



Death and Dying Chapter Books

These books are suitable for children aged ten and up. They are all located in the Lower Level IMC. For help finding any of these books, please visit the Reference Desk on the first floor.

Block, Francesca Lia. **The Hanged Man.** (CBC Fic B6207h 1994)

Having stopped eating after the death of her father, seventeen-year-old Laurel feels herself losing control of her life in the hot, magical world of Los Angeles.

Bowler, Tim. **River Boy.** (CBC Fic B6815r 2000)

Knowing that he is dying, Jess's grandfather insists on returning to the river he had known as a boy to finish a special painting and fulfill a life-long dream.

Clements, Andrew. **Things Hoped For.** (CBC Fic C5915th 2006)

Seventeen-year-old Gwen, who has been living with her grandfather in Manhattan while she attends music school, joins up with another music student to solve the mystery when her grandfather suddenly goes missing.

Coman, Carolyn. **Many Stones.** (CBC Fic C7303m 2000)

After her sister Laura is murdered in South Africa, Berry and her estranged father travel there to participate in the dedication of a memorial in her name.

Coman, Carolyn. **Tell Me Everything.** (CBC Fic C7303t 1993)

After her mother dies in a rescue mission on a snowy mountain, twelve-year-old Roz wonders if talking to God, and to the boy for whom her mother died, can help her understand what happened.

Couloumbis, Audrey. **Getting Near To Baby.** (CBC Fic C8317g 1999)

Although thirteen-year-old Willa Jo and her Aunt Patty seem to be constantly at odds, staying with her and Uncle Hob helps Willa Jo and her younger sister come to terms with the death of their family's baby.

Creech, Sharon. **Chasing Redbird.** (CBC Fic C8615c 1997)

Thirteen-year-old Zinnia Taylor uncovers family secrets and self truths while clearing a mysterious settler trail that begins on her family's farm in Kentucky.

Deaver, Julie Reece. **Say Goodnight, Gracie.** (CBC Fic D3494s 1988)

When a car accident kills her best friend Jimmy, with whom she has shared everything from childhood escapades to breaking into the professional theater scene in Chicago, seventeen-year-old Morgan must find her own way of coping with his death.

Dragonwagon, Crescent. **Winter Holding Spring.** (CBC Fic D7876w 1990)

In discussing her mother's death with her father, eleven-year-old Sarah comes to see that in endings there are new beginnings, that in winter there is the promise of spring, and that everything comes full circle.

Green, John. **Looking For Alaska.** (CBC Fic G82331 2005)

Sixteen-year-old Miles' first year at Culver Creek Preparatory School in Alabama includes good friends and great pranks, but is defined by the search for answers about life and death after a fatal car crash.

Griffin, Adele. **Where I Want To Be.** (CBC Fic G8751w 2005)

Two teenaged sisters, separated by death but still connected, work through their feelings of loss over the closeness they shared as children that was later destroyed by one's mental illness, and finally make peace with each other.



Death and Dying Chapter Books

Hamilton, Virginia. **Cousins.** (CBC Fic H1818c 1990a)

Concerned that her grandmother may die, Cammy is unprepared for the accidental death of another relative.

Hirsch, Karen. **Ellen Anders On Her Own.** (CBC Fic H6158e 1994)

Eleven-year-old Ellen gains insight into her changing friendships after reading her deceased mother's girlhood diary.

Hobbs, Valerie. **Defiance.** (CBC Fic H6527d 2005)

While vacationing in the country, eleven-year-old Toby, a cancer patient, learns some important lessons about living and dying from an elderly poet and her cow.

Holt, Kimberly Willis. **Keeper of the Night.** (CBC Fic H7247k 2003)

Thirteen-year-old Isabel, a girl living on the island of Guam, and her family try to cope with the suicide of Isabel's mother.

Holubitsky, Katherine. **Alone At Ninety Foot.** (CBC Fic 1999)

Pamela Collins, a fourteen-year-old girl living near Lynn Canyon Park in Canada, struggles to deal with changing friendships, school, growing up, and her future while coping with her mother's death.

Kadohata, Cynthia. **Kira-Kira.** (CBC Fic K1163k 2004)

Chronicles the close friendship between two Japanese-American sisters growing up in rural Georgia during the late 1950s and early 1960s, and the despair when one sister becomes terminally ill.

Kelly, Tom J. **Finn's Going.** (CBC Fic K2988f 2007)

A ten-year-old English boy decides to run away after the sadness at home becomes unbearable following the death of his twin brother.

