



## **Book Review**

### **WHEN YOU GO AWAY by Jessica Barksdale Incla'n**

Review by: Judy Hutcheson, Resource Advisor

This book was very compelling. It gave insight as to how a parent can get overwhelmed to the point that they cannot function adequately. It revealed the struggles that a parent can have as they lose custody of their child. It also shows the realization and resolution that a parent needs to work on a case plan. It brings to light how a birth parent must accept the limits of visitation while gaining emotional strength to parent on a day to day basis.

This book gives a poignant look into the life of a single parent of three children, one with special needs. It also exposes the weight that demands of ongoing intense therapy and care can have on the parent. It gives understanding as to how a good parent can become overwhelmed and unable to parent without outside support.

This book was very emotionally moving for me. It provided the full spectrum of the dedicated parent, from divorce, to being very overwhelmed without the financial resources to provide the type of care and support that is needed in a family. I think it gives an outsider an understanding of birth parents that temporarily lose custody of their children but has a deep love for their children. I think this is a good book for foster parents to read to help them have a better understanding of this type of family situation from a birth parent's perspective.