



## Things Hoped For (Things Not Seen)

By Andrew Clements

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Seventeen-year-old Gwen is preparing to audition for New York City's top music schools when her grandfather mysteriously disappears, leaving Gwen only a phone message telling her not to worry. But there's nothing more stressful than practicing for her auditions, not knowing where her grandfather is, and being forced to lie about his whereabouts when her insistent great-uncle demands an audience with him. Then Gwen meets Robert, also in town for music auditions, and the two pair up to brave the city without supervision. As auditions approach and her great-uncle becomes more aggressive, Gwen and Robert make a startling discovery. Suddenly Gwen's hopes are turned upside down, and she and Robert are united in ways neither of them could have foretold. . . .

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## Things Hoped For (Things Not Seen) By Andrew Clements Bibliography

- Sales Rank: #361216 in Books
- Brand: Puffin
- Published on: 2008-04-17
- Released on: 2008-04-17
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 7.76" h x .45" w x 5.11" l, .33 pounds
- Binding: Paperback
- 167 pages

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### Editorial Review

#### From School Library Journal

Grade 6 Up—The protagonist in *Things Not Seen* (Philomel, 2002) becomes a helpful friend to 17-year-old Gwen, who has been living with her grandfather in Manhattan while attending music school and preparing for intense auditions for college. Then, just after her grandfather and his brother have a fight about money, her grandfather disappears, leaving a confusing and cryptic note. Robert, also a musician, and Gwen pair up to solve the mystery when an uncomfortable reminder of his past shows up. The plot is quick, and readers will identify with Gwen's feelings of being torn between responsibility to herself and to her future, and her need to find her grandfather. Gwen's story is a good mix of mystery, friendship, and fantasy, with a touch of creepiness that will make the most sense to those who have read *Things Not Seen*.—Sherry Quinones, *Frederick County Public Libraries, MD*

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#### From Booklist

Gr. 8-11. Since leaving West Virginia for New York City two years ago, Gwen has been living with her grandfather and studying violin at the Manhattan School of Music. Now a senior, she finds tensions rising as the conservatory auditions that will determine her future as a violinist approach. When Grampa disappears after leaving a reassuring, though cryptic, message on the answering machine, shy Gwen is unsettled but determined to carry on with her routine. Several days later, the manner of his reappearance is a shock, but by that time Gwen has an ally: Robert, a trumpet student who wants to help and seems uniquely qualified to do so. Robert will be better known to readers of Clements' *Things Not Seen* (2002) as Bobby, who woke up invisible one morning and struggled to become visible again. Gwen's story, which takes place two years later, is already disquieting when an unpredictable and dangerous character enters the story, drawn by Robert's experience with invisibility. That subplot recedes in importance, though, beside the realistic depiction of a young woman who is thrown off kilter by emotional turmoil and not just regains her balance but also gains a new level of confidence. This offers a riveting story line, engaging characters, and intriguing insights into the development of musical artistry. *Carolyn Phelan*

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#### Review

Not since Frindle has Clements' writing achieved such near perfect pitch.

### uPublishers Weekly, starred review

### Users Review

#### From reader reviews:

#### Jonathan Flannagan:

Typically the book Things Hoped For (Things Not Seen) will bring you to definitely the new experience of reading a book. The author style to describe the idea is very unique. In the event you try to find new book to read, this book very appropriate to you. The book Things Hoped For (Things Not Seen) is much recommended to you you just read. You can also get the e-book from your official web site, so you can more readily to read the book.

**Jerald Higgins:**

Reading can called thoughts hangout, why? Because when you find yourself reading a book specifically book entitled Things Hoped For (Things Not Seen) your head will drift away trough every dimension, wandering in each and every aspect that maybe unfamiliar for but surely will end up your mind friends. Imaging each and every word written in a e-book then become one web form conclusion and explanation this maybe you never get ahead of. The Things Hoped For (Things Not Seen) giving you yet another experience more than blown away your thoughts but also giving you useful facts for your better life within this era. So now let us explain to you the relaxing pattern at this point is your body and mind will likely be pleased when you are finished examining it, like winning a game. Do you want to try this extraordinary paying spare time activity?

**Lauren Robinson:**

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