CHILDREN AND TEENS’ BOOK LIST

Death of a Parent

Always My Dad (A small picture book about the enduring love a young boy finds after the death of his father) Kathryn Graf. Ages 5-10

Everett Anderson’s Goodbye (Young boy experiences grief following the death of his father) Lucille Clifton. Ages 3-9


Sad But OK- My Daddy Died Today (Chapter book chronicling a family’s journey through cancer, death, and grief) Barbara Frisbie Juneau. Ages 8-12

Saying Goodbye to Daddy (Gentle treatment of death, funerals, grief as a multi-generational family grieves the death of the adult son, husband and father) Judith Vigna. Ages 6-12

Death of a Grandparent

Children Also Grieve: Talking about Death & Healing (Story about a dog in a family whose grandfather died; has room to create scrapbook) Linda Goldman. Ages 5-10


I know I Made it Happen (Deals with self blame when a series of bad things happen including a grandparent’s death) Lynn Bennett Blackburn. Ages 6-12

Saying Goodbye to Grandma (In depth look at a family gathering for the funeral of a beloved grandmother) Jane Resh Thomas. Ages 8-12

What’s Heaven? Maria Shriver. Ages 3-8

Zeydeh (A Story Guide to Help Jewish Children Cope With Loss and Bereavement) Moshe Halevi Spero. Ages 6-12

Death of a Sibling

Alicia Afterimage, Lulu Delacre. Ages 12-adult

Always My Brother, Jean Reagen. Ages 6-11


The Empty Place- A Child’s Guide through Grief. Roberta Temes, PhD, Ages 3-8
Thumpy’s Story (Bunnies learn about death, grief and love when their sibling dies. Good Explanations for younger children. Nancy C. Dodge. Ages 3-8)

Death by Suicide

Bart Speaks Out (An interactive story and workbook for children dealing specifically with a death by suicide. Uses photos of dogs to soften the impact) Linda Goldman, M.S. Ages 3-10

But I Didn’t Get to Say Good-Bye (A book for parents and professionals helping child suicide survivors; portions may be read aloud with older children) Barbara Rubel. Griefwork Center Inc, New Jersey

Books for Grief in General

*Bereaved Children and Teens: A Support Guide for Parents and Professionals Edited by Earl A. Grollman. For children about ages 3-18 (appropriate for older teens)

Brave Bart (a cat experiences both a post-traumatic stress reaction and grief following a bad, scary thing) Caroline Sheppard, ACSW. Ages 3-14

*Can be ordered through OUR HOUSE

Day of the Dead (A village in Mexico prepares and celebrates this holiday which honors the memories of their loved ones) Tony Johnston & Jeanette Winter. Ages 3-10

Fall of Freddie the Leaf (Poetic look at the life cycle and its meaning) Leo Buscaglia, Ph.D. All ages

*Healing Your Grieving Heart For Teens: 100 Practical Ideas Alan D. Wolfelt, Ph.D. Ages 12-18

grief girl: my true story (Memoir of a woman who was orphaned suddenly at age 14) Erin Vincent. Ages 12-Adult

I Wish I had a Book to Read: Helping a child’s heart heal when someone special has died (Grieving children will see themselves in this sensitively written book which offers a unique way to write and draw about their feelings and memories following the death of someone close) Randi Pearlman Wolfson, MFT. Ages 7-13

Available at www.lookupathTEMoon.com.

Lifetimes: A beautiful way to explain death to children. (Gentle explanations of the life cycle) Ages 3-7

My Grief Journal: for Grieving Teens (Offers the opportunity to draw or write about memories & feelings after death) OUR HOUSE. Ages 11-18

My Memory Book: for Grieving Children (Offers the opportunity to draw or write about memories & feelings after death) OUR HOUSE. Ages 3-10

A Taste of Blackberries (A fictional look at how a pre-adolescent boy who comes to terms with the death of a friend) Doric Buchanan Smith. Ages 8-14

The Tenth Good Thing About Barney (Death, Grief and the afterlife as experienced by a young boy following the death of his dear cat) Judith Viorst. Ages 3-8
**Timothy Duck** (Duck learns about death, dying, grieving, and healing when his friend dies) Lynn Bennett Blackburn. Ages 3-8

**When Dinosaurs Die** Laurie Krasny Brown and Marc Brown. Ages 6-12

**Death of a Pet:**

- **My Pet Died (Let’s Make a Book about It).** Rachel Biale
- **“Oh Where has my Pet Gone?”: a pet loss memory book.** Sally Sibbit. Ages 3-103
- **When Only the Love Remains: The Pain of Pet Loss.** Emily Margaret Stuparyk
- **The Tenth Good Thing About Barney** (Death, Grief and the afterlife as experienced by a young boy following the death of his dear cat) Judith Viorst. Ages 3-8

**Recommended for Parents of Grieving Children:**


- **Bode, Janet.** Death if Hard to Live With: Teenagers Talk about how They Cope with Loss. Delacorte Press (1993)
- **Hannelore, Corr, Charles A.** Childhood & Death. Hemisphere Publishing Corp.