

Hamilton's Academy of Grief & Loss

Books for Grieving Children

Lee Hamilton Memorial Grief Lending Library

Located at 3601 Westown Parkway, West Des Moines, Iowa

TITLE	AUTHOR	DESCRIPTION	Topics	Location
<i>About Dying: an open family book for parents and children together</i>	Stein, Sara Bonnett (Walker & Co., 1974)	Separate texts for the adult and child.	Helping Children	j242.4 S
<i>After You Lose Someone You Love</i>	Dennison, Amy (FreeSpirit Publishers, 2005)	Ages 8-11. Twins Amy and Allie were eight years old and their brother was four when their beloved father died suddenly in his sleep. Encouraged and guided by their mother, the three children kept a journal for almost two years. They wrote about the night he died, the funeral, the first week, the first year, the cemetery, their thoughts and feelings-and the future.	Death of a father	j155.9 D
<i>All Babies</i>	Connelly, Maureen (Centering Corporation, 1993)	Ages 3 and up. For all children who have questions about adoption.	Adoption	vf
<i>Am I Still a Sister?</i>	Sims, Alicia M. (Big A & Company, 1986)	Written while searching for answers to her brother's death that no adult seemed to have.	Death of a sibling	jF S
<i>Angel Stacey/ Daddy in Heaven</i>	Moyer, Bernadette (Two Bee-A-Twin Bee Publishing, 1998)	Ages 7+. Angel Stacey/Daddy in Heaven is the combining of two stories. Angel Stacey is about the loss of a Mother to heaven just after giving birth to twins. Daddy in Heaven is about the loss of a Father to heaven, from the adult daughter reflecting back on her life.	Death of a parent	jF M
<i>Angels Must Get Their Wings By Helping Little Angels Like Me</i>	Heller, David & Elizabeth Heller (Kensington Books, 1995)	In this touching, humorous, whimsical and illuminating follow-up to <i>Dear God, What Religious Were the Dinosaurs</i> , best-selling author David Heller and Elizabeth Heller once again tap into the minds and hearts of children to help answer some of life's <i>really</i> important questions, such as: What is heaven?, Where is heaven?, What is an angel?, etc.	Religious	305.23 H
<i>Animal Crackers</i>	Marshall, Bridget (Centering Corporation, 1998)	When her grandmother starts forgetting things, has to go into a nursing home and then dies, a young girl tries to remember the good times they shared.	Death of a grandparent	vf
<i>Anna's Corn</i>	Santucci, Barbara (Eerdman's Books for Young Readers, 2002)	Ages 4 and up. <i>Anna's Corn</i> portrays the love between a grandparent and grandchild and gently looks at loss and grief and the hope of new life. Barbara Santucci's simple story reassures young readers that memories can help heal our sadness, while Lloyd Bloom's poignant images capture the changing seasons of nature and life.	Death of a grandparent	jF S

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<i>A Time to Live, A Time to Die: important concerns when death draws near</i>	Ash, Beatrice M.A. (Augsburg Fortress, 1993)	With warmth and compassion, the author highlights seven concerns that she has found to be important to people who are nearing life's end.		248.8 A
<i>Badger's Parting Gifts</i>	Varley, Susan (Lathrop, Lee & Shepard Books, 1984)	Ages 5-10. About the death and life of a very special friend. At first, those who loved Badger felt overwhelmed by their loss. In time though, whenever Badger's name was mentioned, someone would recall a special memory that made them all smile.		jF V
<i>Ben's Flying Flowers</i>	Maier, Inger (Magination Press, 2012)	Ages 4-8. When Emily's brother dies after a long illness, she feels alone, angry, and sad. With the understanding and support of her parents, she learns that it helps when she snuggles with her parents, talks about her feelings, and asks questions about Ben. It helps when she does regular kid stuff, too. Mostly, she learns that remembering Ben and their happy life together builds healthy and helpful images that soothe her sad feelings and provide much comfort to her and her family.	Death of a sibling	jf M
<i>Birthday Present for Daniel, A: a child's story of loss</i>	Rothman, Juliet (Prometheus Books, 1996)	Ages 9-12. "A little girl's brother has died and she shares with readers what this means to her. She tries to understand her own feelings and those of her family, illustrating that there are different ways that people react to losing someone they love. It arrives at a universal problem-how to acknowledge the birthday of a child who has died."	Death of a sibling	
<i>Black Jack Jetty: a boys journey through grief</i>	Carestio, Michael A. (Magination Press, 2010)	Ages 8-13. Black Jack Jetty follows Jack as he copes with his father's death in Afghanistan. Follow Jack's journey through his grief, anger, anxiety, and guilt. A tip sheet for kids to help cope with a parent's death follows the story.	Military	jF C
<i>Brightest Star, The</i>	Hemery, Kathleen Maresh (Centering Corporation, 1998)	A father helps his grieving daughter, following the death of her mother, by pointing out a twinkling star that seems to be smiling down at them.	Death of a mother	vf
<i>Bunch of Balloons, A</i>	Ferguson, Dorothy (Centering Corporation, 1992)	Ages 4-10. A book to help grieving children acknowledge what they have lost and celebrate what they still have left when someone they love dies.		vf
<i>Butterfly Bush, The</i>	Evarts, Dawn Michelle (Centering Corporation, 1998)	After her grandmother dies, Lindsay finds strength and beauty in the butterfly bush they planted together.	Death of a grandparent	vf