Kornblatt, Marc. **Understanding Buddy.** (CBC Fic K8428u 2001)

When a new classmate stops speaking because of the sudden death of his mother, fifth grader Sam tries to befriend him and risks destroying his relationship with his best friend Alex.

Lynch, Chris. **Freewill.** (CBC Fic L9913f 2001)

A teenager trying to recover from the tragic death of his father and stepmother believes himself to be responsible for the rash of teen suicides occurring in his town.

Mahy, Margaret. **Memory.** (CBC Fic M2797m 1988)

On the fifth anniversary of his older sister's death, nineteen-year-old Jonny Dart, troubled by feelings of guilt and an imperfect memory of the event, goes in search of the only other witness to the fatal accident and, through a chance meeting with a senile old woman, finds a way to free himself of the past.

Oates, Joyce Carol. **After the Wreck, I Picked Myself Up, Spread My Wings, and Flew Away.** (CBC Fic Oa82a 2006)

Blaming herself for the car accident on the Tappan Zee Bridge that killed her mother, fifteen-year-old Jenna undergoes a difficult physical and emotional recovery.

Qualey, Marsha. **Thin Ice.** (CBC Fic Q254t 1999)

Seventeen-year-old Arden has been raised by her older brother, Scott, since their parents died when she was just six years old, so when Scott is presumed drowned in a snowmobile accident, Arden is convinced he's really run away.

Rabb, M.E. **Cures For Heartbreak.** (CBC Fic R1104c 2007)

As she navigates adolescence, ninth-grader Mia must deal with her mother's recent death and her father's illness while she searches for friendship and love in the world around her.



Death and Dying Chapter Books

- Sachs, Marilyn. **What My Sister Remembered.** (CBC Fic Sa1456w 1992)
While visiting her younger sister Mollie, Beth confronts painful memories of the sudden death of her parents and the subsequent adoption of the sisters by different families.
- Shannon, George. **Unlived Affections.** (CBC Fic Sh193u 1989)
At his grandmother's death, seventeen-year-old Willie finds a box of old letters which explain many family secrets.
- Shusterman, Neil. **What Daddy Did.** (CBC Fic Sh938w 1991)
A fourteen-year-old living with his grandparents learns his father is to be released from prison after killing his mother and feels apprehensive about renewing the relationship. Based on true events.
- Tomey, Ingrid. **Savage Carrot.** (CBC Fic T5948s 1993)
Thirteen-year-old Carrot tries to come to terms with the sudden death of her father and the family's new life on her grandmother's farm.
- Volponi, Paul. **Rooftop.** (CBC Fic V884ro 2006)
Still reeling from seeing police shoot his unarmed cousin to death on the roof of a New York City housing project, seventeen-year-old Clay is dragged into the whirlwind of political manipulation that follows.
- Wallace-Brodeur, Ruth. **Blue Eyes Better.** (CBC Fic W1559b 2002)
When her older brother is killed in an accident, ten-year-old Tessa and her parents find it difficult to overcome their grief and return to living normally.
- Weaver, Will. **Striking Out.** (CBC Fic W3794s 1993)
Since the death of his older brother, thirteen-year-old Billy Baggs has had a distant relationship with his father, but life on their farm in northern Minnesota begins to change when he starts to play baseball.
- Wittlinger, Ellen. **Blind Faith.** (CBC Fic W7864b 2006)
While coping with her grandmother's sudden death and her mother's resulting depression and fascination with a spiritualist church, whose ministers claim to communicate with the dead, fifteen-year-old Liz finds herself falling for a new neighbor whose mother is dying of cancer.
- Woodson, Jacqueline. **Behind You.** (CBC Fic W8687b 2004)
After fifteen-year-old Jeremiah is mistakenly shot by police, the people who love him struggle to cope with their loss as they recall his life and death, unaware that 'Miah is watching over them.
- Zevin, Gabrielle. **Elsewhere.** (CBC Fic Z613e 2005)
After fifteen-year-old Liz Hall is hit by a taxi and killed, she finds herself in a place that is both like and unlike Earth, where she must adjust to her new status and figure out how to "live."
- Zindel, Paul. **A Begonia For Miss Applebaum.** (CBC Fic Z668b 1989)
Discovering that their beloved former teacher Miss Applebaum is terminally ill, fifteen-year-old Henry and his friend Zelda accompany her on her excursions to the colorful parts of New York City and join her in confronting death with quiet courage.
- Zusak, Markus. **The Book Thief.** (CBC Fic Z897b 2006)
Trying to make sense of the horrors of World War II, Death relates the story of Liesel--a young German girl who's book-stealing and story-telling talents help sustain her family and the Jewish man they are hiding, as well as their neighbors.