



The Lonely Tree

by Nicholas Halliday

published by Halliday Books Dist. Gardners

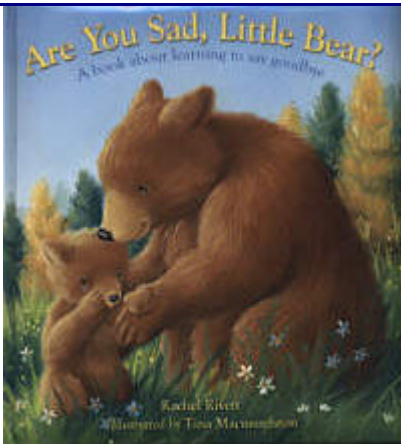
in Landscape A4 Paperback

at £9.99 (978-0-953-94598-6)

To help children aged Age 4 and over, Nicholas Halliday has written and drawn this appealing book. Stephen Fry is quoted on the cover as saying 'Utterly, completely and splendidly charming. Originally illustrated and delightfully told.' which doesn't leave many relevant words for the rest of us! -

A little fir tree starts to grow in the New Forest among the oak trees and soon is befriended by the ancient oak nearby. When winter comes and the oaks go to sleep, the little fir tree is all alone and sad. When spring comes the oaks wake up and burst into leaf except the ancient oak nearby. The other oaks explain that he has died but tell the little fir tree to remember his old friends stories, and his strength, his wisdom, and most of all his love. The book ends with one more surprise to cheer little ones hearing the story.

Notes by [Mary Bartholomew](#)



Are You Sad, Little Bear?

by Rachel Rivett, illustrated by Tina Macnaughton

published by Lion

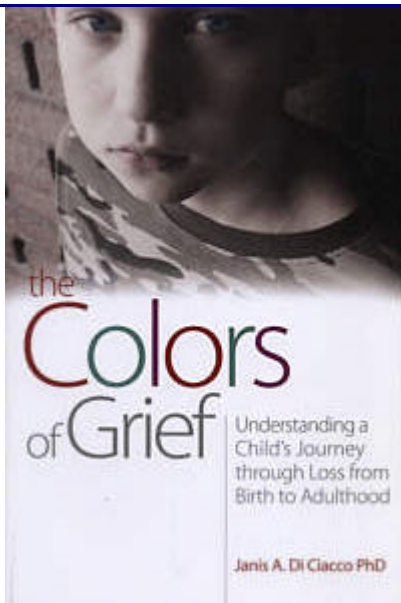
in Padded Hardback

at £6.99 (978-0-745-96137-8)

A gentle story of learning about loss. Little Bear has said goodbye to his Grandmother for the last time, and his wise Mother sends him off into the Wildwood to see what lessons he can learn there to soften his grief. It is autumn and as he wanders through the woods, he talks to the swallows flying off to warmer climes, to the trees losing their leaves, to the sun who appears to die when it sets and the moon constantly changing, and he learns from them all that although things don't always stay the same, there is always a bright side to seemingly sad things, a bigger picture for us to see if we take time to recognize the 'Great Heart that holds everything for always'. -

Young children of 3 – 7 years will find comfort and hope in this story.

Notes by [Mary Bartholomew](#)



The Colours of Grief

by Janis A. di Ciacco

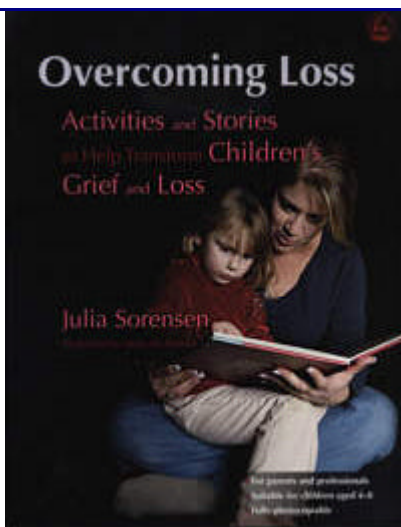
published by Jessica Kingsley Publishers dist. Gardners

in Paperback

at £12.99 (978-1-843-10886-3)

This text would be of considerable use and interest to any teacher or other adult who finds themselves in the counselling role in a school. - The Colours of Grief - explores strategies for supporting grieving children; it draws on the latest research in neurology and psychology and details the child's grieving process in terms of their developmental stages. As well as explaining the connections between bereavement, attachment issues and social dysfunction, the author also suggests easy-to-use activities for intervention at each stage. It is both an academic investigation into the processes a child goes through to achieve maturity through the grieving process and a source of precise and detailed steps to help the carer pilot their way through the steps it takes. Both theoretical and practical, this is a very useful book.