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<i>Butterfly Field, The</i>	Gliane, Alquin (Rock Publishing Company, 2001)	After the death of his grandfather, Billy remembers their trip together to a beautiful valley alive with colorful butterflies. Their discovery of caterpillars turning into butterflies helps Billy understand his grandfather's death. In remembering his grandfather and The Butterfly Field, Billy finds meaning and comfort.	Death of a Grandfather	vf
<i>Cancer The Whispered Word</i>	Swenson, Judy Harris (Dillon Press, Inc., 1986)	Grades 3-6. Presents information about cancer, emphasizing those things of particular interest to children and describing how the disease affects family members.	Cancer	616.99 S
<i>Catching Rainbows: stories to support children during life crises</i>	Hemery, Kathleen Maresh et al. (Centering Corporation, 1995)	Grampa's Clock- Staying at Grampa's house is fun and noisy because of one special clock. When Grampa has to go to a nursing home, the clock gets to go, too. Danny's Rainbow Jar-When Brutus the dog dies, the hurt begins. Catching a rainbow while Mom washes the car leads to some interesting developments. Great-Grandmother's Cookie Jar-Great-Grandmother, GG, May be in a wheelchair, but that doesn't stop loving and making special cookies.		vf
<i>Child's Book About Burial And Cremation, A</i>	Grollman, Earl A. and Joy Johnson (Centering Corporation, 2001)	Ages 4-12. This workbook answers questions children ask about burial and cremation. Talks about how the body is cared for and why it is important to say goodbye.	Funeral Rites	vf
<i>Child's Book About Funerals And Cemeteries, A</i>	Grollman, Earl A. and Joy Johnson (Centering Corporation, 2001)	Ages 4-12. This workbook discusses grief, feelings, and the funeral. What the child is likely to experience, what he or she will see and what people may do are all discussed in ways that will graciously include the child in this important family event.	Funeral Rites	vf
<i>Chester Raccoon and the Acorn Full of Memories</i>	Penn, Audrey (Tanglewood Publishing, Inc., 2009)	Many young children must face the loss of loved ones or the need to attend a funeral. This sweet story will help children to understand the positive purpose behind memorial services and how "making memories" can provide cheer and comfort when missing an absent loved one.		jF P
<i>Christmas Cactus, The</i>	Wrenn, Elizabeth (Centering Corporation, 2001)	Megan doesn't want to hear that her Nana is dying. She picks up one of Nana's plants and tries to bring it back to health. The Christmas Season just isn't the same - all the colors of the season seem to be gone. But after Nana dies, Megan gets a very special present. Larger Print.	Death of a grandparent	vf
<i>Come Back, Grandma</i>	Limb, Sue (Alfred A. Knopf, Inc., 1993)	Ages 5 and up. Bessie misses her grandmother when she dies, but when Bessie grows up, she has a little girl of her own who looks and behaves just like Grandma.	Death of a grandparent	jF L
<i>Come Home Soon: a first look at when a parent goes to war</i>	Thomas, Pat (Barron's Educational Series, 2012)	This reassuring picture book explores the issue of parents who are away from home while serving their country in the armed forces. Children's worries and questions become especially acute when the parent is being sent to a war zone. This title helps children understand that separation is only temporary, and that their Dad or Mom is performing an important patriotic service about which the child can be proud.	Military	jF T

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<i>Cry, Heart, but Never Break</i>	Ringtved, Gelell (Enchanted Lion Books, 2016)	Aware their grandmother is gravely ill, four siblings learn to realize the value of loss, life, and the importance of being able to say goodbye.	Death of a grandparent; Anticipatory loss	jF R
<i>Daddy's Old Robe</i>	Strannigan, Shawn Alyne (Standard Publishing, 1995)	Ages 3-7. A story about illness with activity pages and suggestions for parents.		vf
<i>Dinosaurs Divorce: a guide for changing families</i>	Brown, Laurene Karsny & Marc Brown (Little, Brown & Co., 1986)	Ages 4-7. Children love the illustrations in this excellent book. We learn about why some parents divorce, having two homes, telling your friends, visiting your parent, and even holidays.	Divorce	j306.8 B
<i>Don't Make Me Go Back, Mommy</i>	Sanford, Doris (Multnomah Press, 1990)	For children ages 4 and up. When 5 year old Allison's parents begin to see a change in her behavior at home they seek professional help for her. They find that Allison and other children have been ritually abused at a day care center. Thus begins Allison's recovery through counseling and through her parents' affirmations that it was not her fault, she is precious and loved, and they will keep her safe.	Abuse	jF S
<i>Emily's Sadhappy Season</i>	Lowden, Stephanie G. (Centering Corporation, 1993)	Ages 6-12. All set to be the first woman baseball pro, Emily's chief fan, Dad, dies. Mom tries to play catch with her. Emily gets mad, feelings shoot out and tears come. Great for girls of all ages who have had their father die.		vf
<i>Emma Says Goodbye</i>	Nystrom, Carolyn (Lion Publishing Corporation, 1990)	Ages 9+. Emma comes to terms with her aunt's illness and eventual death from cancer.	Cancer	jF N
<i>Every Monday In The Mailbox</i>	Fox, Louisa (William B. Eerdmans Publishing Company, 1995)	Ages 6-12. Melinda looks forward to the letters and cards she receives from her favorite neighbor who has moved into a nursing home and when the old woman dies, it takes Melinda a while to find a way to stop missing her so much.	Death of a friend	jF F
<i>Everything You Need To Know When A Parent Dies</i>	Bratman, Fred (Rosen Publishing Group, Inc. 1992)	Ages 9-16. A realistic guide to coping with the stresses and emotions a child or young teen may face when a parent has died.	Death of a Parent	j155.9 B
<i>Finding Grandpa Everywhere</i>	Hodge, John (Centering Corporation, 1999)	A wonderful resource for helping children understand death, grief, and remembrance, this is the story of a young boy who has been told that he has 'lost' his grandfather. The boy remembers when he himself was lost in the mall and wants to help his grandmother find his grandfather. When he learns that his grandfather is not lost but dead, the boy remembers the old man's kindness, love, and generosity. Material objects then begin to evoke warm memories of his grandfather. This touching story will encourage young readers to discuss their feelings of loss and grief.	Death of a grandfather	vf

