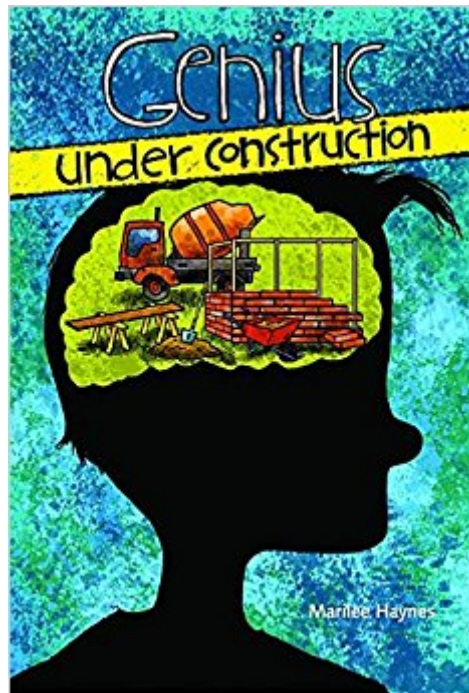




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Genius Under Construction



Synopsis

"Eighth-grade genius Gabe discovers how his giftedness can serve others"--

Book Information

Paperback: 224 pages

Publisher: Pauline Books & Media (January 1, 2014)

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Average Customer Review: 5.0 out of 5 stars 7 customer reviews

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Age Range: 8 - 12 years

Grade Level: 3 - 7

Customer Reviews

Fun book for today's youth. Love the Catholic connection.

I read her first book, A.K.A. Genius and really enjoyed, so I anxiously awaited the sequel to it. "Genius Under Construction" was well written, kept my interest to the end. I hope there will be another book continuing the adventures of Gabe.

Very funny with a unique plot. Interesting story ... cannot give it away!!

Genius Under Construction was the third book I have read by Marileee Haynes and because I loved the other two, a.k.a. Genius and Pictures of Me, so much I had very high expectations for this book. I really like this book, it is a great read, but because it is so focused on one of the three friends from the first book, it just did not hit as high for me. It is a great book about and for kids. It really captures inner struggles, discerning your path, and the transition from middle school. And it does a wonderful job of some of the frustrations of trying to learn when you have a learning disability. It is in the genre

of realistic fiction. It is a story about kids that you could know, the brain, the one who wants to be an athlete, the smart girl, and the one struggling in school. This story focuses more on Gabe, and what he is doing. We see changes in Maya, clothes, make up, and changed behavior. We also have Linc trying to convince his parents to allow him to engage in sports. Gabe has a lot on his plate, peer tutor to a boy who is getting 0 on his spelling tests. Trying to become the team statistician for the school's basketball team, figuring out what is up with Maya, and biggest of all, his application to Carolina Science and Math High School. That is a lot of plates to keep spinning for a young man, whether he is a genius or not. Gabe loves numbers and while doing his in person interview for his application to the Carolina Science and Math High School, he intends to share his basketball stats and how he has helped his team. But because he is flummoxed by Maya, and seeing her kiss Linc he messes up and ends up handing over the workbook with his basketball numbers, but by mistake he also passed over a notebook tracking his farts, for Gabe struggles with being odoriferous and is trying to use his brain to solve that problem also. But he did not intend to share it with two professors from the school he is hoping to attend. But to find out how Gabe deals with his mistake, his best friends kissing, and helping someone else learn how to do better on spelling tests you will need to read the book. This is another great read from Pauline Books and Media and written by Marilee Haynes. It deals with friendship, using our gifts, serving others, friendship and changes at the body and mind starts to develop and change during puberty. I highly recommend it and if you have not read a.k.a. Genius read it first. I really hope we get to see more of the gangs adventures as they then enter High School!

As a big fan of A.K.A. GENIUS, I was ecstatic to have the chance to review an advanced reader copy of its sequel. GENIUS UNDER CONSTRUCTION begins with Gabe's first day of eighth grade at St. Jude Academy. Still getting used to his genius status, Gabe continues to wonder how he can be so smart when it comes to the weather, yet so confused when it comes to other things; such as girls, applying to an exclusive high school, and getting in all his service hours. Inspired by his grandpa, Gabe learns to use his imagination in problem solving. The characters in GENIUS UNDER CONSTRUCTION are well thought out. Their personalities and emotions are easy for a middle schooler like me to relate to. With twists and turns, Marilee Haynes' book GENIUS UNDER CONSTRUCTION deserves a standing ovation!

I recently had the great privilege of reading and reviewing "a.k.a. Genius", the first in a new series by Catholic writer Marilee Haynes, published by Pauline Teen. I loved the book and, even though it

is aimed at middle-schoolers, found myself laughing out loud at many parts. It was a humorous, faith-based story with an important lesson that pre-teens and younger teens would actually want to read. How often can you say that? I handed the book to my thirteen-year old and told him he would enjoy it, and he did. He read it in one afternoon and was laughing so hard he literally fell off his chair! After finishing the last page, he informed me, "Mom, we've got to get the sequel." This time around, Gabe Carpenter is in eighth grade. While he has moved on from some of his seventh grade problems, he has plenty more to keep him busy. His second-best friend Maya is starting to do weird "girl" things and give him what his best friend calls "meaningful glances." He has to do a service project and gets paired up with an ADHD 4th grader who can't pass a spelling test to save his life. Perhaps most importantly, he's trying to get into an elite math and science high school, even though he wonders if he wants to get in at all because it would mean leaving his friends. While this book isn't as laugh-at-loud funny as the first one, Haynes has definitely created an excellent, enjoyable sequel. One wants to keep turning pages, eager to see how it is all going to work out for Gabe and his friends. In addition, she masterfully handles the story line about Harry and his ADHD, emphasizing how each person has gifts. I can only hope that Haynes will go on to write many more "Genius" books because I can't wait to read them! I heartily recommend this series for any middle-schooler.

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