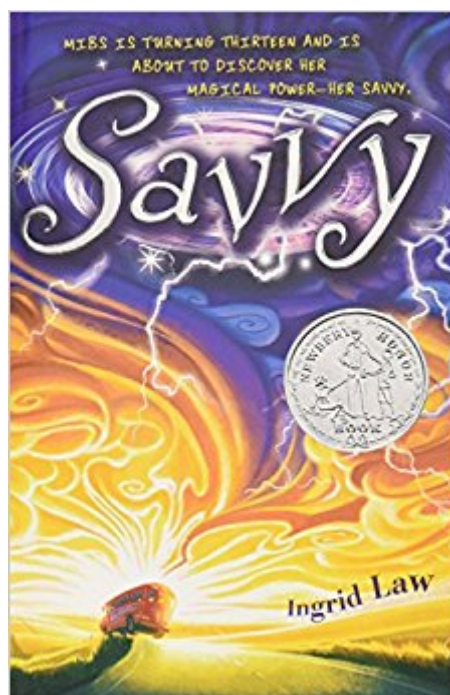


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# Savvy



## Synopsis

Thirteen is when a Beaumont's savvy hits and with one brother who causes hurricanes and another who creates electricity, Mibs Beaumont is eager to see what she gets. But just before the big day, Poppa is in a terrible accident. And now all Mibs wants is a savvy that will save him. In fact, Mibs is so sure she'll get a powerful savvy that she sneaks a ride to the hospital on a rickety bus with her sibling and the preacher's kids in tow. After this extraordinary adventure full of talking tattoos and a kidnapping not a soul on board will ever be the same.

A Discussion Guide to Scumble and Savvy by Ingrid Law

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: 1070 (What's this?)

Paperback: 368 pages

Publisher: Puffin Books; 1 edition (March 23, 2010)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0142414336

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Shipping Weight: 9.6 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 stars 301 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #23,845 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #70 in Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Family Life > Multigenerational #731 in Books > Children's Books > Science Fiction & Fantasy > Fantasy & Magic #4038 in Books > Reference

Age Range: 9 - 12 years

Grade Level: 4 - 7

## Customer Reviews

Grade 4 Mississippi Beaumont ("Mibs" for short) simply cannot wait for her 13th birthday. There's the allure of finally becoming a teenager, of course, but in the Beaumont family, 13 is when family members get their "savvy," or unworldly power. For Mibs's older brother Fish, it's control over the elements, and for her mother it's the ability to do everything perfectly. Unfortunately, Mibs's excitement is cut short when her father is injured in a car accident. Convinced that her new powers will be able to save her Poppa, she and some new friends climb aboard a bus toting pink bibles on her birthday, in the hopes of getting to the hospital. Instead they find themselves headed in the wrong direction with the cops looking for them, Mibs's powerful brother seriously angry, and

the son of a preacher man she has a crush on coming dangerously close to figuring out the Beaumonts' secret. Mibs's real savvy isn't what she expected, and neither are her traveling companions. Though the story never lives up to the brilliance of its opening chapter, Law has a feel for characters and language that is matched by few. With its delightful premise and lively adventure, this book will please a wide variety of audiences, not just fantasy fans. Definitely an author to watch. --Elizabeth Bird, New York Public Library Copyright © Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

**\*Starred Review\*** Upon turning 13, each member of the Beaumont family develops a supernatural ability, or "savvy," which must then be tamed. Well aware of the problems savvys can bring (the family had to relocate when one child had difficulty controlling his storm-producing savvy), 12-year-old Mississippi (Mibs) awaits her birthday eagerly but with a bit of trepidation. Then Poppa is seriously injured in an accident far away, and Momma goes to his side, leaving Mibs and the rest of the family to cope with Mibs's 13th birthday on their own. Initially believing that her savvy is the ability to restore life, Mibs sets her course for Poppa. Joined by her brothers and the local preacher's kids, she sweet talks her way onto a traveling Bible salesman's bus. On the journey, however, Mibs realizes her savvy isn't what she thought, which opens the way for a number of lively adventures both geographic and emotional. Law's storytelling is rollicking, her language imaginative, and her entire cast of whacky, yet believable characters delightful. Readers will want more from Law; her first book is both wholly engaging and lots of fun. Grades 5-7. --Francisca Goldsmith --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Ingrid Law is a superb writer with a penchant for fun language and interesting characters. Her characters are magical, sort of, but mostly they are relateable. I read her books to my children, and *Savvy* is one of my favorite. This book made my daughter feel powerful, but it made me feel pensive. It made me think about words, both written and spoken and how magic or terrible they can be. It made me think of helplessness and loss. It's a wonderful book worth reading.

This book I did judge by its cover. I was browsing in my local book store when this book's colorful cover caught my eye. So, for father's day I received a copy of this book and have since had the wonderful opportunity to read it. Mibs and her family all receive a "power" on their 13th birthday. This

power is called their Savvy. These powers can range from the all mighty to the subtle. A few days Mibs father is in a serious car accident and is taken to a distant hospital for care. The morning of her 13th birthday she discovers that her Savvy is waking things up. With this new found power she sets out to awake her father at any costs only to find out her power might not be what it seems. The books time period seems to be in the 50's where moms were still Suzie Homemaker moms and church had an edge of snob to it. It is also written in 1st person and some of the words Mibs uses are very creative and fun. This book was quick to get to the plot going and carried well throughout the whole book straight to its almost tearful conclusion. It reminded me a bit of X-Men with the powers but at the same time unique enough to not draw conclusions. Some of the other family members powers are really unique and interesting once thought about. This is a really short book and it's a fun ride while reading it. Later this month the second installment of this book comes out and I anxiously await its arrival. Ingrid Law definitely deserved the award for this book because of its unique characters, time setting, creativity and heartwarming story. If you have a few hours check this book out. Its worth the time.

This was a very fun book to read with my 5th grader who hates reading. We talk a lot about what our own Savvy is. Highly recommend to anyone with a middle school child that doesn't enjoy reading. I have already ordered the next one, Scumble!!

Very creative book. I used as a read aloud to my fifth graders and it was a hit. It is a fantasy that is magical and creative. Love the creation of words by the author.

While the story has interesting morals it's not as straight forward as you'd hope for a younger kids book and not complex enough for an older kids book. I did, however, love the conversations that happened because of the book and the contemplation of all of our special abilities

Not a wand, prophecy or wizard school in sight, Law creates a fresh new system of magic for an entire family. The quirky details of the supporting cast are delicious, my favourites being Grandpa who moves mountains and his beloved deceased wife who captured sound waves in jam jars. This is a "learn to accept yourself" tale, with perhaps an unusually sad slant of the inevitable unfairness of life. All the more memorable for being grounded in the realities that life can bring.

I read Savvy to my 5th grade students and they LOVED it. They would ask every single day if we

could read. It kept students on the edge of their seat and engaged the entire story. After we finished reading Savvy, my students found out about Scumble and voted for that as our next read aloud. Ingrid Law has a way with words that is breath taking. I would recommend this book to parents, teachers, and students alike.

2009 Newberry Honor. Mibs is about to turn 13 which is when her savvy will appear. But her dad is in the hospital, seriously injured and she's coping with Will Jr. and Bobbi, the pastor's children. A great book about coming of age, love, friendship and the yin and yang of choices and life. A must read!

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