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<i>Formal Feeling, A</i>	Oneal, Zibby (The Viking Press, 1982)	Sixteen-year-old Anne, home from boarding school for the holidays, has difficulty accepting her new stepmother's presence in the house that holds so many memories of her dead mother.	Death of a mother	F O
<i>Garden Angel, The</i>	Czech, Jan (Centering Corporation, 2000)	A young child discovers a grandparent's love grows even after death		vf Children & death
<i>Getting Used To Candy</i>	Landolf, Helen (Centering Corporation, 2000)	Perfect for the surviving parent and the children who are beginning to move on and experience life again. Dad and Mom used to drive a beat-up old car named Vi. After Mom died Dad bought a bright red new car and started dating Debbie. The spunk girl in our story doesn't like the new car named Candy and she doesn't like Debbie either. You'll cry then laugh at the wonderful outcome which recognizes the love both have for Mom and the need to create a new life.	Death of a mother	vf
<i>Giving Tree, The</i>	Silverstein, Shel (Harper & Row, Publishers, 1964)	Ages 1-8. An affecting interpretation of the gift of giving and a serene acceptance of another's capacity to love in return.		jF S
<i>Goodbye Boat, The</i>	Joslin, Mary (Eerdmans Books for Young Readers, 1998)	Ages 3 and up. Explores the pain and grief of saying goodbye. Even more important, <i>The Goodbye Boat</i> provides a message of hope that sadness will ease and that death is not the end.		jF J
<i>Grampa's Clock</i>	Hemery, Kathleen M. (in <i>Catching Rainbows</i> , Centering Corporation, 1995)	Children of all ages. Staying at Grampa's house is fun and noisy because of one special clock. When Grampa has to go to a nursing home the clock gets to go, too.		vf
<i>Grandad Bill's Song</i>	Yolen, Jane (Philomel Books, 1994)	Ages 5 and up. A boy asks others how they felt when his grandfather died and then shares his own feelings.	Death of a grandparent	jF Y
<i>Grandfather's Shirt</i>	Morning, Barbara (Centering Corporation, 1994)	Ages 5-10. Peter is Grandfather's gardening buddy. Grandfather wears his gardening shirt, chews on toothpicks and wears his baseball hat backwards. When Grandfather dies, Peter learns about death and keeps the old shirt.		vf
<i>Gray Fox</i>	London, Jonathan (Puffin Books 1993)	Ages 6-12. Gray Fox runs over rolling hills, through the forest, and past quiet streams. The seasons pass, and as they do he finds a mate and they begin a family. Then tragedy strikes, but Gray Fox's pride and spirit live on in his cubs, and in the memory of one small boy.		jF L

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<i>Great-Grandmother's Cookie Jar</i>	Cossi, Olga (in <i>Catching Rainbows</i> , Centering Corporation, 1995)	For children of all ages. Great-Grandmother, GG, may be in a wheelchair, but that doesn't stop loving and making special cookies.		vf
<i>Green Mittens From Grandma</i>	Hanks, Bernice Hogan (Centering Corporation, 1996)	Ages 5-10. A gentle story about a little boy whose grandma dies and how the green mittens she knit for him become special keepsake.		vf
<i>Grow Like a Sunflower</i>	Bennett, Bunny (Bunny Sedmont Bennett, 2015)	This book is designed to promote resiliency and healing in children that have experienced the death of a loved one. Using simple language and captivating photographs, this book guides children towards a path of understanding their emotions, as well as caring their minds, bodies, and spirits.		jF B
<i>Healing Tree, The</i>	Hemery, Kathleen Maresh (Centering Corporation, 2001)	'Sammy couldn't wait to go to Baba Marta's house. Her grandma told such wonderful stories. They were stories that filled her with delight. But the story Baba told Sammy today was different. Sammy and Bab had been sitting on the old swing under the oak tree. Sammy noticed a long bare strip on the trunk of the tree where there was no bark. 'Baba, what happened to this tree? Why is there a big scar running down the middle of it?' So begins the story of the healing tree.	Death of a grandmother	vf
<i>Heaven For Kids</i>	Alcorn, Randy (Tyndale House Publishers, 2006)	Ages 8-12. As a parent and a grandparent, Randy Alcorn knows how important it is to pass along the biblical truths about Heaven. So in <i>Heaven for Kids</i> , Randy has adapted his best-selling book <i>Heaven</i> for a younger generation. He's made all the great information and fresh teaching accessible and applicable for kids. Set up in an easy question-and-answer format.	After life	j236.24 A
<i>Heaven Is A Wonderful Place</i>	Marxhausen, Joanne (Concordia Publishing House, 1975 – new edition, 2005)	Ages 4-9. Children often have questions about life and death. This helpful book provides answers in terms children can comfortably understand as it explains God's role and His promise of eternal life as revealed in the Bible. An excellent resource when children deal with death for the first time. Formerly entitled <i>If I Should Die, If I Should Live</i> .		j236 M
<i>How It Feels When a Parent Dies</i>	Kremetz, Jill (Alfred A. Knoph, 1988)	Ages 10-13. Children speak openly, honestly, unreservedly, of their experiences and feelings	Death of a parent	155.9 K
<i>I Can't Talk About It</i>	Sanford, Doris (Multnomah Press, 1990)	For children ages 4 and up. At her grandmother's beach cottage, Annie reveals her father's sexual abuse of her to a dove who helps her heal and learn to trust again. Lists guidelines for adults to help sexually abused children.	Abuse	jF S