Notes by Sue Cooper



Overcoming Loss

by Julia Sorenson

published by Jessica Kingsley Publishers dist. Gardners

in A4 Paperback

at £19.99 (978-1-843-10646-3)

Julia Sorensen's book, - Overcoming Loss - , is a "hands-on" work, being a photocopiable resource full of activities that use the power of play and creative arts to give the grieving child the language to identify subtle feelings such as shame, despair and jealousy. The ideas contained in this text are rooted in deep and extensive psychological research. The activities here, encourage social and emotional learning through play, art and story-telling, and provide a set of resources for use in either a school or other carer situations whilst giving total reassurance that, if you are following Sorensen's advice, you can only be doing good.

Notes by Sue Cooper



We Were Gonna Have a Baby, But We Had An Angel Inst

by Pat Schwiebert

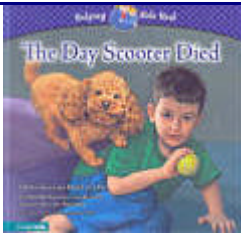
published by Griefwatch from Ingram Books

in Paperback

at £5.95 (0-972-42411-3)

Dealing with the death of an expected and much-wanted baby as told through the words of the little boy who would have been the 'big brother', this book with its' simple one-line per page story and appealing illustrations is a knockout. The difficult subject is handled with sensitivity and with no attempt to pretend that there is an easy happy ending. The notes at the end of the book on helping children to grieve and cope with such a loss would be of great use to those, who grieving themselves, have to try to find answers to the child/children's 'why?'

Notes by Pam Sanders



The Day Scooter Died

by Kathleen Long Bostrom, illustrated by Cheri Bladhol

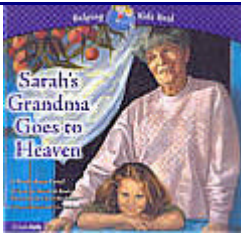
published by Zonderkidz from Zondervan

in Paperback

at £4.99 (0-310-70902-4)

Scooter had belonged to Mum and Dad, but when Mikey was born Scooter changed his allegiance and attached himself like a limpet to Mikey. As Mikey grew up they played together and one day while playing ball in the garden (yard) the ball went too far and Scooter chased after it, out of the garden, into the path of an oncoming car. He died very shortly after and all Mikey was left with was Scooter's beloved blanket, which he treasures along with Scooter's collar, rubber bone and name tag and a ball that Scooter had so loved to chase. His Mother explained that all creation was in God's care and that although we do not know if there are animals in heaven, we can trust God to know what is best for the animals he loves.
- Don't forget to look at the guidance and advice to adults on the back pages.

Notes by Mary Bartholomew



Sarah's Grandma Goes to Heaven

by Maribeth Boelts, illustrated by Cheri Bladholm
published by Zonderkidz from Zondervan
in Paperback
at £4.99 (0-310-70656-4)

This book is written with love and understanding of the feelings of a child and parents when a Grandparent dies and shows how the remaining grandparent is suffering from the loss, and how all of them can help each other with the healing process. Hopefully reading this book to, or with, a child will deepen the adults and the child's understanding of death and the Christian message of hope and joy to come. A sensitive telling of how Sarah learns to come to terms with Grandma's illness and death, and a delightful story to read and share. There is very special help for the adults at the back of the book.

Notes by [Mary Bartholomew](#)

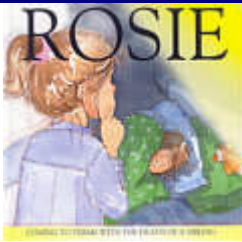


Where Did Grandad Go?

by Catherine House and Honor Ayres
published by Barnabas imprint of BRF
in Paperback
at £5.99 (1-841-01502-4)

This is an excellent help to families needing to explain to little ones about the death of a grandfather. Beautifully illustrated and sympathetically told in story fashion. Megan and her Granny pick some flowers and then walk to the graveyard talking about the things they see around them. Megan remembers where Grandad's grave is and arranges the flowers in the vase. She asks Granny if God lives with Grandad in the graveyard and Granny explains that God is everywhere, but Grandad has gone to live in God's house. Granny goes on to explain that one day she will die too, and that although Megan will miss her, she will have many happy memories of both her grandparents.

Notes by [Mary Bartholomew](#)



Rosie

by Stephanie Jeffs and Jacqui Thomas

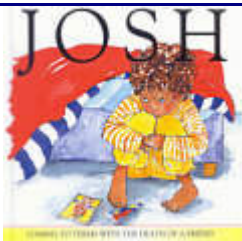
published by Barnabas imprint of BRF

in Paperback

at £5.99 (1-841-01422-2)

Jenny's sister Rosie had been ill for some time and Jenny hoped she would be better soon. She remembered all the happy times when they played together, but now Rosie spent nearly all the time in bed, and couldn't go on outings with her sister. Their Mum had to explain to her that Rosie was not going to get better. Jenny was very sad, but crept up to her sister's room, and said a prayer to Jesus asking him to take care of Rosie. Nothing frightening or dramatic in this story, just gentle loving, to help a young child understand. Engaging illustrations help the story along.

