

## Grieving A Pet

EF DEM

### Saying Goodbye To Lulu

by Corinne Demas

Lulu is a sprightly dog who's been a member of the family since before the narrator was born. Now Lulu is old and sick. Mom and Dad say they'll get another dog after Lulu, but their daughter only wants Lulu back, the way she used to be. (ages 4-9)

Parent/Teacher 155.937 DIS

### A Dog Like Jack by DyAnne DiSalvo-Ryan

Jack was already eight years old when Mike's family adopted him. For years, Jack has been a member of the family. Now, Mike is turning eight, and Jack is 91 in dog-years. When Jack gets sick, Mike is devastated. (ages 3-9)

Parent/Teacher 155.937 HAR

### Goodbye Mousie by Robie H. Harris

When a little boy wakes up and finds his pet mouse dead, at first he insists that Mousie is just sleeping. With the help of his parents, the toddler comes to understand what has happened. (ages 2-4)

EF PAR

### Big Cat Pepper by Elizabeth Partridge

In simple, rhyming text, a young boy describes the comforting rhythms of daily life with his mom and Big Cat Pepper up to the day when Big Cat Pepper gets sick—really sick. (ages 4-8)

E 155.937 ROG

### When A Pet Dies by Fred Rogers

In a simple, conversational text, Mr. Rogers talks about how important pets can be in our lives and how sometimes even the best cared-for animals die. He discusses some of the ways a child might feel after losing a pet, as well as ways to remember the animal. (ages 2-4)

## Grieving a Parent

Parent/Teacher 155.937 SPE

### After Charlotte's Mom Died

by Cornelia Spelman

It's been about a year since Charlotte's mom died in a car accident, but Charlotte is still sad, angry, confused and scared. Charlotte's dad seems sad and busy most of the time, so Charlotte feels like the only one she can talk to is Godfrey, her favorite teddy bear. One day, when Charlotte shoves a classmate who teases her for not having a mother, Charlotte's teacher calls Charlotte's dad.

Together, Charlotte and her dad start seeing a counselor who helps them work through some of their grief and begin a happier life together. (ages 4-8)

Parent/Teacher 155.937 VIG

### Saying Goodbye To Daddy by Judith Vigna

Clare was at school when her dad died in a car crash. Her grandfather picked her up and drove her home, where her mother told her what had happened. Clare's disbelief, guilt, anger, confusion and sadness are believably portrayed as she moves through the first few weeks after her father's loss. Eventually, she and her mother find solace in their memories, although they still hurt. (ages 4-9)

J 155.937 KRE

### How it Feels When a Parent Dies

by Jill Krementz

Photographer and author Jill Krementz has interviewed eighteen children between the ages of seven and sixteen, all of whom have lost a parent. This is an invaluable resource for any adult helping to care for a child who is grieving the death of a parent. The text is appropriate for children reading at or above a fifth-grade reading level, but certain younger children might be interested in listening to one or two interviews and finding similarities to their own experiences. (ages 10+ if read independently)

## When someone dies:

### Books for children who are grieving



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## General Books about Death

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Parent/Teacher Collection 155.937 BRO

When Dinosaurs Die: A Guide to Understanding Death by Laurie Krasny Brown and Marc Brown

The creator of the *Arthur Books* has teamed up with his wife for this busy, accessible book. The Browns explore what it means to be alive, the reasons that people die and how death affects the living, as well as different cultural practices, religious beliefs and suggestions for remembering the dead. This is a good non-specific choice for starting a conversation. (ages 4-7)

E 155.937 GOL

Children Also Grieve: Talking About Death and Healing by Linda Goldman

Henry the dog narrates the story of what happens after his family's grandpa dies. Designed as a scrapbook, the book is peppered with conversation prompts, questions and activity suggestions for coping with confusing emotions and celebrating memories. (ages 3-6)

E 155.937 MUR

Tough Topics: Death by Patricia J. Murphy

This easy-to-read book focuses on the way the living feel about death and ways to cope with grief and remember the deceased. The text includes a glossary at the end. This is a good choice for good listeners or independent readers. (ages 5-8)

Parent/Teacher 152.4 PRE

Someone Special Died by Joan Singleton Prestine

An unspecified "someone I love very much just died" and this little girl is sorting through her emotions, wondering "what it will be like without him." (ages 3-6)

## Grieving a Grandparent

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EF BLE

And What Comes After a Thousand?

by Anette Bley

Otto may be old, but he's Lisa's special friend. He spits cherry pits and steals "emergency cookies" from his wife. When Otto gets sick, Lisa keeps him company and they talk about dying. Still, when Otto dies, Lisa feels abandoned. (ages 4-8)

EF DEP

Nana Upstairs & Nana Downstairs

by Tomie dePaola

Tommy's grandmother always seemed to be in the kitchen, but his great grandmother stayed in her bed upstairs. This is the story of the special relationship Tommy had with each nana, and the way he felt that love even after they died. (ages 4-8)

EF DOR

One More Wednesday by Malika Doray

Every Wednesday, this little bunny used to go bake cookies with his granny. When granny dies, the bunny's mother explains different beliefs about death, emphasizing that "in some way [Granny will] always be here because you love her so much." (ages 3-6)

Parent/Teacher HAT

Grandma's Shoes by Libby Hathorn

"When Grandma died, lots of people came to our house. 'Who could ever stem into such a woman's shoes?' the family asked." A little girl slips her feet into her grandma's shoes and discovers magic in them, and in the stories that her grandmother used to tell. (ages 6-9)

Parent/Teacher HOW

Kaddish for Grandpa in Jesus' Name Amen

by James Howe

Emily is five when her Christian grandpa dies, and she goes with her Jewish parents to the church funeral as well as sitting shiva at home. Both ways of remembering Grandpa are beautiful, but Emily finds her own way of saying goodbye. (ages 4-8)

## Grieving a Sibling

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Parent/Teacher 155.937 BLA

Something Happened: A Book for Children and Parents Who Have Experienced Pregnancy Loss by Cathy Blanford

"On the day it happened, everyone woke up happy." But instead of going to the hospital to welcome the new baby, that night the family went to say goodbye. The child narrator expresses confusion, sorrow and guilt, but asserts that "[we] are still a family." (ages 2-5)

Parent/Teacher 155.937 JAC

Can You Hear Me Smiling?: A Child Grieves a Sister by Ariane R. Jackson

Written when the author was only 9 years old, this true story is eloquently told by a younger sister who is occasionally jealous and sometimes fights with the older sister she adores—a sister who suddenly becomes very sick. (ages 6+)

Parent/Teacher 155.937 JOH

That Summer by Tony Johnston

"That summer began like always, with hoots and shouts, all of us running into the sun," but on the Fourth of July Joey got sick—and he didn't get better. Soon, it was clear that Joey was dying. The story of that heartbreaking summer is told in free verse by Joey's older brother. (ages 6-9)

## Grieving a Friend

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EF BAH

If Nathan Were Here by Mary Bahr

If Nathan were here, he and his best friend would be goofing around and laughing like usual. "But Nathan isn't here. And nobody's laughing." This book beautifully captures the narrator's ache and confusion, while also showing the first tentative steps toward healing. (ages 6-10)

READER EDW

Stinky Stern Forever by Michelle Edwards

Matthew Stern is a stinker, but when he dies suddenly, everyone is changed, and their ideas of Stinky change, too. (ages 6-9)