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<i>I Have Two Dads</i>	Schulz, Linnea (Centering Corporation, 1992)	Ages 3-8. The little girl in this story plops herself between mom and her date when they go out, has qualms about sharing her home after the wedding, isn't too sure of her step-sibs and generally has all the pointed questions that come with a blended family.	Divorce	vf
<i>I Heard Your Daddy Died</i>	Scrivani, Mark (Centering Corporation, 1996)	Ages 2-6. For children whose father has died. Encourages memories, keepsakes and wearing Daddy's T-shirts for sleepshirts. Feelings are affirmed and children know they are loved and considered.	Death of a father	vf
<i>I Heard Your Mommy Died</i>	Scrivani, Mark (Centering Corporation, 1994)	Ages 2-6. For children whose mother has died. Children know they can cry, be sad, play and remember. Their love never dies as they keep some of Mommy's things.	Death of a mother	vf
<i>I Know I Made It Happen</i>	Blackburn, Lynn Bennett (Centering Corporation, 1991)	Ages 3-8. Deals with childhood guilt; looks at feelings when there's a family fight, a divorce, illness, injury and death. Let's kids know that their thoughts don't control the world.		vf
<i>I Miss You: a first look at death</i>	Thomas, Pat (Barron's Educational Series, 2001)	Ages 4-8. When a close friend or family member dies, it can be difficult for children to express their feelings. This book helps boys and girls understand that death is a natural complement to life, and that grief and a sense of loss are normal feelings for them to have following a loved one's death.		j155.9 T
<i>I Will Always Love You</i>	Lyons, Melissa (Melissa Lyons, 2017)	This book offers hope and a sense of knowing that our loved ones could be somewhere happy and free. It reminds us that our deliberate choices can alter the way we respond to loss and can have the power to bring us a sense of joy and the transcendence that lifts us to a higher place of living.		j L
<i>If Nathan Were Here</i>	Bahr, Mary (Eerdmans Books for Young Readers, 2000)	Ages 6-13. A warm, sensitive story of how one little boy is encouraged and supported to find his own way to remember his best friend. Written in simple, honest language, and the warm, expressive watercolors tenderly express the sensitive story of children's friendships.		jF B
<i>Imagine A Rainbow: a child's guide for soothing pain</i>	Miles, Brenda (Magination Press, 2006)	Ages 2-5. When a child is in pain, imagining scenes that are soothing or uplifting may help reduce the discomfort. <i>This book</i> is a great tool for introducing children to the idea of using their imaginations to cope with pain, whether by itself or as part of a more comprehensive pain management plan.	Pain	j618.9 M

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<i>Invisible String, The</i>	Karst, Patrice (DeVorss & Company, 2000)	Ages 4-8. This simple story reminds children and adults they are never truly alone. As the mother in the story explains, "People who love each other are always connected by a very special <i>string</i> made of love. Even though you can't see it with your eyes, you can feel it deep in your heart and know that you are always connected to the ones you love."		jF K
<i>It Helps to Have Friends- When Mom or Dad Has Cancer</i>	Lindberg, Carol (American Cancer Society, 1987)	Ages 6-12. Booklet written for children about a young boy whose father is diagnosed with leukemia. His questions are answered by Mrs. Franklin, leader of the "cancer club" at the hospital.	Cancer	vf
<i>Katie's Premature Brother</i>	Hawkins-Walsh, Elizabeth (Centering Corporation, 1985)	Ages 4-8. For siblings of NICU babies. Shares the fears and worries a young child may have.	Premature Birth	vf
<i>Letter to Mickey, A</i>	Keller, Jay (Star Bible Publications, 2006)	How do you explain death to a 6 year old? In his book, "A Letter to Mickey," Jay Keller does just that! Simple language, colorful illustrations and large print make the text easy to read and understand. Written from a Christian perspective.		jF K
<i>Lifetimes: a beautiful way to explain death to children</i>	Mellonie, Bryan (Bantam Books, 1983)	Ages 5-8. Explains life and death "in a sensitive, caring, beautiful way."		jF M
<i>Lilacs for Grandma</i>	Hucek, Margene Whitler (Centering Corporation, 2002)	Ages 5-10. Megan hid under the lilac bush under Grandmother's bedroom window. Grandma knew she was there. She heard the grown-ups talking about Grandma being ill. After grandma dies, Megan watches the doves build a new nest and gathers lilacs to bring to the funeral.	Death of a grandmother	vf
<i>Living with Death</i>	Cera, Mary Jane (Kino Learning Center, 1985)	Ages 4-10. A storybook and memory book for children who have experienced the death of someone loved.		vf
<i>Look at Death, A</i>	Anders, Rebecca (Lerner Publications Company, 1978)	For the very young; text and photographs present the concept of death, the importance of grief, and the customs of mourning.		155.9 A
<i>Lost and Found: remembering a sister</i>	Yeomans, Ellen (Centering Corporation, 2000)	"Grandma said we lost Paige. My parents said she died." A young girl wonders what her family will be like without Paige. She also wonders if she is still a sister. In the end she discovers that Paige will always be her sister and will always be a part of her family.	Death of a sibling	vf
<i>Love You Forever</i>	Munsch, Robert N. (Firefly Books Ltd., 2004)	Ages 4 and up. I'll love you forever, I'll like you for always, As long as I'm living, my baby you'll be. This book is about unconditional love and growing older. In the end, the grown son holds his dying mother and sings the song to her.		jF M

