

FOR THE YOUNGEST

GENERAL DISCUSSION ABOUT DEATH

- Aliki, Brandenburg. Feelings (Reading Rainbow Books). Greenwillow Publications. 1986. (Open dialogue with kids about all kinds of feelings.)
- Boulden, Jim. Saying Goodbye. P.O. Box 9358, Santa Rosa, CA. 95405. (Coloring book-coloring cartoons and creative drawing exercises; a helpful book.)
- Brown, Margaret Wise. The Dead Bird. Harper Trophy, 1995. (Children find a bird, recognize that it is dead, have a funeral and visit the grave. A gentle introduction to death.) Ages 4-8
- Brown, R. Brown, M. When Dinosaurs Die: A Guide to Understanding Death. Little Brown, 1996. (Explains in direct-terms what it means to die. Talks about different ways a person dies, including suicide. Also ways to honor the memory of someone who has died.) Ages 4-8.
- Buscaglia, Leo. The Fall of Freddie the Leaf. Holt Rinehardt & Winston Pub., 1983. (A story about the delicate balance between life and death.)
- Carle, Eric. The Tiny Seed". Simon & Schuster, 1990. (Beautifully illustrated -- flowering plant's life cycle through the seasons.)
- Johnson, Joy and Johnson, Marvin. Tell Me, Papa. Ctr. Thantology, 1990: (A grandparent gives a detailed explanation of what happens when someone dies and the meaning of the funeral.) Ages 4 -8
- Mellonie, Bryan and Ingpen, Robert. Lifetimes: The Beautiful Way to Explain Death to Children. Bantam Books, 1983. (One of the best books; wonderful illustrations; everything alive has a time for living and a time for-dying.) Ages 3-10.
- Stickney, Doris. Waterbugs and Dragonflies: Explain Death to Young Children. London: Pilgrim Press, 1993.
- Varley, Susan. Badger's Parting Gifts: Lothrop Lee & Shepard, 1984. (Friends come to terms with badger's death by realizing that he left special memories behind.) Ages 3 -10.

LOSS OF A GRANDPARENT/AUNT/UNCLE

- Aliki, Brandenburg. The Two of Them. William Morrow & Co., 1987 (Death of a little girl's grandfather.) Ages 4- 8.
- Bunting, Eve. The Wall. Clarion, 1990. (A boy and his father visit the Vietnam War Memorial to find the name of the boy's grandfather.) Ages 4- 8.
- DePaola, Tomie. Nana Upstairs and Nana Downstairs. Putnam Press Publishing Group, 1998. (The relationship between young and old; excellent.) Ages 4- 8.
- Fassler, J. My Grandpa Died Today. N.Y: Human Sciences Press, 1983.
- Jordan, Mary Kate. Losing Uncle Tim. Concept Books, 1993. (When his beloved Uncle Tim dies of AIDS, Daniel struggles to find reassurance and understanding and finds that his favorite grown-up has left him a legacy of joy and courage.) Ages 4 -8. Fiction.
- Miles, Miska. Annie and the Old One. Boston: Little Brown, 1985. (Annie, a young Navajo girl, struggles with the realization that her grandmother "The Old One" must die.) Ages 4 -8. Very good fiction.
- Simon, Norma and Rogers, Jacqueline. The Saddest Time. A. Whitman Publ., 1992. (3 stories about death - losing an uncle, a young school friend is hit by a car, and a grandma dies.) Grades 1- 4. Fiction.
- Zolotow, Charlotte. My Grandson Lew. Harper Collins, 1987. (A small boy and his mother share memories about his grandfather.)

LOSS OF A SIBLING

- Gryte, Marilyn. No New Baby. Centering Corp, 1988: (Story for children whose mother miscarries. Deals with guilt, sadness and how we do not always have all the answers.) Ages 3- 7.
- Johnson, M. and Goldstein, R. Where's Jess? Centering Corp., 1982. (Real questions of a 3-year-old whose baby sister died are reflected in this gentle book for children who have experienced sibling death.) Ages 2- 4.

LOSS OF A PET

Carrick, Carol. Accident. Houghton-Mifflin, 1981. (Young boy's feelings of guilt, anger and grief at death of his pet.)

Cohen, Miriam. Jim's Dog Muffin. Picture Yearling Books, 1996. Ages 4- 8.

Roper, Fred. When a Pet Dies. Paperback. To be published again 1998.

Viorst, Judith. The Tenth Good Thing about Barney. New York: Athenaeum, 1971. (When Barney the cat dies, his owner discovers something positive comes from his death; a classic.) Ages 4- 8.

Warburg, Sandol. Growing Time. Houghton-Mifflin, 1989. (About a dog that dies.) Ages 3- 8.

Wilhelm, Hans. I'll Always Love You. Crown, 1985. (Little boy with puppy who eventually grows old and dies.)

Zolotow, Charlotte. The Old Dog. Harper Collins, 1995. (When a young boy finds his dog dead one morning, he spends the day thinking of the good times they had together.)

