



# NOT IF BUT WHEN

Books for Young People about Death and Loss

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# CHILDREN & LOSS

Developmental Phases

Perceptions and Implications

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# TODDLERS

No clear understanding

Response to emotion

Somatic responses





# PRESCHOOLERS

Death as:

Reversible

Temporary

Lack of emotional  
vocabulary





# AGES 4-9

Death as:

Magical thinking

Self-blame

Increasing finality

Curiosity — all living things die

Personified



# AGES 9-13

Death as:

Irreversible

All living things die

Curious about physical processes

I will die





# ADOLESCENCE

Death as:

Seeking meaning

Testing limits

Seeking control over  
mortality

May want to be part of  
ritual/memorial

I will die



# TALK ABOUT IT — BOOKS CAN HELP

Honest, open, and clear

Again & again

Be available







# WHAT MAKES A GOOD BOOK?

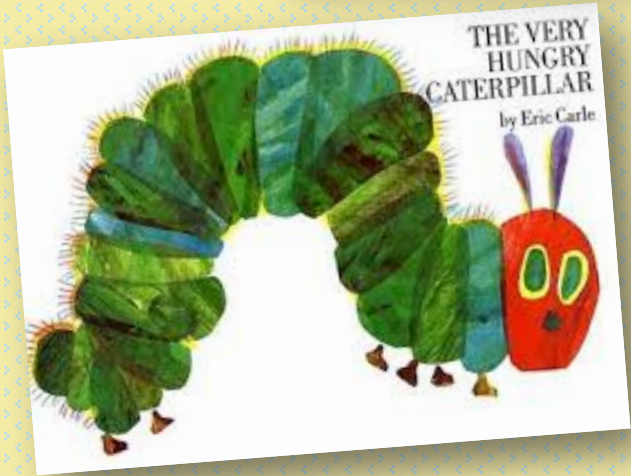
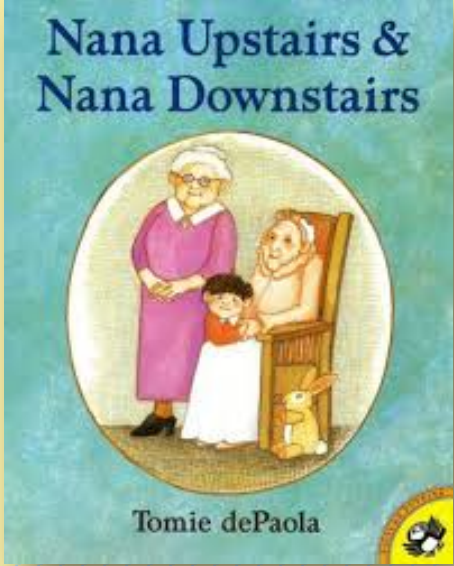
Loss & Death







# YOU, ME, THEM, US





# IMAGE, ART, FORMAT



Dad said "She's gone for ever"

I know that the lady's gone she was dead and I would never see her again. that they were going to put her in a box and then in the ground where she would turn into dust

I know very well that dying means you're never going to come back.

"Why good reborn?" I yelled to Dad. I couldn't believe she'd left us. How will Dad know how to make my toast the way I like it, eat in hall with the honey in a jug? I was sure Mum didn't reach his hour, and now it's too late. We won't be able to manage without her.



www.virtualhospice.ca/en\_US/Main+Site+Navigation/Home/Topics/Topics.aspx

**CANADIAN Virtual Hospice**  
Information and support on palliative and end-of-life care, loss and grief.

Topics | Support | For Professionals

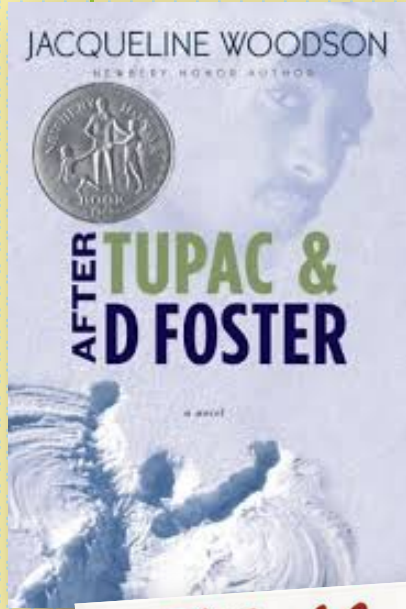
<b>What Is Palliative Care?</b>	<b>Emotional Health</b>	<b>Spiritual Health</b>
Symptoms & Health Concerns	Providing Care	Communication
Decisions	Financial Assistance	Final Days