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<i>Magic Moth, The</i>	Lee, Virginia (Clarion Books, 1972)	When ten-year-old Maryanne dies, six-year old Mark-O and the rest of the family become a little wiser about death.		jF L
<i>Mama's Going to Heaven Soon</i>	Copeland, Kathe Martin (Augsburg Fortress, 2005)	Ages 8-11. A compassionate yet straightforward story to assist young children and their caregivers as they deal with an impending death of a mother. The bright, childlike artwork and simple, straightforward language offer readers a hopeful message. The book does not specify what is wrong with the mother, so it could apply to a number of situations or illnesses.	Cancer	jF C
<i>Memory Box, The</i>	McLaughlin Kirsten (Centering Corporation, 2001)	'How could Grandpa die when he promised to take me fishing?' A young child shares his feelings after Grandpa dies. He talks about all the things he will miss doing with Grandpa. The child decides to make a memory box out of Grandpa's old tackle box. He fills it with special items and all the memories of his Grandpa.	Death of a grandparent	vf
<i>Molly's Mom Died: a child's book of hope through grief</i>	Holmes, Margaret M. (Centering Corporation, 1999)	Molly talks about the feelings that she has been having since the death of her mother. Includes information for caregivers.		vf Childr en & Death
<i>Molly's Rosebush</i>	Cohn, Janice (Albert Whitman & Company, 1994)	Ages 4 and up. When the new baby they've been expecting isn't strong enough to be born, Molly and her family find different ways to express their feelings and comfort each other.	Miscarriage	jF C
<i>Mom and Dad Don't Live Together Anymore</i>	Tangvald, Christine Harder (Chariot Books, 1988)	For children ages 4 and up. Love, understanding and hope for the child whose parents are divorcing.	Divorce	j306.8 T
<i>Mulberry Music, The</i>	Orgel, Doris (Harper & I Row, Publishers, 1971)	Libby loves her Grandma Liza more than anybody - but suddenly Grandma Liza is ill. Libby is not allowed to see her, but in a panic she defies all and searches for Grandma Liza.		jF O
<i>My Daddy is a Stranger</i>	Cochran, Vicki (Centering Corporation, 1992)	Small booklet to help a child understand and respond to questions about heritage and the absence of a father in the family. Well written and helpful in addressing the psychological concerns of children.		vf Misc. Grief
<i>My Mom Is Dying: a child's diary</i>	McNamara, Jill Westberg (Augsburg Fortress, 1994)	Ages 6-12. When Kristine learns her mother is dying, she turns to God for help. Through her 17 conversations with God, she begins to understand her feelings and learns that it's all right to feel fear, anger, and sadness. God understands her grief and supports her through it. Includes a discussion to help parents and children talk about death, grieving and God's love.	Religious / Death of a mother	vf

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<i>No New Baby</i>	Gryte, Marilyn (Centering Corporation, 1988)	For young children whose mommy miscarries. Grandma explains how you're not to blame, how we don't always have answers and that it's OK to ask questions. Also affirms the normalcy of play during grief.	Miscarriage	vf
<i>Not Just a Fish</i>	Hemery, Kathleen Maresh (Centering Corporation, 2000)	PARENT COUNCIL REVIEW® 'A young child struggles with his grief over the death of his fish. He is especially upset when others comment 'it was only a fish.' Then to add to his distress, his father flushes Puffer down the toilet. A wise aunt suggests a memorial service, and the story ends with a healing eulogy. A wonderful story for young children grieving over the death of a beloved pet.'	Pet Loss	vf
<i>Not Today, Celeste!</i>	Stevens, Liza (Jessica Kingsley Publishers, 2016)	Charmingly illustrated, this heart-warming story for children aged 3+ reflects some of the feelings and experiences that a child whose parent or carer has depression may face. When it comes to periods of low mood in a parent or carer, children can often feel that they are to blame, or even that the parent doesn't love them anymore. The story provides reassurance by explaining what depression is and how it is possible to find help.	Depression	152.4 S
<i>On Those Runaway Days</i>	Feigh, Alison (Free Spirit Publishing, 2008)	Ages 6-10. Changes such as divorce, abuse, or the death of a loved one can cause children to run away or hide from the problem. This book is created especially to help teach children to see running away for what it truly is: a dangerous means of avoiding problems.	All Loss	j362.74 F
<i>Oncology, Stupology...I Want To Go Home!</i>	Hershey, Marilyn (Butterfly Press, 1999)	A delightful picture book written for children with cancer. The character, after learning he has cancer, would rather go home. But in the meantime he discovers the playroom and makes new friends.	Cancer	vf
<i>Our New Baby Needs Special Help</i>	Klayman, Gail (Centering Corporation, 1996)	Ages 3-8. For small siblings whose new baby may or may not come home. Starts when child is excited about having the new baby, parents finding out there is a serious problem, and visiting the NICU.	Disabilities	vf
<i>Purple Balloon, The</i>	Raschka, Chris (Schwartz & Wade Books, 2007)	Ages 5-12. Crafted for terminally ill and/or grieving children. Tool for opening discussion on the impending death of a young person.	Before the Death	jF R
<i>Quilt for Elizabeth, A</i>	Tiffault, Benette W. (Centering Corporation, 1992)	Ages 8+. Elizabeth makes a memory quilt out of scraps of her father's clothes.	Death of a father	vf
<i>Ragtail Remembers</i>	Duckworth, Liz (Centering Corporation, 2003)	Ragtail, a young mouse, has just experienced the death of his best friend. As he tries to understand what has happened, Ragtail is swept by confusing feelings of denial, anger and sadness. With the help of a new friend, he learns to deal with his feelings and soon discovers the comfort that comes from remembering.		vf

