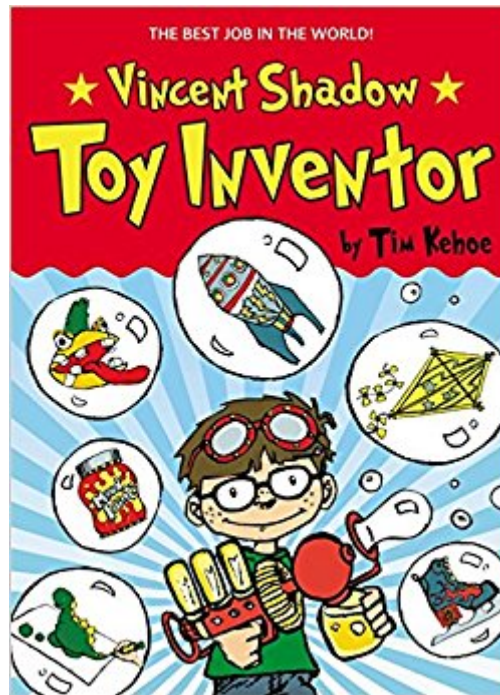




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# Vincent Shadow: Toy Inventor



## Synopsis

Vincent Shadow isn't particularly good at sports and is constantly being picked on by his classmates at Central Middle School. But it is Vincent's unusually creative mind that truly separates him from other kids his age. Vincent's top secret attic lab is crammed with toy prototypes --from Liquid Superballs to Bullz-I Basketballs and Sonic Snorkelz--and he has a sketch book filled with drawings of toys he still wants to build. So when a chance encounter with an eccentric toy inventor offers him the opportunity to go from unknown weird kid to toy inventor extraordinaire, Vincent realizes that playtime is over: it's time to get serious about toys.\* Vincent Shadow: Toy Inventor was previously titled The Unusual Mind of Vincent Shadow.

## Book Information

Series: Vincent Shadow (Book 1)

Paperback: 224 pages

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Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 stars 21 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #487,734 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #112 in [Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Family Life > Stepfamilies](#) #6066 in [Books > Children's Books > Activities, Crafts & Games > Activity Books](#) #6412 in [Books > Children's Books > Science, Nature & How It Works](#)

Age Range: 8 - 12 years

Grade Level: 3 - 7

## Customer Reviews

Grade 4-7 •Eleven-year-old Vincent Shadow has a gift so unusual and problematic that he's always had to hide it. Much like his idol, eccentric inventor Nikola Tesla, his ideas come to him in the form of blinding, fully formed, and intricately detailed visions. Unlike Tesla's, Vincent's visions are all of fantastic toys: windless kites, everlasting squirt guns, and 3-D ink, among them. Being a boy genius was easy when Vincent's supportive mom helped him build a secret home laboratory, but following her death and his father's remarriage, things change. The family is about to

move from New York to Minnesota, and Vincent's inspiration level is fading fast. Just as both his genius and morale seem to be bottoming out, he learns of a promising toy-invention contest sponsored by legendary toymaker Howard G. Whiz. If Vincent wins it, he'll earn an apprenticeship back in New York—a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to utilize his gift. As the contest nears, renewed inspiration comes from newly discovered Tesla artifacts and the surprising support of his stepsister. The question is, can Vincent overcome the last-minute sabotage by a rival in time to realize his dream? This is a solid, whimsically illustrated writing debut from a real-life toy inventor. It begs for a quick follow-up.

—Jeffrey Hastings, Highlander Way Middle School, Howell, MI

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--This text refers to the Hardcover edition.

This is a solid, whimsically illustrated writing debut from a real-life toy inventor. It begs for a quick follow up

School LIBRARY JOURNAL --This text refers to the Hardcover edition.

I loved it because it tells the story of a boy who is smart. He is not always appreciated. Sometimes I feel like that. Most people tell me I'm smart but what good does that do if you don't have any proof? I would recommend this book to people like me, who don't always feel appreciated.

We love these books and Tim Kehoe. I only wish he were here today with his family and to share more of his wonderful stories. A very talented, creative man.

I purchased this book for my 8 year old son. It is a great read packed full of ideas for young minds. He is very anxious for the second book to be released in 2012. If you click on the author link on the product page, there is a short video of Vincent Shadow. I am going to purchase more copies for birthday gifts for his friends.

This is a must buy for young 4th or 5th graders and even a 6th grader. I gave it to a 5th grade relative who did not put it down for four hours. He is a nonreader but this book really caught his attention. I decided to read it and found it delightful. The author, a toy inventor, has written a wonderful, engaging, fun, book for young people especially great for boys. His humor and clever style of writing as he takes his young toy inventor on his adventures will delight your child. I talked to a teacher friend about it and she was using it in her classroom to encourage creative thinking in her students. The book's clever cover where you can see into Vincent's attic and the notebook of

inventions in the back cover all add to the books enjoyment. My 5th grader has now started his own notebook of ideas. I would highly recommend this book.

The reason I loved this book is because I love to mix and match things I also love to create anything involving fun and awesomeness they create

My 3rd grade son struggled to read it on his own. Probably should be a 4th grade plus reader. We read it together, I helped him with the words with which he struggled. Then he really got into the story. And so did I. Highly recommend this book.

Excellent intro to Electricity and Simple Machines. My class are now huge fans of Tesla!  
Entertaining and educational. Geeks Rule.

My 7 y/o read this book in one day...he loved it!!! Would recommend it. Really great exciting wonderful fantastic book!

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