You are in: Home | Topics

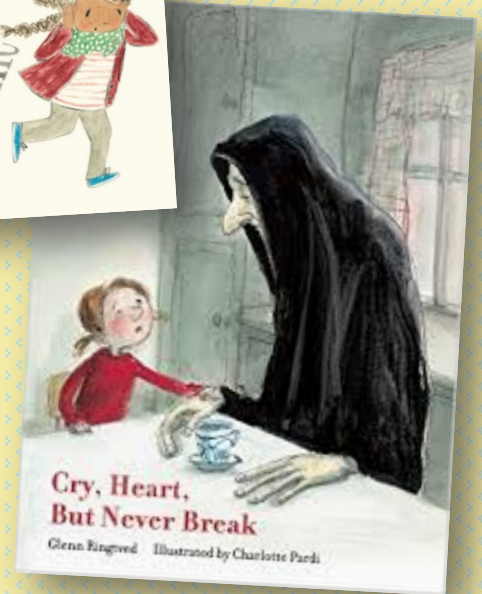
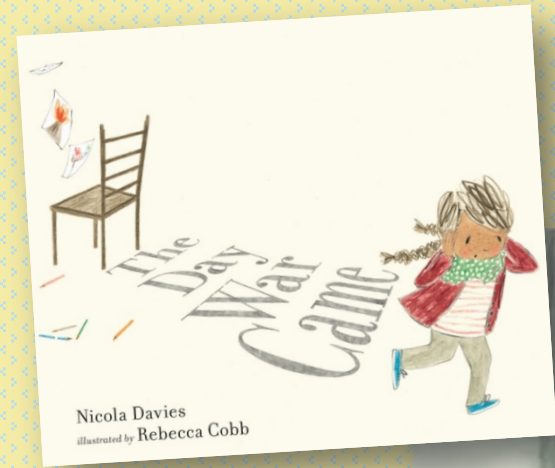
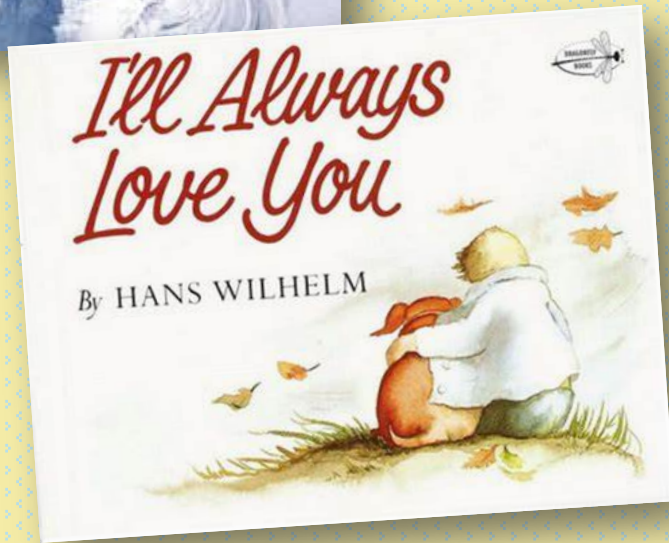
### Featured Articles

 <p><b>Rituals to Comfort Families</b></p> <p>In times of change, rituals can bring a sense of order to our lives. These simple acts of caring may bring comfort.</p>	 <p><b>Talking with Children</b></p> <p>Speaking with children about dying and end of life can be a challenge. We provide the tools to help you talk to children of every age.</p>	 <p><b>Managing Pain</b></p> <p>Managing pain is a priority in palliative care. Learn about what causes pain and how to manage it.</p>
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# STORY, STORYTELLER

