



## Death and Grief

*Books available at the Columbus Metropolitan Library*

### PICTURE BOOKS

**Ida, Always** by Caron Levis, 2016. Picture Book LEVIS

Gus the polar bear grieves over the loss of his companion, Ida. This story is inspired by the real-life Gus and Ida of New York's Central Park Zoo. (PreK-3)

**The Rabbit Listened** by Cori Doerrfeld , 2018. Picture Book DOERRFELD

When Taylor's block castle is destroyed, all the animals think they know just what to do, but only the rabbit quietly listens to how Taylor is feeling. (PreK-2)

**The Goodbye Book** by Todd Parr, 2015. Picture Book PARR

A fish is sad that his friend died. This is a very simple colorful book for young children to learn basic feelings about grief. (PreK-2)

**Maybe Tomorrow?** by Charlotte Agell, 2019. Picture Book AGELL

Elba carries the black block of grief and sadness wherever she goes--until Norris comes along and helps her to let go of the block and enjoy life again. (PreK-3)

**The Invisible String** by Patrice Karst, 2000. Picture Book KARST

Liza and Jeremy's mother teaches them about the Invisible String, which connects people who love each other no matter where they are and means that they are never alone. (PreK-3)

**Goodbye Bear** by Jane Chapman, 2022. Picture Book CHAPMAN

After Bear dies, Beaver and Mole go through stages of grief, eventually deciding to finish something that Bear had started. (PreK-3)

**Dance Like A Leaf** by A. J. Irving, 2020. Picture Book IRVING

As her grandmother's health declines, a young girl begins to take the lead in their shared autumn traditions (PreK-3)

**Zara's Big Messy Goodbye** by Rebekah Borucki, 2021. Picture Book BORUCKI

After seven-year-old Zara experiences a death in her family, she learns that being sad can look different for different people.

**The Boy and the Gorilla** by Jackie Azúa Kramer, 2020. Picture Book KRAMER

An imaginary gorilla helps a young boy talk to his father about the loss -- and find a path to healing through their shared grief and bond.



## JUVENILE FICTION

**My Father's Words** by Patricia Maclachlan, 2018. Juvenile Fiction MACLACHLAN

Two children are left without their father after a terrible accident. Their father's words guide them through overwhelming grief and give them hope for the future. (Grades 3-7)

**Stars Beneath Our Feet** by David Barclay Moore, 2019. Juvenile Fiction MOORE

Unable to celebrate the holidays in the wake of his older brother's death in a gang-related shooting, Lolly struggles to avoid being forced into a gang himself while constructing an elaborate LEGO city. (Grades 5-6)

**When You Trap a Tiger** by Tae Keller, 2020. Juvenile Fiction KELLER.

When Lily and her family move in with her sick grandmother, a magical tiger straight out of her halmoni's Korean folktales arrives, prompting Lily to unravel a secret family history (Grades 3-7)

**Repairing the World** by Linda Epstein, 2022. Juvenile Fiction EPSTEIN.

Grieving over the sudden death of her best friend, eleven-year-old Daisy finds it hard to get excited about things, but new middle school friends and supportive family members help Daisy discover a way to move forward. (Grades 3-7)

**Shot Clock** by Caron Butler, 2022. Juvenile Fiction BUTLER.

After the death of his friend, Tony gets the chance to join the basketball team as statistician. He must grapple with honoring the memory of his basketball-loving friend while also trying to fit in on the team. (Grade 3-7)

## NON-FICTION

**Lost in the Clouds** by Tom Tinn-Disbury, 2021. J 155.937

Billy misses his mother and learns, alongside his father, how to understand and deal with their emotions surrounding loss. (Grades K-3)

**My Mixed Emotions** by Elinor Greenwood, 2018. J152.4 G816n

Feelings can be complicated and learning to express them is a skill that must be developed. This book coaches children through a variety of emotions and situations, including grief. (Grades 1-5)

**Feeling Sad** by Amber Bullis, 2020. J 155.4124 B978f

In this book, readers will discover how to recognize sadness in themselves and others, how to best respond to it, and how to communicate about these feelings. (Grades K-3)

**Death Is Stupid** by Anastasia Higginbotham, 2016. J155.937 H635d

This forthright exploration of grief and mourning recognizes the anger, confusion and fear that we feel about death. This book is an invaluable tool for discussing death, but also celebrating life and love. (Grades K-3)

**Where Do They Go?** By Julia Alvarez, 2016. J 155.937 A473w

"When somebody dies,/where do they go?" This poem explores death through simple but evocative questions. (Grades K-3)



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