



# **GRIEF BOOKS**

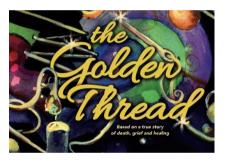
Our grief experts compiled a short list of both fiction and non-fiction age-appropriate books that address grief and loss for children, teens, young adults, and adults. If you are an adult wanting to support a grieving child, it is always best to read the book before sharing it.

### **ALL AGES**



#### WHEN SOMEONE DIES A CHILD-CAREGIVER ACTIVITY BOOK NAGC (2016)

Written for children and caregivers to use together and designed to help families better understand, express, and cope with grief.



#### THE GOLDEN THREAD

#### **BRENDA HARTMAN (2014)**

Author and Therapist Brenda Hartman specializes in death and grief, helping children with their reactions when a loved one dies.

### **AGES 0 - 3**



#### THE GOODBYE BOOK

#### **TODD PARR (2015)**

Provides examples of ways a child may respond when they have to say goodbye and how to help themselves feel better.

### **AGES 4 - 10**



### A TERRIBLE THING HAPPENED

#### **MARGARET HOLMES (2000)**

A young racoon explores his reactions and learns to cope after something "terrible" happens.



### WHY DO I FEEL SO SAD?

#### TRACY LAMBERT (2020)

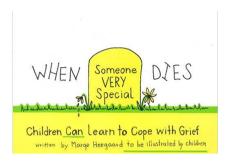
Addresses changes and reactions a child may experience after the death of a special person while providing comfort and hope.



#### ONE WAVE AT A TIME A STORY ABOUT GRIEF AND HEALING HOLLY THOMPSON (2018)

The story of a young boy experiencing waves of grief after his father's death and how, with his family, he finds ways to cope.

### AGES 4 - 10 (CONTINUED)



# WHEN SOMEONE VERY SPECIAL DIES

#### MARGE HEEGARD (1996)

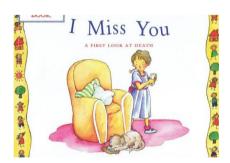
A practical workbook that allows children to begin understanding the concept of death and develop skills for coping.



## NOT THE END OF THE CHÁVEZ FAMILY

#### MARI DOMBOWSKI (2018)

A family learns to reengage in life after their father's death.



#### I MISS YOU

#### PAT THOMAS (2000)

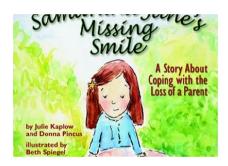
Helps children understand the concept of death while normalizing their feelings after someone special dies.



# THE HEART AND THE BOTTLE

#### **OLIVER JEFFERS (2010)**

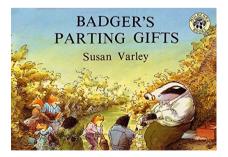
A girl learns to the importance of not holding feelings inside after someone special is gone.



# SAMANTHA JANE'S MISSING SMILE

#### **JULIE KAPLOW (2007)**

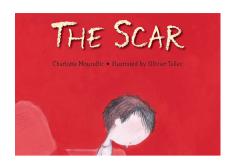
With her neighbor's help, Samantha talks about her sadness since her father died, and begins to find her smile.



## BADGER'S PARTING GIFTS

#### SUSAN VARLEY (1984)

When Badger dies, all his woodland friends cope by remembering what he taught them and the legacy he left behind.



#### THE SCAR

#### CHARLOTTE MOUNDIC (2011)

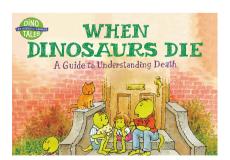
A visit from grandma after his mother's death teaches a little boy his mom's love is always near.



#### **GOODBYE MOUSIE**

#### ROBIE HARRIS (2004)

When a boy loses a beloved pet, his feelings are immense. By talking about it and memorializing "Mousie," he begins to feel better.



#### WHEN DINOSAURS DIE

#### **LAURIE KRANSY BROWN (1998)**

Answering many questions children have about death, this book explores what might come up in grief.

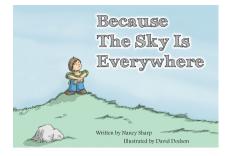
### AGES 4 - 10 (CONTINUED)



#### THE INVISIBLE STRING

#### PATRICE KARTS (2000)

When two children have a hard time falling asleep alone, their mother reminds them of the invisible string connecting their hearts to people they love everywhere.



# BECAUSE THE SKY IS EVERYWHERE

#### NANCY SHARP (2017)

When Liam's father dies, he doesn't fully understand. This story helps children accept that despite death, love can be everlasting.



