



Printed Resources for Bereaved Children

(Books marked with an * are available to borrow from the Iowa City Hospice Lending Library.)

****Aarvy Aardvark Finds Hope***, Donna O'Toole

Read-aloud story of pain of loss and hope of recovery. 6 years to adult.

And Peter Said Goodbye, Liz Farrington

Magical paints take Peter on a journey to say goodbye to his grandfather. Ages 5-9.

Annie and the Old One, Miska Miles

Grandmother teaches her granddaughter about life and death as she prepares to die. 6 to 12 years.

Badger's Parting Gifts, Susan Varley

Story of the death of old Badger, remembered by his animal friends. 5 to 9 years.

Beat the Turtle Drum, Constance Greene

Hopeful story of death of 11-year-old girl and its effects on her sister and parents. 10 years to adult.

Blackberries in the Dark, Mavis Jukes

Austin and his grandmother learn how to keep their memories of Grandpa alive on the farm. Ages 4-8.

Blow Me a Kiss, Miss Lilly, Nancy Carlstrom

Sara learns that memory lives on when her best friend, an old lady named Miss Lilly, dies. 4 to 8 years.

Bridge to Terabithia, Katherine Paterson

A story of a friendship between a boy and girl, a tragedy and the resurrection of hope. Newberry Award winner. 8 to 12 years.

Charlotte's Web, E. B. White

Classic story of the loving barn spider who explains death to Wilbur, the piglet, as she prepares to die. 5 years to adult.

****The Class in Room 44***, Lynn Blackburn

A story to help children label and deal with their feelings following the death of a classmate. Ages not listed.

Dad! Why'd You Leave Me? Dorothy Frost

10-year-old Ronnie feels anger, sorrow and confusion over the sudden death of his father.

****The Dead Bird***, Margaret Wise Brown

Some young children find a dead bird, then have a funeral and burial. 4 to 8 years.

Emma Says Goodbye, Carolyn Nystrom

Emma grows close to her Aunt Sue, who has come to live with the family during her terminal illness. 8 to 14 years.

Everett Anderson's Goodbye, Clifton and Grifalconi

Boy struggles with the death of his father. 5 to 12 years.

Fall of Freddie the Leaf, Leo Buscaglia

Story of life and death and the changing of the seasons. All ages.

Geranium Morning, Sandy Powell

After Timothy's father is killed in an accident, he meets Franny, whose mother is dying. Their sharing helps them both. Ages 4-8.

God is Always with Me, Helen Caswell

Picture book that responds to a child's questions about why things change. Ages 2-6.

Goodbye, Mitch, Ruth Wallace-Brodeur

Tender story of what a child experiences when the cat he loves grows ill and dies. Ages 4-8.

****Goodbye Rune***, Kaldbol and Oyen

Story of the death of a young girl's best friend by drowning, and how her parents help. 5 to 12 years.

Grandad Bill's Song, Jane Yolen

Poetic book about how different members of a family respond to a death. Ages 4-8.

Gran-Gran's Best Trick, Dwight Holden

Sensitive story of a child whose grandparent develops cancer and dies. Ages 9-12.

Grandpa Loved, Josephine Nobisso

Story of how a child worries, grieves and heals as his beloved pet dies, all the while influenced by his loving grandparent. Ages 9-12.

****How It Feels When a Parent Dies***, Jill Krementz

Collection of photo-essays with thoughts and feelings of 18 children, aged 7 to 16.

I Had a Friend Named Peter, J. Cohn

Betsy's best friend dies suddenly and her parents and teacher help her learn that, though people may die, memories live forever. 5 to 10 years.

I Know I Made It Happen, Lynn Blackburn

Validating book to help children with the fear and guilt that they caused a death or illness. Ages 4-8.

I'll Always Love you, Hans Wilhelm

A boy tells of his dog, Elfie, who ages and dies, offering the importance of telling loved ones how you feel while you still can. 3 to 7 years.

It Must Hurt a Lot, Doris Sanford

A boy learns to express his feelings after his dog is killed. 4 to 10 years.

Learning to Say Goodbye, Eda LeShan

Classic book written for children about the problems they face when a parent has died. 8 to 12 years.

Lifetimes, Mellonie and Ingpen

Describes the cycles of life in plants, animals and people. 3 to 10 years.

****Losing Uncle Tim***, MaryKate Jordan

When his Uncle Tim dies of AIDS, Daniel first struggles, then finds understanding and hope. 7 to 12 years.

