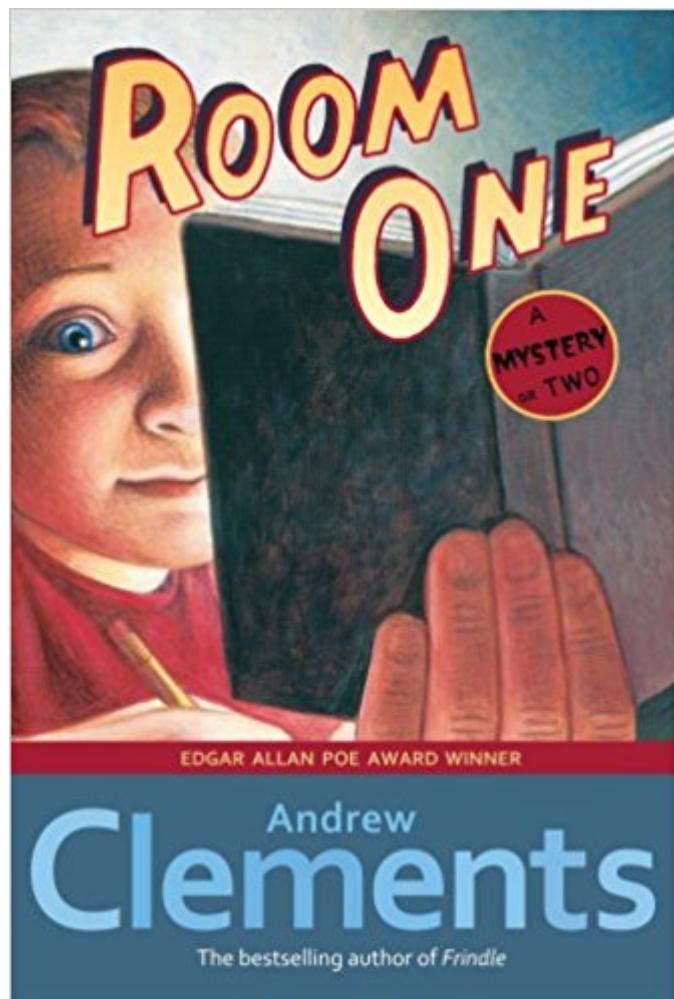


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# Room One: A Mystery Or Two



## **Synopsis**

Ted Hammond loves a good mystery, and in the spring of his fifth-grade year, he's working on a big one. How can his school in the little town of Plattsford stay open next year if there are going to be only five students? Out here on the Great Plains in western Nebraska, everyone understands that if you lose the school, you lose the town. But the mystery that has Ted's full attention at the moment is about that face, the face he sees in the upper window of the Andersons' house as he rides past on his paper route. The Andersons moved away two years ago, and their old farmhouse is empty, boarded up tight. At least it's supposed to be. A shrinking school in a dying town. A face in the window of an empty house. At first these facts don't seem to be related. But Ted Hammond learns that in a very small town, there's no such thing as an isolated event. And the solution of one mystery is often the beginning of another.

## **Book Information**

Lexile Measure: 0840 (What's this?)

Paperback: 192 pages

Publisher: Atheneum Books for Young Readers; Reprint edition (May 20, 2008)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0689866879

ISBN-13: 978-0689866876

Product Dimensions: 5.1 x 0.6 x 7.6 inches

Shipping Weight: 5 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.2 out of 5 starsÂ  See all reviewsÂ  (52 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #246,759 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #137 inÂ  Books > Children's Books > Geography & Cultures > Where We Live > Country Life #1979 inÂ  Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Friendship, Social Skills & School Life > School #2238 inÂ  Books > Children's Books > Mysteries & Detectives

Age Range: 8 - 12 years

Grade Level: 3 - 7

## **Customer Reviews**

So it's time for silent reading in my fifth grade class and my students LOVE silent reading time. Most of them can't get enough of the books they're reading and can't wait to talk about them. But there's always the few who spend the entire silent reading time in the school library or at my personal library or trying to sneak away to the bathroom. They spend more time fidgeting than they do

reading. How do you get those children to read? Well, one thing I have found that works is to put an Andrew Clements book in their hands. Clements' books are simple and readable and according to most of my fifth graders, cool. *Frindle*, *The Landry News*, and *Lunch Money* are not filled with elementary student clichÃ©s. The characters aren't cheesy and my students don't find themselves saying "Come on, we're not like that" as is the case with many other books written for them. Clements' characters act and talk like real elementary students and are usually faced with real problems and this is an important part of his appeal. *Room One* is no exception. One day while sixth grader Ted Hammond is delivering papers, he notices a mysterious face in an upstairs window of an old home, the Anderson's home. What spikes Ted's curiosity is that no one has lived in the Anderson house for two years. The house has sat empty and the windows have been boarded up. With nothing else going on in his small rural Nebraska town of Plattsford, Ted sets out to investigate. I liked this book. I really did. It doesn't matter that I picked it up half-wanting, half-expecting a good mystery and didn't get one. Clements made me care about Ted, and April, and her family, and Mrs.

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