

**The Goodbye Book**

Parr, Todd  
When a fish loses its green fish-companion in their fishbowl, "It's hard to say goodbye to someone."

**E PAR (Breckenridge, Frisco, & Silverthorne)**

**Always Remember**

Meng, Cece  
A comforting story about an animal who loses its friend, this picture book is also a good choice for young children coping with loss.

**E MEN (Breckenridge)**

**DEATH OF A PET**

**Saying Goodbye to Lulu**

Demas, Corinne  
When her dog Lulu dies, a girl grieves for a time, but learns to find the strength to continue living her life.

**E DEM (Breckenridge, Frisco, & Silverthorne)**

**The Tenth Good Thing About Barney**

Viorst, Judith  
In an attempt to overcome his grief, a boy tries to think of the ten best things about his dead cat.

**E VIO (Breckenridge & Frisco)**

**Sammy in the Sky**

Walsh, Barbara  
A little girl talks about her special pet, Sammy, and how, after he becomes sick and dies, she comes to know the truth of her mother's words, that Sammy's spirit is everywhere.

**E WAL (Breckenridge)**

**I'll Always Love You**

Wilhelm, Hans  
After burying their beloved pet, the young boy is not ready for a new dog. He knows he will tell the new pet, "I'll always love you."

**E HAN (Breckenridge)**

**While reading these books, make time to ask:**

- How do you think the character is feeling?
- How do you think you would feel if you were in that situation?
- What questions do you have?
- What are some of the ways people might feel when someone dies? How are you feeling?
- How can you help friends when they are sad?

**OUR LOCATIONS**

**MAIN LIBRARY**

County Commons Building  
0037 Peak One Drive  
Frisco, CO 80443  
**970-668-5555 (ext. 0)**

**NORTH BRANCH**

651 Center Circle  
Silverthorne, CO 80498  
**970-668-4280**

**SOUTH BRANCH**

Breckenridge Grand Vacations  
Community Center  
103 South Harris Street  
Breckenridge, CO 80424  
**970-453-3544**

Have suggestions for books we should add to this list? Email: [melissa.schultz@summitcounty.gov](mailto:melissa.schultz@summitcounty.gov)

**FOLLOW US:**



BOOKS ABOUT  
**COPING WITH LOSS**  
FOR CHILDREN



# Easy Readers & Picture Books

## LEARNING ABOUT DEATH / GENERAL LOSS

---

### **The Fall of Freddie the Leaf**

Buscaglia, Leo

As Freddie experiences the changing seasons along with his companion leaves, he learns about the delicate balance between life and death.

**J BUS (Breckenridge & Frisco)**

### **The Rabbit Listened**

Doerrfeld, Cori

When something terrible happens, Taylor doesn't know where to turn. All the animals are sure they have the answer. But all the rabbit does is listen, which is just what Taylor needs.

**E DOE (Breckenridge)**

### **Lifetimes: A Beautiful Way to Explain Death to Children**

Mellonie, Bryan

Lifetimes tells us about beginnings and endings and living in between. It reminds us that dying is as much a part of living as being born.

**E DOE (Breckenridge)**

### **My Many Colored Days**

Dr. Seuss

This lovely book gives children the comfort of knowing that they are allowed to feel a wide range of emotions, no matter what kind of day it is, or how they think they are supposed to feel.

**E SEU (Breckenridge, Frisco, & Silverthorne)**

### **I Miss You: A First Look at Death**

Thomas, Pat

This book can help your children understand that their grief is normal, no matter how all-consuming it is, and that death is a part of life.

**Available via hold**

### **Something Very Sad Happened: A Toddler's Guide to Understanding Death**

Zucker, Bonnie

A book for two- and three-year-old children to help them understand death and process the loss of a loved one.

**E 155 ZUC (Breckenridge)**

## DEATH OF A PARENT

---

### **The Memory String**

Bunting, Eve

Still grieving for her mother and unable to accept her stepmother, a girl clings to the memories represented by forty-three buttons on a string.

**E BUN (Breckenridge)**

### **No Matter What**

Gliori, Debi

This book shows that a parent has an endless capacity for love, even after death, and that their child is always loved, no matter what.

**Available via hold**

### **Wherever You Are: My Love Will Find You**

Tillman, Nancy

A beautiful book full of moving words, this one is perfect for the little one who is worried their parent will leave their memories and their hearts.

**E TIL (Breckenridge, Frisco, & Silverthorne)**

### **I'll Always Love You**

Wilhelm, Hans

A child's sadness at the death of a beloved dog is tempered by the remembrance of saying to it every night, "I'll always love you."

**E WIL (Breckenridge)**

### **Her Mother's Face**

Doyle, Roddy

Siobhán and her father feel sad in the years following her mother's death, until Siobhán follows the advice of a mysterious woman.

**Available via hold**

## DEATH OF A GRANDPARENT

---

### **Nana Upstairs & Nana Downstairs**

DePaola, Tomie

Four-year-old Tommy enjoys his relationship with both his grandmother and great-grandmother, but eventually learns to face their inevitable death.

**E DEP (Frisco)**

### **Cry Heart, But Never Break**

Ringtved, Glenn

Award-winning Danish author tells the story of death as a gentle houseguest. He tells four children a story to help them understand grief, loss, and the importance of saying goodbye.

**Available via hold**

## Ladder to the Moon

Soetoro-Ng, Maya

Suhaila's wish to know her deceased grandmother is granted when a ladder and Grandma Annie appears at her window.

**Available via hold | Español - E STE (Silverthorne)**

### **Emma's Question**

Urdahl, Catherine

When Emma's grandmother, who takes care of her after school, gets sick and has to go to the hospital, Emma is afraid that she will die--but she is also afraid to talk about her fear.

**E URD (Frisco)**

## DEATH OF A SIBLING

---

### **The Invisible String**

Karst, Patrice

Love connects us no matter where we go. While not specifically about death, this is a wonderful way to connect siblings to their brother or sister who is no longer physically here.

**Available via hold**

### **Ben's Flying Flowers**

Maier, Inger M.

Emily introduces her younger brother, Ben, to butterflies, which he calls "flying flowers," and when his illness makes him too weak to go see them she draws him pictures.

**Available via hold**

## DEATH OF A FRIEND

---

### **Ida, Always**

Levis, Caron

Another example of illustrating death to young children through animals, Ida, Always tells the story of two polar bears who live in the Central Park Zoo in New York City.

**Available via hold**

### **Remembering Crystal**

Loth, Sebastian

Zelda is a young goose that lives in the garden with her friend Crystal who is growing old. One day Crystal is not in the garden, but their friendship never dies.

**Available via hold**