

The Georgia Center for Resources and Support

Book Review

“When a Friend Dies”
by
Marilyn E. Gootman, Ed. D.

Grief is part of life, and no less so for the child who suffers the losses related to foster care and adoption. But what happens when that loss and grief is compounded by the death of a friend? Dr. Gootman, a professor at the University of Georgia, takes the subject and speaks to children about their feelings and how to process them in this book.

This book speaks directly and simply to anyone who has lost a friend, but can also be used to encourage dialogue between parents and children, not only about the loss of a friend, but any loss. With our children coming into an adoptive placement or out of the foster care system, it speaks volumes to parents about how children react to loss and how to best manage those reactions. Everyone’s reactions to loss and grief are different, and this book helps to maneuver those thoughts and feelings together.

Reviewed by Shannon Hoy, Resource Advisor