

DEATH OF A FAMILY MEMBER

Aliki. The Two of Them. Describes the relationship of a grandfather and his granddaughter from her birth to his death. j PAR PIC Aliki

Anholt, L. Seven for a Secret. Ruby lives in the city and Grampa lives in the country. They write to each other and share the events in their lives. Ruby tells about the flights of stairs in their apartment block and the sights of the city. Grampa tells about the naughty magpies that live in his old oak tree. Through the Magpie Song that Grampa describes, the events of the story unravel — three magpies for Ruby the magpie girl, one for a heartbreaking goodbye, and six for a wonderful surprise that might change Ruby's life forever. j PAR PIC Anholt

Barron, T. Where is Grandpa? 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. j PAR PIC Barron

Carrick, C. Upside-Down Cake. A nine-year-old boy tries to come to terms with his grief and anger when his father develops cancer, gradually becomes weaker and weaker, and then dies. j Carrick

Carson, J. You Hold Me and I'll Hold You. When a great-aunt dies, a young child finds comfort in being held and in holding too. j PAR PIC Carson

Clifton, L. Everett Anderson's Goodbye. A simple, poetic telling of Everett Anderson's feelings as he coped with and accepts the fact of his father's death. j PAR PIC Clifton

Coakley, L. On the Night of the Comet. One night, Peter discovers two tigers and a snow leopard at his front door. They come in for some cream, and Snow Leopard explains that tonight, on the night of the comet, all felines can speak. They are on their way to ask important questions of the Great Cat. As she tours Peter's home, she wonders why his sleeping father looks so sad, why the plants are neglected, and why the house feels so empty. Peter's inferred struggle with his mother's death is subtly woven throughout the healing text and art. The story resolves as Peter, with his father's encouragement, looks out the window and whispers, "Goodbye." j PAR PIC Coakley

Cohn, J. Molly's Rosebush. When the new baby they've been expecting isn't strong enough to be born, Molly and her family find different ways to express their feelings and comfort each other. j PAR PIC Cohn

Coville, B. My Grandfather's House. When a child feels the cool, smooth fingers of his dead grandfather, he finally understands that Grampa no longer lives in the house that was his body. j PAR PIC Coville

De Paola, T. Nana Upstairs and Nana Downstairs. A small boy enjoys his relationship with his grandmother and his great-grandmother, but he learns to face their inevitable death. j PAR PIC De Paolo

Fraustino, L. The Hickory Chair. A blind boy tells of his warm relationship with his grandmother and the gift she left for him after her death. j PAR PIC Fraustino

Fry, V. Part of Me Died, Too: Stories of Creative Survival Among Bereaved Children and Teenagers. Facing the death of a loved one, children or teenagers may feel many emotions. But they may not want to talk about their feelings or even know what words to use. The creative strategies offered here will help bring their feelings out into the open where they could explore them and begin to feel whole and loved again. j 155.937 F947

Henley, K. Gram's Song. Anthony enjoys spending time with his grandmother, so when she dies he is sad until his mother tells him that Gram is now with Jesus, and reminds him of the treasures she left him, including her special song. jP Henley

Hest, A. Remembering Mrs. Rossi. Eight-year-old Annie lives in a sunny apartment in Manhattan with her father, Professor Rossi. Life would be pretty good if only Annie didn't so achingly miss her mother. With tenderness and humor, Amy Hest reveals the struggles of a father and daughter as they forge a new life together. j Hest

Jordan, M. Losing Uncle Tim. When his beloved Uncle Tim dies of AIDS, Daniel struggles to find reassurance and understanding and finds that his favorite grown-up has left him a legacy of joy and courage. j PAR PIC Jordan

Krementz, J. How it Feels When a Parent Dies. Eighteen young people, ranging in age from seven to sixteen discuss the questions, fears and bereavement they experienced when one of their parents died. j 155.937 K

LeShan, E. Learning to Say Good-By: When a Parent Dies. Discusses the questions, fears, and fantasies many children experience when a parent or someone close to them dies. j 155.9 L

Miles, M. Annie and the Old One. A Navajo girl unravels a day's weaving on a rug whose completion, she believes, will mean the death of her grandmother. j PAR PIC Miles

Raschka, C. The Purple Balloon. "No one likes to talk about dying. It's hard work." The focus is first on how support from those around us can help "make dying not so hard" for an older person. The same case is then made for a child who faces death, concluding with "Good help makes dying less hard. Good help makes leaving easier." The balloons representing the two who are dying morph from their original colors to shades of purple. A message from the author explains why he uses the purple balloons as a symbol. The book ends with suggestions on how to help a friend who is terminally ill. j PAR PIC Raschka

Powell, E. Geranium Morning. Two friends who lose parents, one suddenly in a car accident and one by illness, learn to deal with their grief. j 155.937 P

Rosen, M. Michael Rosen's Sad Book. A man tells about all the emotions that accompany his sadness over the death of his son, and how he tries to cope. j 155.9 Rosen

Russo, M. Grandpa Abe. Grandpa Abe enters Sarah's life as her grandmother's boyfriend, becomes her grandfather by marriage, and enriches her life before leaving it. j PAR PIC Russo

Rylant, C. Missing May. After the death of the beloved aunt who has raised her, twelve year old Summer and her uncle Ob leave their West Virginia trailer in search of the strength to go on living. j Rylant

Schmidt, G. The Wonders of Donal O'Donnell. The stories of three peddlers are told to Donal O'Donnell and his wife one stormy night and begin to heal their hearts, broken by the death of their son. j 398.2 S

Wells, R. The Language of Doves. On her sixth birthday, Julietta's grandfather gives her one of his beautiful homing pigeons and tells her a story of his experience raising and training doves in Italy during the Great War. j PAR PIC Wells

What Do I Tell My Children? (VHS) Based on the personal experiences of several families, this program discusses how to help children cope in dealing with the death of a loved one. Both parents and professionals answer questions about their own and their children's grieving process. j PAR 155.937 W

Wild, M. Old Pig. Because Old Pig knows that her time to die is near, she puts her affairs in order and takes a slow walk with Granddaughter to savor the beauty for one last time.
j PAR PIC Wild