Love, Mark, Mark Scrivani

Hand-printed, illustrated letters to children to answer their questions about death and grief. Ages 7-12.

Mustard, Charlotte Graeber

8-year-old boy deals with the death of the family cat, by denial, anger and sadness. 6 to 9 years.

My Grandson Lew, William duBois

Tender book illustrating how grief reaches across the years. 4 to 8 years.

Nadia the Willful, Sue Alexander

Inspiring story of the angry feelings of a girl after the death of her brother and the role of remembrance in healing. Ages 7-12.

**Nana Upstairs and Nana Downstairs, Tomie dePaola*

Charming picture book that recognizes that even after a family member dies the love connections continue. Ages 3-7.

No New Baby, Marilyn Gryte

Story for children whose mother miscarries. 3 to 7 years.

Pablo Remembers, George Ancona

Colorful story of the Mexican fiesta of the Day of the Dead and how Pablo commemorates those he loves. Ages 9-12.

A Quilt for Elizabeth, Benette Tiffault

Elizabeth and her grandmother make a quilt and share their stories and tears following the death of Elizabeth's father. Ages 4-8.

Saying Goodbye, Jim Boulden

Award-winning booklet with color-in cartoons, drawings and activities to help children understand the finality of death. Ages 4-12.

Saying Goodbye to Daddy, Judith Vigna

Clare's mother and grandfather help her cope with the sudden death of her daddy in a car accident. 5 to 8 years.

**The Snowman, Robin Helene Vogel*

Two brothers build a snowman in honor of their deceased father. 8 to 12 years.

So Much to Think about, Fred Rogers

Activity book for children dealing with the death of a loved one, right out of Mr. Rogers' Neighborhood.

**Something to Remember Me By, Susan V. Bosak*

Story of the relationship of a grandmother and granddaughter over the years. Age 10 and up.

Tell Me Papa, Joy and Mary Johnson

A grandfather explains what happens when someone dies and the meaning of the funeral. 4 to 8 years.

**The Tenth Good Thing about Barney, Judith Viorst*

Provocative book about the death and burial of a cat, about grief, and about what happens after death. Ages 4-8.

The Velveteen Rabbit, Margery Williams

Classic story of love and death, written from the point of view of a toy rabbit. Ages 4-adult.

When I Die, Will I Get Better?, J. and P. Breebaart

Story written by a 5-year-old boy, assisted by his father, about healing after the death of his young brother. Ages 5-adult.

When Grandpa Came to Stay, Judith Caseley

A child and grandparent learn that joy and sorrow are worth sharing, through a trip to the cemetery. 3 to 7 years.

The following is an adapted version of a bibliography courtesy of James E. Miller, founder and owner of Willowgreen Consulting, Productions and Publishing, P.O. Box 25180, Ft. Wayne, IN 46825

**A Taste of Blackberries, Doris Buchanan Smith*

A boy's friend dies after a bee sting. 10 to 13 years.

**The Education of Little Tree, Forrest Carter*

A boy loses both of his parents and goes to live with his Cherokee grandparents in the 1930s. Ages 12 to adult.

**The Empty Place, Roberta Termes*

A third-grade boy's big sister dies. He goes through lots of feelings and questions and gets help from his babysitter, who lost her own brother. 8 to 12 years.

**Hey, What's Wrong With This One? Maia Wojciechowska*

Three brothers grieve, each in their own way, for their mother. 10 to 13 years.

**I Heard Your Mommy Died, Mark Scrivani*

Read-aloud book about life after a mother's death. 2 to 6 years.

**Jungle Journey, Barbara McIntyre*

Animals take a journey through the jungle after the death of their beloved Eleanor the Elephant. Ages not listed.

**Just a Heartbeat Away, Gabriel Constan*

A mother dies of AIDS and her child is left behind. Ages not listed.

**Loss and How to Cope With It, Joanne E. Bernstein*

Talks about all kinds of losses. 12 to 16 years.

**Since My Brother Died, Marisol Munoz-Kiehne*

A young boy tells about his feelings, thoughts and experiences after his brother died. In both English and Spanish. Ages 4-8.

**To Hell with Dying, Alice Walker and Catherine Dieter*

Story of a child's experience of death through the family's friend Mr. Sweet. Ages 8-12.

**Where is Grandpa? T. A. Barron*

A young boy and his family remember his grandfather together. Ages 4-8.

**Where's Jess? Joy and Marv Johnson*

A young girl responds to her baby brother's death. 3 to 7 years.