Notes by [Mary Bartholomew](#)



Josh

by Stephanie Jeffs and Jacqui Thomas

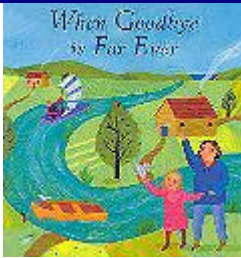
published by Barnabas imprint of BRF

in Paperback

at £5.99 (1-841-01423-0)

Josh gets to know a neighbour called Max. Max is a painter and decorator and last year Josh's Mum had asked Max to come and decorate Josh's bedroom, so they had become special friends. One day Josh and his sister walk past Max's house and he isn't there. They find out that he has been killed in a road accident and Josh does not know how to handle this news. Mum helps him to understand about death and saying goodbye. This gentle story with its attractive illustrations will help a young child to cope with this difficult experience.

Notes by [Mary Bartholomew](#)



When Goodbye is for Ever

by Lois Rock, Illustrated by Sheila Moxley

published by Lion

in Paperback

at £4.99 (0-745-94879-0)

To help children from 4 – 8 cope with saying goodbye to someone they love who has died, friend or relative. Very simply written and sympathetically illustrated.

Notes by [Mary Bartholomew](#)



Grandma's Party

by Meg Harper

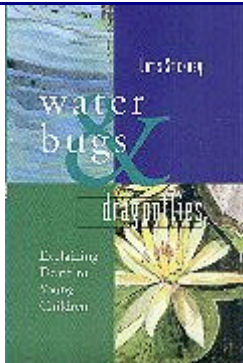
published by Barnabas imprint of BRF

in Paperback

at £6.99 (1-841-01341-2)

Ideal for children aged 6-10 with the support of caring adults. 'The idea for this book came from Meg's desire to help adults take a more positive approach in allowing children to be part of the grieving process after the death of a close friend or relative' With a note to parents and teachers and another to children reading this book, she straight away shows that grieving is for all ages, not just 'grownups'. Fittingly the illustrations are in black and white and the emphasis is on happy memories, in this case of Grandma, but the idea could be adapted for different situations. Includes photocopying permission.

Notes by [Mary Bartholomew](#)



Waterbugs and Dragonflies – Explaining Death to Young

by Doris Stickney

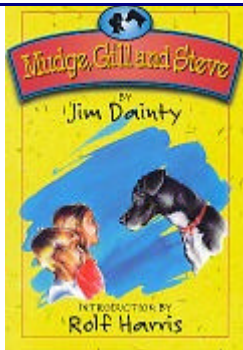
published by Continuum

in Paperback

at £5.99 (0-826-46458-0)

A well loved little book that has proved its worth to many, many children and their parents. Now reissued 2003 with a new ISBN. Very simply told, even little children can grasp the basic truth that the story is putting across. The hardback is beautifully illustrated in colour. Also available paperback.

Notes by [Mary Bartholomew](#)



Mudge, Gill and Steve

by Jim Dainty

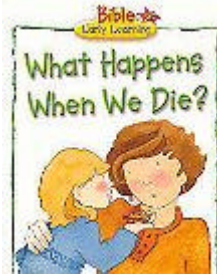
published by National Society / Church House Publishing

in Paperback

at £4.95 (0-715-14887-7)

One of the best books written for children on bereavement. Gill, Steve, and their dog Mudge come face to face with death when their neighbour's baby, Joe, dies. The book deals with death in a sensitive way and deals with questions like, Why does God allow children to die? What is a funeral? What happens after death? Will our sad feelings go away? At the end of the book, a letter written to adults, by bereaved children tries to make us understand how they feel, and that by talking things through with their parents they were helped to find the missing pieces of the jigsaw of life. The book ends with six Bible passages dealing with death.

Notes by [David Chant](#)



What Happens When We Die

by Carolyn Nystrom illustrated by Eira Reeves
published by Candle imprint of Lion Hudson
in Paperback
at £1.50 (1-859-85499-0)

Space does not allow me to put each of this series onto the site separately, but the other titles deserve your equal attention, they are - Who is God, Who is Jesus - , and - What is a Christian - . Difficult subjects to get across to a little person, but ones that must be answered with care and truthfulness. Carolyn Nystrom has impressed me with her ability to get the message across clearly with few words and with Bible references for an adult to take the subject further when the time is right.

Notes by [Mary Bartholomew](#)