



Death and Grief

Books available at the Columbus Metropolitan Library

PICTURE BOOKS

- Where is Grandpa?** by T.A. Barron, 2000. Picture Book BARRON
As his family reminisces after his beloved grandfather's death, a boy realizes that his grandfather is still with him in all the special places they shared. (Grades PreK-2)
- And What Comes After a Thousand?** by Anette Bley, 2007. Picture Book BLEY
When her grandfather passes away, a little girl comes to understand that memories live beyond death. (Grades PreK-2)
- Rudi's Pond** by Eve Bunting, 1999. Picture Book BUNTING
When a sick boy dies, his friends and classmates remember him by building a schoolyard pond in his memory. (Grades 1-3)
- Everett Anderson's Goodbye** by Lucille Clifton, 1983. Picture Book CLIFTON
After the death of his father, Everett passes through the five stages of grief. (Grades PreK-2)
- Nana Upstairs & Nana Downstairs** by Tomie De Paola, 1973. Picture Book DE PAOLA
Four-year-old Tommy enjoys his relationship with both his grandmother and great-grandmother, but eventually learns to face their eventual deaths. (Grades PreK-1)
- That Summer** by Tony Johnston, 2002. Picture Book JOHNSTON
A family, including a child who is dying, sews together a quilt of memories and love. (Grades 4-6)
- Ghost Wings** by Barbara Joosse, 2001. Picture Book JOSSE
While celebrating the Days of the Dead, a Mexican girl remembers her wonderful grandmother who sang songs, made tortillas, chased monsters away, and loved butterflies. (Grades K-3)
- Annie and the Old One** by Miska Miles, 1971. Picture Book MILES
A Navajo girl unravels a day's weaving on a rug whose completion, she believes, will mean the death of her grandmother. The grandmother helps her to find acceptance and peace. (Grades 4-6)
- Gentle Willow: A Story for Children About Dying** by Joyce C. Mills, 2004. Picture Book MILLS
A squirrel is upset that she is going to lose her Gentle Willow, but the tree wizards give advice that help both her and Gentle Willow accept the change that comes with death. (Grades K-2)



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- Where Do People Go When They Die?** by Mindy Portnoy, 2004. Picture Book PORTNOY
Children ask questions about death and receive a wide variety of answers. (Grades K-2)
- The Purple Balloon** by Chris Raschka, 2007. Picture Book RASCHKA
Dying is hard work, for the old and especially the young, but how good it is that so many people help when a person dies. Easy text and colorful watercolors send a subtle, comforting message. (Grades 1-4)
- Saying Goodbye to Daddy** by Judith Vigna, 1991. Picture Book VIGNA
Clare is helped through the grieving process after the death of her father. (Grades K-3)
- The Tenth Good Thing About Barney** by Judith Viorst, 1971. Picture Book VIORST
A little boy lists his ten favorite things about his cat, Barney, after his death. (Grades PreK-2)
- Sammy in the Sky** by Barbara Walsh, 2011. Picture Book WALSH
A little girl tells about her special pet, Sammy, "the best hound dog in the whole world," and how, after he becomes sick and dies, Sammy's spirit is everywhere. (Grades PreK-2)
- Harry and Hopper** by Margaret Wild, 2011. Picture Book WILD
One day when Harry comes home from school, his faithful companion Hopper isn't there to greet him. Explores the process of healing after losing a beloved pet. (Grades PreK-2)
- The Day Tiger Rose Said Goodbye** by Jane Yolen, 2011. Picture Book YOLEN
A cat whose kitten days are far behind her says goodbye to her human family, and the animals and places that have made her life special, before leaving this life behind. (Grades K-3)
- Grandad Bill's Song** by Jane Yolen, 1994. Picture Book YOLEN
A boy asks others how they felt when his grandfather died and then shares his own feelings. (Grades K-3)
- Olivia Says Goodbye to Grandpa** by Sarah, Duchess of York, 2009. Picture Book YORK
When Olivia's beloved grandfather dies, her parents and friends at school help her to remember the fun they had together. (Grades PreK-2)

FICTION

- On My Honor** by Marion Dane Bauer, 1986. Fiction BAUER
When his best friend drowns while they are both swimming in a treacherous river, Joel must tell both sets of parents the terrible consequences of their disobedience. (Grades 4-6)
- Sun & Spoon** by Kevin Henkes, 1997. Fiction HENKES
After the death of his grandmother, 10-year-old Spoon tries to find the perfect artifact to preserve his memories of her. (Grades 4-6)

Pearl Verses the World by Sally Murphy, 2011

Fiction MURPHY

Pearl feels like an island in school, isolated and alone, but at home she feels loved and secure until her grandmother's illness changes the way Pearl views her world. (Grades 2-5)

Mick Harte Was Here by Barbara Park, 1995.

Fiction PARK

Thirteen-year-old Phoebe recalls her brother Mick's death in a bicycle accident. (Grade 6-7)

NONFICTION

When Dinosaurs Die by Laurene Kransy Brown, 1996.

j155.937 B878w

Explains in simple language the feelings and customs people may believe regarding the death of a loved one. (Grades PreK-2)

Talking About Death: A Dialogue Between Parent and Child by Earl Grollman

155.937 G875t4

A compassionate guide for adults and children to read together, featuring a read-along story and answers to questions children ask about death. (Grades 1-3)

When a Pet Dies by Fred Rogers, 1988.

j155.937 R725w

The book explores the sadness and loneliness that a child may feel when a pet dies. (Grades PreK-K)

What on Earth Do You Do When Someone Dies? by Trevor Romain, 1999. j155.937 R757w

Describes the overwhelming emotions involved in dealing with the death of a loved one and discusses how to cope with such a situation. (Grades 4-6)

I Miss You: A First Look at Death by Pat Thomas, 2001. j155.937 T461i

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. (Grades PreK-2)