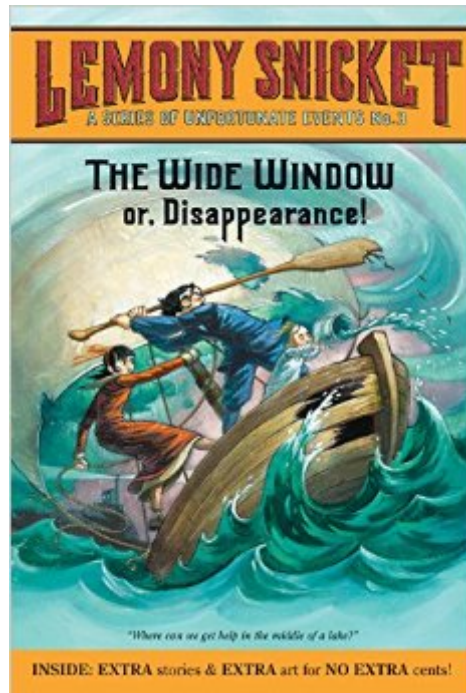


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# The Wide Window: Or, Disappearance! (Unfortunate Events)



## Synopsis

SOON TO BE A NETFLIX ORIGINAL SERIES  
Dear Reader, If you have not read anything about the Baudelaire orphans, then before you read even one more sentence, you should know this: Violet, Klaus, and Sunny are kindhearted and quick-witted, but their lives, I am sorry to say, are filled with bad luck and misery. All of the stories about these three children are unhappy and wretched, and this one may be the worst of them all. If you haven't got the stomach for a story that includes a hurricane, a signalling device, hungry leeches, cold cucumber soup, a horrible villain, and a doll named Pretty Penny, then this book will probably fill you with despair. I will continue to record these tragic tales, for that is what I do. You, however, should decide for yourself whether you can possibly endure this miserable story.  
With all due respect,  
Lemony Snicket

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: 1150 (What's this?)

Series: Unfortunate Events (Book 3)

Paperback: 208 pages

Publisher: HarperCollins; Reprint edition (September 4, 2007)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0061146331

ISBN-13: 978-0061146336

Product Dimensions: 5.1 x 0.4 x 7.6 inches

Shipping Weight: 7.2 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.4 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (385 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #53,531 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #118 in [Books > Children's Books](#)

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Age Range: 8 - 12 years

Grade Level: 5 and up

## Customer Reviews

If you enjoy the dark humor of Edward Gorey, this series will probably enchant. The characters are intelligent and sympathetic. However, while the books may be a tad bit dark for some younger readers, portions of this series are too simplistic for more mature readers. Snickett often writes in definitions for "big" words used. When the definitions stay in context, they're amusing and maintain

the atmosphere. When the definitions are more dictionary like, they distract. The Series of Unfortunate Events, nonetheless, is a great series that children of all ages can enjoy. If anything, kids will sympathize with the Baudelaires frustration with the adults around them. For a turn on the lighter side - I recommend Gail Levine's "Princess Tales" series.

As far as "darkness" or "inappropriateness" for youngsters goes, I tried reading \*The Bad Beginning\* to my 7-year-old a while ago and he begged off after one chapter, saying that it made him feel too sad; but the other day he took it off the shelf and -- on his own -- is now half-way through "Book the Second" of this series, \*The Reptile Room.\* I'm happy to report that he has a real treat in store when he turns to this volume of the Baudelaire orphan's adventures, for it is easily the best of the lot. Longer than either of its predecessors, it is also more relaxed and assured -- not that the pace is slack (far from it), it's simply that Snicket is more at home with his bag of tricks and is beginning to manipulate his deliberately limited, muted palette with a master's verve. Fearful, grammar-haunted Aunt Josephine is a wonderful, painfully funny addition to the improbable constellation of distant "family" through which it is the Baudelaire's sad fate to pass, and her second most notable quirk bears an interesting relationship to Snicket's own frequent definitions of "big words." This last feature seems to bother a lot of people, but I think these folks are trying to bully something which is primarily an \*aesthetic\* device of great flexibility into an overly-rigid pedagogical frame. These books aren't nasty things which are -- like certain exiliris --nevertheless good for you, they're wonderfully entertaining works of verbal art, and if one had to troll their depths for messages, one would find, cumulatively, that these have more to do with self-reliance and competence than with any of the hideous treatment the Baudelaire's endure or the corpses that are left in their wake.

I will agree with the comparison to Edward Gorey, this is definitely a great series for fans of his dark hilarious work. I work in a book store and this series has lately been our latest addiction. Sad & dismel yes, but the clever wrting by Mr Snicket keeps the reader from despair. Wonderful quick reads for the "adults" who grew up with a black sense of humor.

After having read Daniel Handler's books, I learned from some casual web surfing about his pseudonym Lemony Snicket. Having read just The Wide Window, I would say that I now want to read the rest of the Lemony Snicket books. As an adult, I found this book charming and humorous. The Baudelaire orphans are amusing, particularly little Sunny of the super-sharp teeth. This book was not a long complicated read like Harry Potter books, but it was full of great humor and some

suspense. I think that this type of book would delight most children who enjoyed books with a sly sense of humor. As well there is an education value as this book uses some "vocabulary words" that kids might not know, but then immediately defines these words. After reading this one, I now want to go out and get the whole series so far.

Hooray for the Series of Unfortunate Events! This is definitely one of my favorite series (if not my favorite). I love the funny ways the author words his sentences, makes fun of adults, and breaks almost every rule in the "Good Writing Tips" section of my grammar book. In this third book, the three unfortunate orphans are visiting their Aunt Josephine, who is afraid of everything, especially realtors. But, of course, evil Count Olaf (Boo! Hiss!) catches up with them, and Violet, Klaus, and Sunny Baudelaire have to thwart his next plan to get their fortune. But the main question is, will Aunt Josephine survive the ordeal? Or will she discover the same fate as Uncle Monty in the previous book? I didn't think this book was as good as the first two, but I still love it, think it's great, and give it five stars. Hopefully, you will too, and if you do, some other books similar to "The Wide Window" are "Matilda" by Roald Dahl, "The Twin in the Tavern" by Barbara Brooks Wallace, and "Half Magic" by Edward Eager.

After my teacher read the first book of the series to my class, I really wanted to continue to read the series on my own. After going to the Miami Book Fair and hearing the author speak I went out and bought all his books. The Wide Window is easily the best yet! It has twists, turns, realistic characters, and an enthralling plot. The book stars the three Baudelaire orphans as they go and live with their Aunt Josephine. Count Olaf immediately comes into town disguised as a captain of a ship but doesn't trick the kids. Wait... I won't give the rest away! Read this book. It is a genuinely fabulous book that any reader will love. It was soooo good. Pick it up NOW!

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