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<i>Rainbow Feelings of Cancer, The</i>	Martin, Carrie & Chia (Hohm Press, 2001)	Ages 4 and up. A book for children who have a loved one with cancer. This book encourages conversation between children and those who love them.	Cancer	j362 M
<i>Remember Rafferty</i>	Johnson, Joy (Centering Corporation, 1991)	Ages 6-96. About the unique grief felt by children when a pet dies.	Death of a pet	vf
<i>Remember the Butterflies</i>	Hines, Anna Grossnickle (Dutton Children's Books, 1991)	Ages 3 and up. When grandpa dies, Holly and Glen remember the special times they had together—gardening, reading and learning about butterflies.	Death of a grandparent	jF H
<i>Remember the Secret</i>	Kubler-Ross, Elisabeth (Celestial Arts, 1982)	Ages 6-12. Because she has already discovered the wonders of God, Suzy understands the true meaning of her best friend's death.		jF K
<i>Sad Isn't Bad: a good-grief guide for kids dealing with loss</i>	Mundy, Michaelene (Abbey Press, 1998)	For children ages 5 to 8. Loaded with positive, life-affirming advice for coping with loss as a child, this guide tells children what they need to know after a loss--that the world is still safe; life is good; and hurting hearts do mend.		j393 M
<i>Saddest Time, The</i>	Simon, Norma (Albert Whitman & Company, 1986)	Ages 6-10. Explains death as the inevitable end of life and provides three situations in which children experience powerful emotions when someone close has died.		j155.9 S
<i>Sam's Dad Died: a child's book of hope through grief</i>	Holmes, Margaret and Mudlaff, Sasha (Centering Corporation, 1999)	Ages 5-9. Explores the feelings Sam has after his dad dies. Includes a parent's guide for helping children cope with grief.	Death of a father	vf
<i>Samantha Jane's Missing Smile</i>	Kaplon, Julie, PhD. and Donna Pincus, PhD. (Magination Press, 2007)	Ages 5-8. The story of a young girl whose father has recently died, which deals with the full range of emotions, questions, and worries that children have when a parent has died. Offers ways to remember and honor the lost parent, encourages the open sharing of feelings, and helps children understand that their parents want them to be happy and live their lives fully.		jF K
<i>Sarah's Journey: one child's experience with the death of her father</i>	Wolfelt, Alan D., Ph.D. (Center for Loss and Life Transition, 1992)	This book describes Sarah's grief following her father's death. It offers compassionate practical advice for adults who want to help grieving children.	Death of a father	155.9 W
<i>Secret Places, The</i>	Campbell, Dr. James (Centering Corporation, 1992)	Ages 7+. Looks at some difficult changes children may face when a parent dies. There's Dad's death, a move, new friends and family fights.	Death of a parent	vf

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<i>Since My Brother Died/Desde Que Murio Mi Hermano</i>	Munoz-Kiehne, Marisol (Centering Corporation, 2000)	Ages 5-12. Includes both English and Spanish translation of a Caregiver's Section, Teacher's Section, and a story for children. In this book, the child talks about how things are different since his brother died. 'It was like a nightmare! There are so many feelings. Sometimes you feel sad and sometimes you feel normal. Mostly, you feel all mixed up.' In the end, the child realizes his brother is still alive in his heart.	Death of a sibling	vf
<i>Sister's Diary, A</i>	Scheinfeld, Jodi (Ithaca Press, 2011)	Through the fragile, yet insightful mind of nine year old Jessica, the novel seeks to help children understand loss. The story reveals essential coping skills, with an emphasis on communication and the resilience of the human spirit. By reading Jessica's diary, children will learn that love, courage and the inspiration of treasured memories can help them overcome the hardest of times. Based on a true story.	Accidental Death	jF S
<i>Snowman, The</i>	Vogel, Robin Helene (Centering Corporation, 1994)	Ages 5-10. The brothers in this story learn how their dad died, what death is all about, and that feelings are okay.	Death of a father	vf
<i>Someday We'll Play In Heaven</i>	Strannigan, Shawn Alyne (Standard Publishing, 1995)	Ages 3-7. A story about grieving with activity pages and suggestions for parents.		vf
<i>Someone Came Before You</i>	Schwiebert, Pat (Grief Watch, 2007)	Book for the child who comes after the one who died. Explains the parents' desire for a child and the sadness that comes over them when that baby dies. Then shares how the parents get to the point of wanting another child to come into their lives.	Death of a sibling	jF S
<i>Someone I Love Died</i>	Tangvald, Christine Harder (Chariot Books, 1988)	For children ages 4 and up. A very personal way to help your child deal with the death of a friend or relative. Includes practical suggestions for parents.		j248.8 T
<i>Someone I Love Died By Suicide: a story for child survivors and those who care for them</i>	Cammarata, Doreen (Grief Guidance, Inc., 2001)	Designed for adult caregivers to read to surviving youngsters following a suicidal death. 'Wondering if you could have done something to prevent this suicide is normal. Nothing you said or did would have changed what happened.'	Suicide	j155.9 C
<i>Someone I Love Died from a Drug Overdose</i>	Ray, Melody (Centering Corporation, 2018)	Accidental substance overdoses continue to rise across our country, leaving families at a loss as to how to tell and assist the children that are grieving. This story is an excellent tool for parents and caregivers. Includes a workbook, definitions, some facts and a note to the adult reading the story.	Overdose	jF R
<i>Suicide Survivors Club: Aidan</i>	Phillips, Laurie (SSC Publishing, 2016)	In this hopeful five-book set, a mother and her three children ages 5, 7 and 19 share their story after the suicide death of husband and father Don, in 2002. Their reflections are captured in their own words and through poignant art by artist/storyteller Laurie Phillips. Eight years after guiding her family through the devastation of their collective loss, Rebecca 'Becky' Anderson and her children embarked on a healing journey with artist Laurie Phillips. Each family member had a unique story to tell of how the suicide impacted their life, within a book bearing their name: "Becky," "Pattie," "Aidan" and "Will." The fifth book, "Parenting the Suicide Survivors' Club," is a memoir by Rebecca Anderson that gives context to the individual stories and offers the powerful perspective of a mother, wife and medical professional determined to put her broken family back together.	Suicide	vf P

