

# Bereavement and Loss:

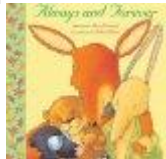
## Picture Books for Young Children

This list is a sampling of some of the best books on death, bereavement and loss for children.

Please contact your public library for more books specific to the loss your child is coping with.

***Always and forever***  
**By Alan Durant**

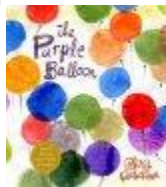
[Check Library Catalog](#)



When Fox dies, Mole, Hare, and Otter have a hard time adjusting to his loss until Squirrel reminds them of all the good times they shared in the past--reassuring them that Fox will always be alive in their hearts and minds.

***The purple balloon***  
**By Christopher Raschka**

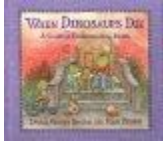
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As captured in the drawings of purple and blue balloons, an inspiring book deals with children who are coping with fatal illnesses and their own mortality through direct and sensitive language.

***When dinosaurs die : a guide to understanding death***  
**By Laurene Krasny Brown**

[Check Library Catalog](#)

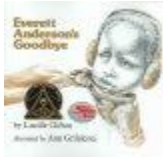


A reassuring children's guide to understanding death which comfortingly addresses common fears and questions while offering sympathetic suggestions for ways to remember a loved one.

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***Everett Anderson's goodbye***  
**By Lucilee Clifton**

[Check Library Catalog](#)

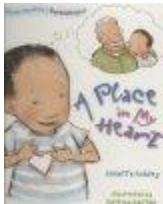


Everett Anderson has a difficult time coming to terms with his grief after his father dies. This is a good book for children dealing with the death of a parent. In the story a small boy goes through denial, anger, bargaining, depression, and acceptance after his father's death.

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***A place in my heart***  
**By Annette Aubrey**

[Check Library Catalog](#)



Andrew's grandpa has died, and Andrew is feeling very sad and confused. Explore with your child the difficult issue of bereavement as Andrew talks about his feelings with his mom and dad.

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***One more Wednesday***  
**By Malika Doray**

[Check Library Catalog](#)



Bunny loves spending every Wednesday with Granny, but suddenly, Granny dies, and Bunny is left feeling sad and confused until Mama explains different beliefs about death, and Bunny realizes that his memories of Granny will be like one more Wednesday, in a heartwarming picture book that helps children to understand death.

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***Lifetimes : a beautiful way to explain death to children***  
**By Bryan Mellonie**

[Check Library Catalog](#)

A pet . . . a friend . . . or a relative dies, and it must be explained to a child. This sensitive book is a useful tool in explaining to children that death is a part of life and that, eventually, all living things reach the end of their own special lifetimes.

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***What on earth do you do when someone dies?***  
**By Trevor Romain**

[Check Library Catalog](#)

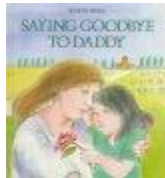


Simple, insightful, and straight from the heart, this book is for any child who has lost a loved one. The author talks directly to kids about what death means and how to cope. He answers questions kids have about death--Why? How? What next? Is it my fault? What's a funeral?--in basic straightforward terms.

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***Saying goodbye to Daddy***  
**By Judith Vigna**

[Check Library Catalog](#)

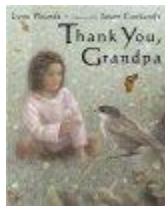


Frightened, lonely, and angry after her father is killed in a car accident, Clare is helped through the grieving process by her mother and grandfather.

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***Thank you, Grandpa***  
**By Lynn Plourde**

[Check Library Catalog](#)



Remembering her grandfather and their special walks together in the woods where she was first introduced to nature and all its wonders, a young girl must learn to cope with the loss of losing her special friend while always cherishing the special times they shared together.

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***Flamingo dream***  
**By Donna Jo Napoli**

[Check Library Catalog](#)



Grieving over her father's death from cancer, a young girl celebrates their last year together by making a book that includes mementos and a story, in a groundbreaking picture book about dying and healing.

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***After Charlotte's mom died***  
**By Cornelia Spelman**

[Check Library Catalog](#)



A sensitive and helpful story discusses the fearful and uncertain feelings of a six-year-old child after the sudden loss of her mother and the ways in which she and her father are taught to deal with the situation through the help of a therapist.

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***The goodbye boat***  
**By Mary Joslin**

[Check Library Catalog](#)

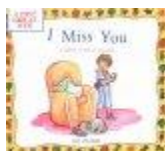


Saying goodbye to someone you love is always hard. Saying goodbye when someone you love dies is perhaps the hardest thing of all. Joslin's simple, thoughtful text and Little's evocative illustrations explore the pain and grief of saying goodbye and open the door to discussion for readers of any age. *The Goodbye Boat* provides a message of hope that sadness will ease and comforts with the reassurance that death is not the end.

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***I miss you : a first look at death***  
**By Pat Thomas**

[Check Library Catalog](#)



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.

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***Help me say goodbye : activities for helping kids cope when a special person dies***

**By Janis L. Silverman**

[Check Library Catalog](#)

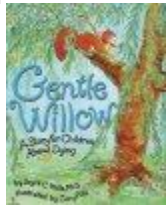


An art therapy and activity book for children coping with death. Sensitive exercises address all the questions children may have during this emotional and troubling crisis. Children are encouraged to express in pictures what they are often incapable of expressing in words.

***Gentle Willow : a story for children about dying***

**By Joyce C. Mills**

[Check Library Catalog](#)



Amanda the squirrel is upset that she is going to lose her friend Gentle Willow, but the tree wizards give advice that help both her and Gentle Willow accept the change that comes with death.

***The next place***

**By Warren Hanson**

[Check Library Catalog](#)



*The Next Place* is an inspirational journey of light and hope to a place where earthly hurts are left behind. An uncomplicated journey of awe and wonder to a destination without barriers.

***Daddy's promise***

**By Cindy Klein Cohen**

[Check Library Catalog](#)



Tells the story of little boy's journey of discovery after the loss of his father. The authors address the feelings of guilt, anger, sadness and fear common in grieving children. This book is sure to encourage dialogue between parent (caregiver) and child.

***Bear's last journey***  
**By Udo Weigelt**

[Check Library Catalog](#)



All the animals in the forest must deal with the death of their old friend, the bear, when he goes to sleep and never wakes up, in a moving story about death, grieving, and the solace to be found in memory.

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***Beautiful***  
**By Susi Gregg Fowler**

[Check Library Catalog](#) Pub



Uncle George tries to impart his gardening expertise to his young nephew before an illness debilitates him, and when it finally succeeds in laying him low, the gift he has implanted in his protege begins to bear fruit.

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***The tenth good thing about Barney***  
**By Judith Viorst**

[Check Library Catalog](#)

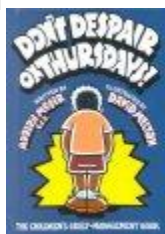


Barney was a cat. He died last Friday. And everyone was sad. They did what most people do when a cat they like dies. They had a funeral. And then they tried to think of good things about him. They wanted to remember him as he was; and they thought about some other things, too. Whenever a cat dies, or a dog, or a bird, or any friend, it can be a little like this story about Barney. since dying is as usual as living, it's good to know about him.

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***Don't despair on Thursdays! : the children's grief-management book***  
**By Adolph Moser**

[Check Library Catalog](#)



Examines, in simple text, how to deal with feelings of grief when people or pets die, or when friends move away.

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