

Books Dealing with Death

Preschool

Lifetimes by Bryan Mellonie and Robert Ingpen. A very special, very important book for you and your child. The book that explains – beautifully – that all living things have their own special lifetimes. Bantam Books, 1983.

Nana Upstairs, Nana Downstairs by Tomie De Paola. Young Tommie learns what it is like to be young and old, very old, and finally to die by visiting his grandmother and great-grandmother. G.P. Putnam's Sons, New York, 1973.

The Tenth Good Thing About Barney by Judith Viorst. A young boy learns to deal with the death of his cat by remembering all the good things about him. Antheneum, New York, 1971.

The Fall of Freddie the Leaf by Leo Buscaglia. This is a story about how Freddie and his companion leaves change with the passing seasons, finally falling to the ground with winter's snow. Both children and adults will be touched by this inspiring story of the cycle of life. Slack, Inc. 1982.

6 – 9 Years

Badger's Parting Gifts by Susan Varley. Badger's friends are sad when he dies, but they treasure the legacies he left them. Mulberry Books, 1984.

Sam's Story by Fiona Chin-Yee. This is a story about Sam and his little brother Patrick who died from SIDS. It can serve as a basis for discussion between parents and their children and open the door to many feelings. CFSID, 1988.

Saying Goodbye to Daddy by Judith Vigna. Frightened, angry and lonely after her father is killed in a car accident, Clare is helped through the grieving process by her mother and grandmother. Albert Whitman, 1991.



Tear Soup by Pat Schwiebert and Chuck DeKlyen . After Grandy suffers a loss, she cooks up her own batch of tear soup. Gives you a glimpse into Grandy's life as she blends different ingredients into her own grief process. Valuable for family members to share. Grief Watch, 1999.

9 -12 Years

Grover by Vera and Bill Cleaver. Grover attempts to deal with the death of his mother and the changes her death has made in his life. J.B. Lippincott Co., 1970

A Taste of Blackberries by Doris B. Smith. A story told from the child's perspective about a young boy who loses his friend, including the two boys' relationship, the accident and the ambulance, the rituals involved from the visitation to the graveside service, and how the young boy begins to make sense of the death and learns to go on with his life. Rinehart and Winston, 1983.

Teen

When a Friend Dies: A book for teens about grieving and healing by Marilyn E. Gootman. Furnishes teens with important information on understanding grief. Free Spirit Publishing, 1994.

*Death is Hard to Live With*_by Janet Bode. Teenagers talk about how they cope with loss. Bantam Doubleday Dell Publishing, 1993.

SIDS of Illinois, 2004