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<i>Suicide Survivors Club: Will</i>	Phillips, Laurie (SSC Publishing, 2016)	In this hopeful five-book set, a mother and her three children ages 5, 7 and 19 share their story after the suicide death of husband and father Don, in 2002. Their reflections are captured in their own words and through poignant art by artist/storyteller Laurie Phillips. Eight years after guiding her family through the devastation of their collective loss, Rebecca 'Becky' Anderson and her children embarked on a healing journey with artist Laurie Phillips. Each family member had a unique story to tell of how the suicide impacted their life, within a book bearing their name: "Becky," "Pattie," "Aidan" and "Will." The fifth book, "Parenting the Suicide Survivors' Club," is a memoir by Rebecca Anderson that gives context to the individual stories and offers the powerful perspective of a mother, wife and medical professional determined to put her broken family back together.	Suicide	vf P
<i>Sunflower Promise</i>	Hemery, Kathleen Maresh (Centering Corporation, 2005)	Ages 8-12. A chapter book that tells the story of Willow who loses his best friend and how he deals with the loss.		jF H
<i>Sunflowers and Rainbows for Tia: saying goodbye to Daddy</i>	Alexander-Greene, Alesia (Centering Corporation, 1999)	PARENT COUNCIL REVIEW®: 'This story is about a child whose father dies at home. It follows the family from the night of the father's death through the days following the funeral. The feelings of the child and the events surrounding her father's death are realistically portrayed and caringly addressed. The illustrations are bright and colorful and the text is rich and descriptive. This is an excellent resource for families who are experiencing, or will soon experience, the death of a family member.'	Death of a father	vf
<i>Talk To God...I'll Get The Message</i>	Geller, Norman (Norman Geller, 1983)	To help a young person understand dying and death.		vf
<i>Talk to God...I'll Get the Message (Catholic edition)</i>	Geller, Norman (Norman Geller, 1983)	To help a young person understand dying and death. Catholic version.	Religious - Catholic	vf
<i>Taste Of Blackberries, A</i>	Smith, Doris Buchanan (Crowell, 1973)	Ages 8-12. A sensitive portrayal of a young boy's attempt to understand and accept his best friend's sudden death.	Death of a friend	jF S
<i>Tell Me, Papa: a family book for children's questions about death and funerals</i>	Johnson, Joy and Marv (Highly Specialized Promotions, 1978)	"Takes the great unknown of death and tells it as it is. Feelings hurt but feelings shared are feelings diminished."	Funeral Rites	vf
<i>Tenth Good Thing about Barney, The</i>	Viorst, Judith (Athenmeum, 1984)	Ages 3-19. In an attempt to overcome his grief, a boy tries to think of the ten best things about his dead cat.		jF V
<i>Terrible Thing Happened, A</i>	Holmes, Margaret M.; afterward by Sasha J. Mudlaff (Magination Press, 2000)	Ages 4-7. For children who have witnessed any kind of violent or traumatic episode. An afterward for parents and other caregivers offers extensive suggestions for helping traumatized children, including a list of other sources that focus on specific events.	Trauma	jF H

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<i>Thank You For Coming to Say Goodbye</i>	Roberts, Janice & Joy Johnson (Centering Corporation, 1994)	Children of all ages. Ways children can be told, introduced to funerals, say goodbye and express themselves. Stories of children and funerals are sprinkled throughout. Actual hands-on how-to's for orienting children to the funeral home and sections for parents, funeral directors, teachers and clergy.	Funeral Rites	vf
<i>Thumpy's Story: a story of love and grief shared by Thumpy the Bunny</i>	Dodge, Nancy C.	"In a warm and sensitive way it (the book) will help children deal with the loss of a loved one."	Death of a sibling	vf
<i>Time for Everything, A: for kids who are missing someone they love</i>	Anderson, Lisa Beth (International Bible Society, 2004)	The words for this book were written long ago as a poem. The poem is now part of the Bible, called Ecclesiastes. It tells about the cycle of life. In the Bible, God says that he will change the pattern of good and bad that we see all around us. God can turn our sadness into dancing. He wants to give us a life that last forever, a life with him on a healed earth with no sickness, no crying and no death-ever!	Religious	jf A
<i>Tim's Dad</i>	Hitchcock, Ruth (Centering Corporation, 1988)	Ages 8-12. A story about a young boy whose father gets sick and eventually dies from a brain tumor. Includes helpful suggestions for parents.		vf
<i>Timothy Duck</i>	Blackburn, Lynn Bennett (Centering Corporation, 1987)	Ages 4-9. Tender story of a duck (Timothy) who loves a boy. Timothy watches John get sick and die; learns about grief and goodbyes.	Death of a friend	vf
<i>Turned Upside Down: A flip book - turning upside down right side up... by connecting with the other side</i>	Tache, Teana (2013)	It has been written as a conversation between a child and their loved one, designed as a memory keepsake and amazingly illustrated to encourage light, love and forever memories. Turned Upside Down opens conversations with children and adults, allowing them to process, understand and embrace the loss of their very special someone. Share the gift of connecting with the other side.		jF T
<i>Waterbugs and Dragonflies: explaining death to young children</i>	Pilgrim Press Resource, A - 2004	A tender tale of death and new life, this mini-book uses the symbol of one waterbug, climbing a stalk to turn into a dragonfly, never to return. Used in Sunday Schools. Christian perspective.	Religious	vf
<i>Weather Kids, The: sometimes sad things just happen</i>	Jordan, Mary Kate (Centering Corporation, 1993)	Ages 7-12. A book for families who have experienced devastation caused by weather and earthquake.		vf
<i>What About Me?: when brothers and sisters get sick</i>	Peterkin, Allan, M.D. (Magination Press, 1992)	Ages 4-8. This question lies at the heart of this poignant story, as a young girl attempts to cope with her brother's being ill. Deals with the many complicated feelings the well child experiences.	Ill Sibling	j618.92 P