#### **KAI'S JOURNEY**

#### **NEW YORK LIFE FOUNDATION (2020)**

Kai's Journey is a three book series about Kai, who, together with his mom, learns to navigate a profound loss in their family.

### **AGES 11 - 14**



# MY BROTHER'S SHADOW

#### **TOM AVERY (2014)**

After her brother's death by suicide, a middle-school girl transitions from isolation to connection.



# THE STARS BENEATH OUR FEET

#### **DAVID BARCLAY MOORE (2017)**

Lolly navigates his grief journey while trying to maintain safety and a sense of community following his brother's homicide.



#### **SUMMERLOST**

#### ALLY CONDIE (2016)

A story about the first summer Cedar experiences after the deaths of her brother and father in an accident.



# THE SECRET HUM OF A DAISY

#### **TRACY HOLCZER (2014)**

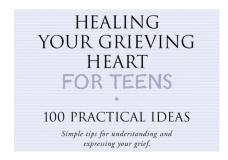
A young woman is forced to move in with a grandmother she barely knows after the sudden death of her mother.



### IF ONLY

#### **CAROLE GEITHNER (2012)**

After her mother dies of cancer, Corinna makes her way through the world experiencing struggles with school, friendships, and her new normal.

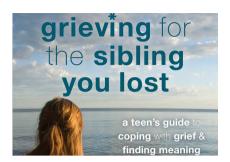


# HEALING YOUR GRIEVING HEART FOR TEENS

#### ALAN D. WOLFELT (2001)

Provides information about grief in addition to practical ideas for healing activities for bereaved teens.

### **AGES 15 - 18**



# GRIEVING FOR THE SIBLING YOU LOST

#### **ERICA GOLDBLATT HYATT (2015)**

A compassionate guide full of insights and strategies for managing grief related to the death of a sibling.



## BEANEATH A METH MOON

#### **JACQUELINE WOODSON (2013)**

Laurel's mother and grandmother died in Hurricane Katrina and she must face present-day struggles while managing her grief.



#### THE GRIEVING TEEN

#### HELEN FITZGERALD (2000)

Focuses on teenagers' perspectives as they move through a wide range of grief experiences.

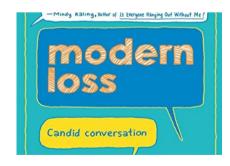


#### **WE ARE OKAY**

#### NINA LACOUR (2017)

Showcases the experience of a young woman reflecting on her grief related to her mother's death and the losses she experienced throughout life.

### YOUNG ADULT/ADULT



# MODERN LOSS A CANDID CONVERSATION REBECCA SOFFER & GABRIELLE BIRKNER (2018)

A compilation of candid, original essays about grief and resilience that offer honest, sometimes humorous dialogue about the challenges of coping after a loss.



#### **OPTION B**

### SHERYL SANDBERG & ADAM GRANT (2017)

A book about the many ways in which post-traumatic growth fosters resilience, and how people recover from loss and adversity.



# IT'S OK THAT YOU'RE NOT OK

#### MEGAN DEVINE (2017)

A book for grieving people and those who want to support them.

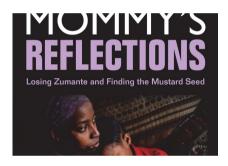
### YOUNG ADULT/ADULT (CONTINUED)



#### **GRIEF DAY BY DAY**

#### **JAN WARNER (2018)**

Offers brief readings and exercises to assist in exploring grief and healing one day at a time.

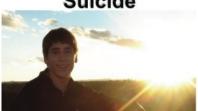


#### MOMMY'S REFLECTIONS

#### **ZUTON LUCERO MILLS (2012)**

The true story of one mother's journey following the death of her child, examining her emotions and struggling with her own survival.

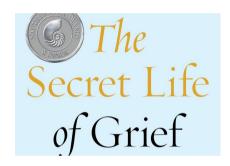
### Surviving My Son's Suicide



# SURVIVING MY SON'S SUICIDE

#### **STEVE SORENSEN (2013)**

An authentic look at a father's anguish, as tragedy compelled him to take an unwanted journey through grief.



### THE SECRET LIFE OF GRIEF

#### TANJA PAJEVIC (2016)

For those who believe in the transformative power of loss and love, and for anyone who isn't willing to act like nothing's wrong.



### THERE IS NO GOOD CARD FOR THIS

#### **KELSEY CROWE & EMILY MCDOWELL (2017)**

A visually stunning illustrated guide to help increase emotional intelligence and learn how to offer comfort to someone in pain.





## GRIEF IN THE WORKPLACE

#### RACHEL KODNAZ (2015)

Rachel Kodanaz provides tools and practical advice to support the bereaved in the workplace.