LOSS OF A FRIEND

Buchanan-Smith, Doris. A Taste of Blackberries. Harper Collins, 1992. (When Jamie dies of a bee sting his best friend must learn to accept his death.) Fiction.

Carlstrom, Nancy White. Blow Me a Kiss, Miss Lilly. Harper, 1990. (When her best friend, an old lady name Miss Lilly dies, Sara learns that the memory of a loved one never dies.) Ages 4-8.

Kaldhol, Marit and Oyen, Wenche. Goodbye Rune. Kane/Miller, 1987. (Very powerful story may be too traumatic for many children. Death of young girl's friend by drowning; depicts horror and pain experienced with a sudden death; fabulous illustrations.) Ages 4-8.

MIDDLE GRADES

GENERAL DISCUSSION ABOUT DEATH

Center for Attitudinal Healing. There's a Rainbow Behind Every Dark Cloud. 1978. Center Address: 19 Main St., Tiburon, CA. 94920. (By children for other children, on "what we experience." And "choices you have in helping yourself.")

Coerr, E. Sadako and the Thousand Paper Cranes. NY: Putnam, 1990. (Japanese girl dies from radiation exposure from Hiroshima bomb, but her wish for peace lives on through classmates. True story and a classic.) Ages 9- 12.

Frank, Anne. Anne Frank: The Diary of a Young Girl. Amereon Ltd, 1967.

Heegaard, Marge. When Someone Very Special Dies. Woodland Press, 1988. (Practical workbook to be illustrated by children as it guides them through feelings related to grief. Excellent. Useful guide for facilitator of support groups.) Ages 5-12.

LeShan, Eda. What Makes Me Feel This Way? Growing Up with Human Emotions. Simon & Schuster, 1972: (Book written directly to young people about the variety of human emotions they experience and ways to understand them.) Ages 9 -12.

Kubler-Ross, Elizabeth. Remember the Secret. Celestial Arts, 1988 (two children dealing with death; includes concepts of afterlife and spirits connecting with the living.) Ages 5-10.

Ropes, Eric. The Kid's Book About Death and Dying. Boston: Little Brown, 1985. (14 children offer facts and advice to give young readers a better understanding about death.)

White, E. B. Charlotte's Web. New York: Harper & Row, 1952. (Life and death of Charlotte the spider.) Classic. Fiction. Ages 7- 10.

Wild, Marjorie. The Very Best of Friends. University of Toronto Press, 1990. (Jessie's difficult adjustment period after her husband's death makes William, her husband's cat, doubt if he is still welcome on the farm.) Fiction, Ages 7-10.

LOSS OF A PARENT

Dragonwagon, Crescent. Winter Holding Spring. Athenaeum, 1990. (Young girl and her father struggle through the painful year following her mother's death.) Fiction. Ages 7 –10.

Gif, Patricia. The Gift of the Pirate Queen. Yearling Books, 1983. (6th grader Grace, her mother dead, and her only sister ill with diabetes, learns to be brave like a pirate queen she resembles.) Ages 9- 12.

Hunter, Mollie. A Sound of Chariots. NY: Harper Collins, 1988. (Young girl growing up in Scotland after WWI tries to come to terms with grief over father's death and her increasing sense of the passage of time.) Fiction.

Juneau, Barbara. Sad, But OK -My Daddy Died Today. B. Dolphin Pub. 1988. (Through eyes of her 9 year old daughter, author shares thoughts and feelings during time her husband faced cancer.) Grades 5 & up.

Krementz, Jill. How It Feels When a Parent Dies. New York: Knopf, 1982. (In this photo-essay, 18 children between the ages of 7 & 16 tell their story about the death of a parent. Excellent.)

LeShan, Eda. Learning to Say Goodbye: When a Parent Dies. NY: Macmillan, 1976. (Practical, readable book for ages ten and up; includes stages of grief; wonderful book.)

LOSS OF A GRANDPARENT

Byars, Betsy. Goodbye Chicken Little. Harper Trophy, 1990. (About an uncle's death.) 8 yrs and up.

Gaeddert, LouAnn. A Summer Like Turnips. H. Holt & Co., 1989. (After his grandmother dies, Bruce spends the summer with Gramps and learns to help him through his mixed emotions.) Ages 8-12. Fiction.

Jukes, Mavis. Blackberries in the Dark. Bullseye Books, 1994. (Boy loses his grandfather and with his grandmother begins new traditions and really discover each other.) Ages 9- 12.

Nystrom, Carolyn. Emma Says Goodbye. Lion Pub. 1994. (Emma grows close to her Aunt Sue who has come to live with them during her terminal illness.) Ages 9- 12. Fiction.

LOSS OF A SIBLING

Alcott, Louisa M. Little Women . Newmarket Press, 1995. (Sister dies after illness) Fiction. A classic.

Center for Attitudinal Healing. Straight from the Siblings. Another Look at the Rainbow. Celestial Arts, 1982. (Contact the Center at 19 Main St., Tiburon, CA 94920)

LOSS OF A PET

Rawls, W. Where the Red Fern Grows. Bantam Starfire, 1984. (Billy learns about a Native American Legend of the sacred red fern, when he grieves over the death of his dog.)