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<i>What Can I Do?</i>	Lowry, Danielle (Magination Press, 2001)	Ages 8-12. A young girl tries everything she can think of to keep her parents from getting a divorce, but with the help of a school counselor she comes to realize that the divorce is not her fault.	Divorce	jF L
<i>What Does Dead Mean: a book for young children to help explain death and dying</i>	Jay, Caroline and Jenni Thomas, OBE (Jessica Kingsley Publishers, 2012)	Suitable for children aged 4+, this is an ideal book for parents and caregivers to read with their children, as well as teachers, therapists and counsellors working with young children. This book guides children gently through 17 of the 'big' questions they often ask about death and dying.		155.9 J
<i>What Happened When Grandma Died</i>	Barker, Peggy (Concordia Publishing House, 1984)	Ages 7-14. When her grandmother dies, a young girl feels better after her mother reads Bible verses describing God's plan for everlasting life.	Death of a grandmother	jF B
<i>What Happens When We Die?</i>	Nystrom, Carolyn (Moody Bible Institute, 1992)	For children ages 8 and up. In this simple yet profound book children will see for themselves the reasons people die and what God has in store for them in heaven. With scripture references.		j248.8 T
<i>What's Heaven?</i>	Shriver, Maria (St. Martin's Press, 1999)	Ages 5-9. The story of Kate, a little girl whose great-grandma has just died. She seeks answers, and her mother helps her learn about heaven.	After life	jF S
<i>When Dinosaurs Die: a guide to understanding death</i>	Brown, Laurie Krasny and Marc	Ages 5-8. Unlike many books on death for little ones, this one doesn't tell a story. Instead, it addresses children's fears and curiosity head-on, and in a largely secular fashion, by answering some very basic questions: "Why does someone die?" "What does <i>dead</i> mean?" "What comes after death?" Other questions deal with emotions, and there's a section about death customs. The forthright approach makes the subject seem less mysterious and provides kids with plenty to think about and discuss with their parents. It's the brightly colored artwork, however, that will really enable children to relax with the concept.		155.9 B
<i>When Mom Or Dad Dies: a book of comfort for kids</i>	Grippio, Daniel (Abbey Press, 2008)	Ages 4 and up. When Mom or Dad dies, children grieve deeply. But we can show our care and love for them by encouraging them to share their feelings of sorrow and loss. We can give them the time and space they need to adjust and listen to—if not answer—their questions. We can let them know that they can heal and live a happy, full life of faith, hope, and love—the kind of life their Mom or Dad want for them. We can listen to their hurt and respond in a loving and supportive way.	Death of a parent	j155.9 M
<i>When Someone Dies</i>	Greenlee, Sharon (Peachtree Publishers, 1992)	Ages 5-10. Offers help in dealing with the confusion and hurt felt by children and suggestions for surviving the changes and remembering the good times...transforming sorrow into comfort.		j155.9 G
<i>When Someone You Love Dies</i>	Coleman, William L. (Augsburg Fortress, 1994)	Writing for children ages 8-12 and their parents, Coleman discusses the fears and questions that young people have when someone they love dies.		j155.9 C

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<i>When Someone You Love Dies: an explanation of death for children</i>	Dodd, Robert (Abington Press, 1986)	Written especially for children twelve years of age or younger, to help them understand what happens to them as well as to the deceased, when some significant person in their life dies. Written from a Christian perspective.		vf
<i>When Someone You Love Has Cancer: a guide to help kids cope</i>	Lewis, Alaric (Abby Press, 2005)	Ages 4-8. This book will help kids cope with the presence of cancer in their lives. May it guide them to a healthier understanding of how the disease affects their loved one, their family, and their world. May it offer-as much as is possible-a little healing in the midst of sickness.	Cancer	616.99 L
<i>When You Wish Upon A Star</i>	Washington, Ned (Green Tiger Press, 1987)	Ages 5-9. A beautifully illustrated picture book to the words of the childhood song, "When You Wish Upon a Star"		jF W
<i>When Your Brother or Sister Has Cancer</i>	American Cancer Society (-1984)	Ages 6-14. For children with a sibling who has cancer. Validates feelings and answers questions.	Before the Death	vf
<i>When Your Grandparent Dies: a child's guide to good grief</i>	Ryan, Victoria (Abbey Press, 2002)	Ages 8-12. Losing a grandparent is often a child's first experience of grief—and, as such, it can be bewildering and painful. Let the elves in this book gently take the hand of your child to lead him or her through the grief experience. Explaining what happens from a child's-eye view, the book covers the difficult days before, after, and beyond a grandparent's death.	Death of a grandparent	j155.9 M
<i>Where the Balloons Go</i>	Coleman, Paul (Centering Corporation, 1983)	Elementary age children. Corey and his grandmother love to watch balloons floating up to the sky, and when she dies, Corey thinks of a special way to say goodbye.	Death of a grandparent	jF C
<i>Where's Jess?</i>	Johnson, Joy and Dr. S.M. (Centering Corporation, 1982, rev.ed., 1992)	Ages 3-8. A young child (could be a boy or girl) talks with and asks questions of his/her parents about death and about his/her baby sibling who has just died.	Death of a sibling	vf
<i>Why is Dad so Mad?</i>	Kastle, Seth (Tall Tale Press, 2015)	Is a story for children in military families whose parent battles with combat related Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD). Why Is Dad So Mad? Is a narrative story told from a family's point of view (mother and children) of a service member who struggles with PTSD and its symptoms. Many service members deal with anger, forgetfulness, sleepless nights, and nightmares. This book explains these and how they affect Dad. The moral of the story is that even though Dad gets angry and yells, he still loves his family more than anything.	Military	jF K
<i>Winter Holding Spring</i>	Dragonwagon, Crescent (Macmillan Publishing Company, 1990)	Ages 7-10. In discussing her mother's death with her father, 11 year old Sarah comes to see that in endings there are new beginnings, that in winter there is promise of spring, and that everything comes full circle.	Death of a mother	jF D
<i>You Don't Have To Be Afraid: helping children cope with fear</i>	Blake, Chris (American Bible Society)	This book will help children see how much god loves them and how God works through people to provide comfort and hope. They are not alone in feeling afraid.	Religious	vf