

Section 1:

#1 "In Velthra, there was no limit to what you could achieve. In this world everyone could float, cars could fly, and water could levitate. There was no explanation to any of this, but Silas couldn't do what everyone else did. He didn't start floating before crawling, instead he didn't float at all. It was as if gravity was controlling him, and only him."

Strengths: Your opening effectively establishes a unique fantasy world with clear supernatural elements. You've introduced the protagonist's key conflict immediately, which hooks the reader.

Weakness: Underdeveloped worldbuilding → The rules and context of your world need more specific details. Your description gives us a general idea but lacks the vivid specifics that would make Velthra feel real and distinctive. Phrases like "there was no limit" and "there was no explanation" are vague rather than intriguing.

Exemplar: *In Velthra, children floated before they could crawl, hovering centimetres above their cribs. Cars zipped between bronze spires, and water twisted into elegant shapes at the flick of a wrist. But fourteen-year-old Silas remained earthbound, his feet stubbornly tethered to the ground as if gravity had singled him out alone.*

#2 "Every day was another walk into embarrassment, even if people were nice to him, he knew they called him names like 'weirdo' or 'the not so chosen one' when he wasn't there, he heard them. But all he could do is stare and wonder why, he had bigger problems to worry about anyway."

Strengths: You effectively portray the emotional burden of being different and the painful awareness of others' judgments. The names other students call him are creative and fitting for the world.

Weakness: Run-on sentences → This paragraph contains sentence structure issues that affect the flow and impact of your writing. The first sentence combines multiple thoughts without proper punctuation, making it difficult to follow. The second sentence shifts topics abruptly without allowing the reader to fully feel the emotional weight of Silas's social struggles.

Exemplar: *Every day was another walk into embarrassment. Even when people smiled to his face, Silas knew they whispered "weirdo" and "the not-so-chosen one" behind his back. He'd heard them. All he could do was stare and wonder why he'd been cursed with normalcy in a world of marvels.*

#3 "As we left the hospital, I had an envelope assigned to my name and a doctor handing it to me. She said it was from my mother. I thanked her and walked out with my father. I stayed at home that week. After wearing something a little more comfortable I opened the envelope. It read,"

Strengths: You've created genuine emotional tension with the letter from Silas's mother, which builds anticipation. The scene transition from hospital to home is handled smoothly.

Weakness: Missing emotional depth → This pivotal moment lacks the emotional weight it deserves. Silas has just lost his mother, received a mysterious letter, and yet his reactions are described mechanically. Phrases like "I thanked her and walked out" and "After wearing something a little more comfortable" seem oddly detached given the circumstances.

Exemplar: *As we left the hospital, a doctor pressed an envelope into my trembling hands. "Your mother wanted you to have this," she whispered. I clutched it against my chest, unable to speak, and followed my father's slumped shoulders to the car. For days, I couldn't bring myself to break the seal, as if opening it would make her death final. But one night, wrapped in her favourite jumper that still smelled faintly of her perfume, I finally tore open the envelope.*

■ Your piece shows tremendous potential with its creative premise of a world where everyone has supernatural abilities except for your protagonist. The concept of a character who is "ungifted" in a gifted world creates natural tension and relatability. To strengthen your writing, focus on making your world more tangible through specific sensory details. When Silas is in the hospital, what does he smell? What sounds surround him? Additionally, deepen your character development by showing more of Silas's internal thoughts and emotions. Your plot takes an interesting turn with the government conspiracy, but this revelation needs more groundwork earlier in the story to feel organic rather than abrupt. Try adding subtle hints or foreshadowing before the letter reveal. Also, the shift between third-person and first-person narration is jarring—consider sticking with one perspective throughout for consistency.

Score: 43/50

Section 2:

The Ungifted

In Velthra, there was no limit to what you could achieve. In this world everyone could float, cars could fly, and water could levitate. There was no explanation to [for] any of this, but Silas couldn't do what everyone else did. He didn't start floating before crawling, instead he didn't float at all. It was as if gravity was controlling him, and only him. He didn't have an insane spice tolerance either, he couldn't even tame animals with the power of his hands. In addition to this he was oddly quiet, like the type to avoid conversations and engage in independent activities instead. Although he was doing well in most subjects and had enough friends to keep him entertained and out of his room, he always felt distant, he felt different. #1

~~Every day was another walk into embarrassment, even if people were nice to him, he knew they called him names like 'weirdo' or 'the not so chosen one' when he wasn't there, he heard them. But all he could do is stare and wonder why, he had bigger problems to worry about anyway.~~ [Every day was another walk into embarrassment. Even when people were nice to him, he knew they called him names like 'weirdo' or 'the not-so-chosen one' when he wasn't there. He heard them. But all he could do was stare and wonder why. He had bigger problems to worry about anyway.] His mother, June, was suffering from stage 3 bone cancer and was ~~hospitalised~~ [hospitalised]. The doctors had said they were doing whatever they could to keep her alive, but clearly, they weren't doing enough. #2

Silas

School holidays just ended and my two friends, Mark, Michael, and I, started to take the bus. ~~The days were warmer, and the clouds had vanished from the sky.~~ [The days grew warmer as clouds vanished from the sky.] It was a tranquil morning; the sky was a mix of light pink and a dull purple with the sun ascending from the east. The bus ride to school was loud, there was chatter everywhere, like a normal school bus on a peaceful Monday morning.

Just as I got on the bus, I got a call, which was weird because I usually never get calls. I picked up the call and heard my father say in a shallow voice, "Send me your location now, mum's in the hospital."

I did as he said, and in an hour, I was sitting on one of those rubbery seats that ~~makes~~ [make] squeaky noises whenever you move around.

Then as I made my way into the ICU, I saw my mum. She was showing no sign of heartbeat, her oxygen levels were decreasing, her lips were a vibrant shade of purple. My life crumbled in front of me. The woman that took care of me for 14 years won't anymore. While my dad was talking with the doctors my body felt numb, I couldn't move, something wet was streaming down my face, but I couldn't identify what it was because of the mix of emotions, anger, fear, sadness, disappointment, anxiety, all those ~~feeling~~ [feelings] swelled up inside me. I felt like vomiting.

~~As we left the hospital, I had an envelope assigned to my name and a doctor handing it to me. She said it was from my mother. I thanked her and walked out with my father. I stayed at home that week. After wearing something a little more comfortable I opened the envelope. It read,~~ [As we left the hospital, a doctor handed me an envelope with my name on it. She said it was from my mother. I thanked her numbly and followed my father outside. I spent the entire week at home. Only after changing into something more comfortable did I finally open the envelope. It read,] #3

Dear Silas,

My death was planned as I told the government I was going to tell you everything. Firstly, the reason you're not like everyone else who can fly, and tame water is because you didn't get a vaccine that had an ingredient that would grant you special powers but would also let the government track you. Secondly, people will start to disappear because the government wants everyone gone. Finally, they're

coming after you because you're the only one who knows this, and you can't be tracked. After they find you, all hope is lost.

Love, Your mother, June.