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Things Not Seen



Synopsis

Winner of American Library Association Schneider Family Book Award! "Bobby Phillips is an average fifteen-year-old-boy. Until the morning he wakes up and can't see himself in the mirror. Not blind, not dreaming-Bobby is just plain invisible. There doesn't seem to be any rhyme or reason to Bobby's new condition; even his dad the physicist can't figure it out. For Bobby that means no school, no friends, no life. He's a missing person. Then he meets Alicia. She's blind, and Bobby can't resist talking to her, trusting her. But people are starting to wonder where Bobby is. Bobby knows that his invisibility could have dangerous consequences for his family and that time is running out. He has to find out how to be seen again-before it's too late."

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Teens, especially those not in the "ber-popular set, know all about feeling invisible. But what would happen if you actually did wake up invisible one day? Fifteen-year-old Bobby is faced with this curious predicament in Andrew Clements's compelling novel *Things Not Seen*. Doing his best to adapt, Bobby informs his parents and grows more and more frustrated as they try to control his (unseen) life. Attempting to take matters in his own hands, he ventures out--naked--to the library, where he meets a blind girl who becomes a natural confidant. The ensuing drama, involving a nationwide search for other invisible people and a break-in to the computer database at Sears, Roebuck legal department headquarters ("News flash: Invisible people make excellent spies and

thieves") is authentic enough in detail to allow readers to overlook the nuttiness of it all. Teens will identify with Bobby's experience of being essentially invisible. Highly recommended. (Ages 11 to 15)
--Emilie Coulter --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

The earnest and likable 15-year-old narrator is the principal thing not seen in Clements's (Frindle; The Jacket) fast-paced novel, set in Chicago. As the book opens, the boy discovers that he has turned invisible overnight. Bobby breaks the news to his parents who, afraid of being hounded by the media, instruct him to share his dilemma with no one. But when Bobby ventures out of the house and visits the library, he meets Alicia, a blind girl to whom he confides his secret. Their blossoming friendship injects a double meaning into the book's title. As preposterous as the teen's predicament may be, the author spins a convincing and affecting story, giving Bobby's feeling of helplessness and his frustration with his parents an achingly real edge. As his physicist father struggles to find a scientific explanation for and a solution to his son's condition, husband and wife decide that they will tell the investigating truancy officials and police that Bobby has run away. Bobby, however, becomes increasingly determined to take control of the situation and of his own destiny: "And I want to yell, It's my life! You can't leave me out of the decisions about my own life! You are not in charge here!" Equally credible is the boy's deepening connection to Alicia, who helps Bobby figure out a solution to his problem. Ages 10-14. Copyright 2002 Cahners Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

As a child it was very hard for me to enjoy reading - I had video games to hold my focus. One day my parents brought home a giant pile of books for me to try reading. Things Not Seen by Clements was one of those books. It was one of the only books that I could read as a child, and I loved it. I still do as a 21 year old student. The character development of Alicia and Bobby, not to mention their parents, is a very interesting experience which is joined by Bobby's exciting and terrifying experience of becoming invisible. I bought this for my kindle a couple days ago, and today, after 4 and a half hours of strait reading I remember why it was a childhood favorite.

I have a student who was reading this book (from the library), so I bought him a copy for his birthday! He really enjoyed it.

I love most of Andrew Clement's books and this was no different. This book made me think and as a mother and teacher I love that. I think this would be a good book for any upper elementary or middle

kid to read. The way he writes makes you feel as if he is speaking to you, so I think kids would relate to what he is saying.

Arrived during estimated delivery date, just as advertised.

Great seller - product just as described - would recommend to others.

Read with my son for his Summer Reading for school! We both LOBED it! He ordered the sequel!

I have taught this novel for several years. Although on approx. a 5th grade rdg. ability level, the concepts are very much grade 7. The author creates wonderful messages about what kids go through as young teenagers and their relationships with friends, peers, and parents. My students love the story. This audio recording is good but could have used more intonation when creating the characters' dialog.

I read this book years ago when I was in the 6th grade and bought it for nostalgia reasons. Its a good book for young teen but the whole premise seems kind of dumb now that I'm smarter

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