UPPER GRADES

LOSS OF A PARENT

Hermes, Patricia. You Shouldn't Have to Say Goodbye. Demco Media, 1996. (13 year old Sarah's mother is dying of cancer.) Fiction.

Voigt, Cynthia. Dacey's Song. Fawcett Books, 1995. (A young girl's struggle to comprehend her mother's mental illness and hold her family together, as they start a new life with her grandmother.) Fiction

LOSS OF A GRANDPARENT

L'Engle, Madeleine. A Ring of Endless Light. Farrar Straus & Giroux, 1980. (A young girl watches her grandfather face death with courage and insight. A book with many levels that teenagers can identify with.) Fiction.

Mazer, Norma Fox. After the Rain. Flare Pub. 1997. (The bittersweet experience of a 15 yr. old girl's relationship with her dying grandfather.) Fiction.

LOSS OF A SIBLING

Greene, Constance. Beat the Turtle Drum. Puffin, 1994. (Young girl learns to cope with feelings about sister's accidental death.) Fiction

LaTour, Kathy. For Those Who Live. Centering Corp., 1987. (A book to help children cope with the death of a brother or sister. Brings emotions and fears into the open. Helpful for adolescents and parents. Can order through Compassionate Friends.)

Lowry, Lois. A Summer to Die. Houghton Mifflin Co., 1977. (When her sister gets sick, Meg, 13, is very jealous of the attention Molly, 15, receives. Later, Meg realizes Molly is dying of leukemia. Deals with Meg's complex emotions.) Fiction.

Naughton, Jim. My Brother Stealing Second. Harper Collins, 1991. (After his older brother is killed in a car accident, 16 yr. old Bobby deals with his grief and a new found love and understanding.) Fiction.

LOSS OF A FRIEND

Cleaver, Bill & Vera. Where The Lilies Bloom. Harper Trophy, 1989.

Craven, Margaret. I Heard the Owl Call My Name. Demco Media, 1993. (Priest, not knowing he has only 2 years left to live, is sent by his bishop to live with Indians of British Columbia.)

Deaver, Julie Reece. Say Goodnight, Gracie. Harper Trophy, 1989. (When a car accident kills her best friend, 17 yr. old Morgan must find her own way of coping with his death.)
Fiction

Gravelle, Karen and Haskins, Charles. Teenagers Face to Face with Bereavement. J. Messner, 1989. (Written from in-depth interviews with 18 bereaved teens, book offers practical but caring advice on coping with death.)

Grollman, E. Straight Talk About Death for Teenagers. Beacon Press, 1993. (Explains what to expect when you lose someone you love.)

Paterson, Katherine;. Bridge to Terabithia. Harper Collins, 1978. (Joy turns to tragedy as Leslie is killed in an accident on her way through the woods and her friend Jess deals with her death.) A Classic. Fiction

Romond, Janis. Children Facing Grief: Letters from Bereaved Brothers and Sisters. Abbey Press, 1989. (Letters written by children who simply and eloquently share their pain and growth.) Ages 6-15.

BIBLIOGRAPHY FOR PARENTS

KARA YOUTH AND FAMILY SERVICES

- Colgrove, M., Bloomfield H., McWilliam, P. How to Survive the Loss of a Love: 58 Things to Do When There Is Nothing to Be Done. Prelude Press. (1993)
- Fine C. No Time to Say Good-bye: Surviving the Suicide of a Loved One. Doubleday. (1997)
- Grollman E. What Helped Me When My Loved One Died. Beacon Press, Boston. (1982)
- Grollman E. Living when a Loved One Has Died. Beacon Press, Boston. (1995)
- Kubler-Ross E. On Death and Dying. Tavistock, London. (1969)
- Kushner H. When Bad Things Happen to Good People. Avon Books. (1981)
- Levine S. Who Dies? An Investigation of Conscious Living and Conscious Dying. Anchor Books. (1989)
- Lewis C. S. A Grief Observed. Faber & Faber, London. (1966)
- Neeld E.H. Seven Choices: Taking the Steps to New Life After Losing Someone You Love. Centrepoint Press. (1997)
- Parkes C., and Weiss, R. Recovery from Bereavement. Jason Aronson Books. (1995)
- Rando T. Grieving. How to Go on Living When Someone You Love Dies. Lexington Books. (1995)
- Sarnoff Schiff, Harriet. The Bereaved Parent. Viking Press. (1978)
- Staudacher, C. A Time to Grieve: Meditations for Healing After the Death of a Loved One. Harper Collins, London. (1992)
- Tatelbaum, J. The Courage to Grieve: Creative Living, Recovery and Growth Through Grief. Harper Collins. (1984)
- Westberg, G. Good Grief: A Constructive Approach to the Problem of Loss. Fortress Press. (1986)
- Warden, W. Grief Counseling and Grief Therapy. Springer, New York. (1982)