie-Cover/dp/0545046262/ref%3Dsr_1_1?ie=UTF8&s=books&qid=1236483772&sr=1-1) by Cornelia Funke
[**Savvy**](http://www.amazon.com/Savvy-Ingrid-Law/dp/0803733062/ref%3Dsr_1_1?ie=UTF8&s=books&qid=1236483852&sr=1-1) by Ingrid Law
[**The Lightning Thief**](http://www.amazon.com/Lightning-Thief-Percy-Jackson-Olympians/dp/0786838655/ref%3Dsr_1_1?ie=UTF8&s=books&qid=1236485010&sr=1-1)by Rick Riordan
[**The Warrior Heir**](http://www.amazon.com/Warrior-Heir-Cinda-Williams-Chima/dp/0786839171/ref%3Dsr_1_1?ie=UTF8&s=books&qid=1236483984&sr=1-1) by Cinda Chima Williams

**Science Fiction**

[**H.I.V.E.: The Higher Institute for Villainous Education**](http://www.amazon.com/H-I-V-E-Higher-Institute-Villainous-Education/dp/141693572X/ref%3Dpd_bbs_4?ie=UTF8&s=books&qid=1236553770&sr=8-4) by Mark Walden
[**The Hunger Games**](http://www.amazon.com/Hunger-Games-Suzanne-Collins/dp/0439023483/ref%3Dsr_1_1?ie=UTF8&s=books&qid=1236484104&sr=1-1) by Suzanne Collins
[**Epic**](http://www.amazon.com/Epic-Conor-Kostick/dp/0142411590/ref%3Dsr_1_1?ie=UTF8&s=books&qid=1236484176&sr=1-1) by Conor Kostick
[**The True Meaning of Smekday**](http://www.amazon.com/True-Meaning-Smekday-Adam-Rex/dp/B00196PD9M/ref%3Dsr_1_1?ie=UTF8&s=books&qid=1236484238&sr=1-1) by Adam Rex
[**Uglies**](http://www.amazon.com/Uglies-Trilogy-Book-1/dp/0689865384/ref%3Ded_oe_p) by Scott Westerfeld