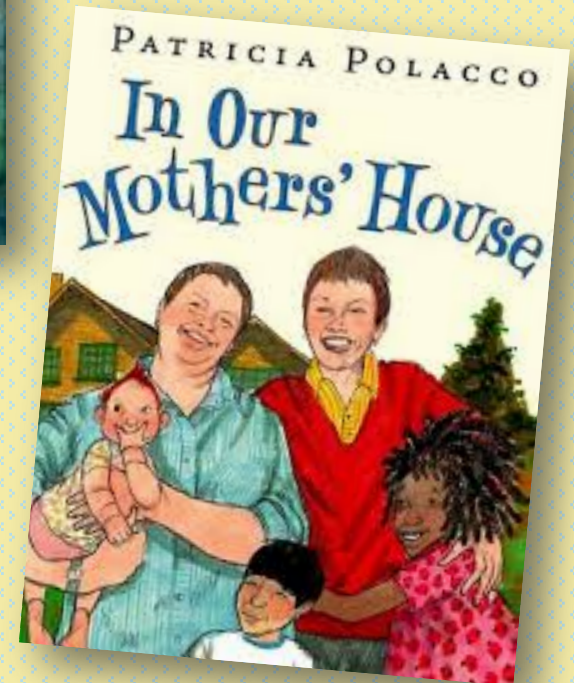
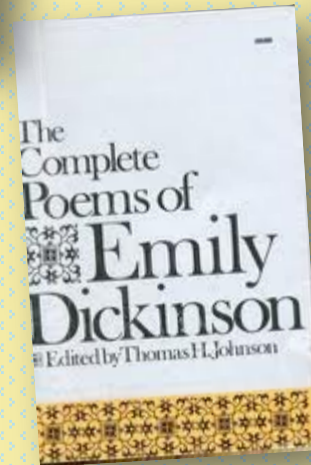
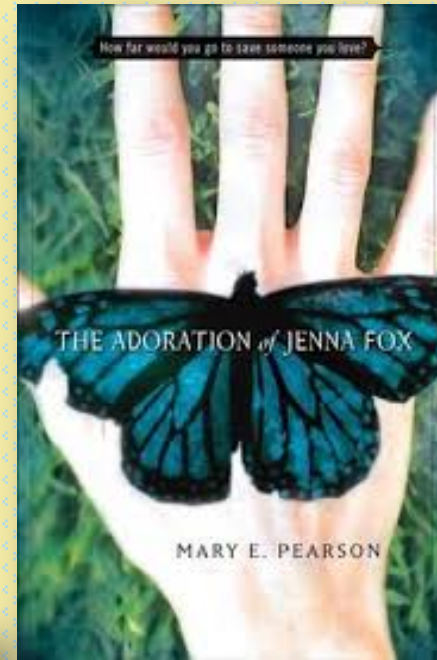
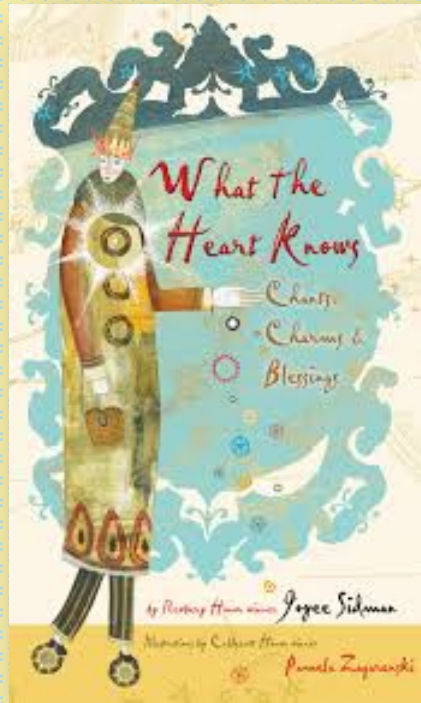


“You don’t understand. Superman’s not brave. He’s smart. He’s handsome. He’s even decent. But he’s not brave... He’s indestructible. You can’t be brave when you’re indestructible. It’s guys like you and me that are brave, Angus. Guys who are different and can be crushed – and know it – but go out there anyway.”





# CONNECTION



***"The test of literature is, I suppose, whether we ourselves live more intensely for the reading of it."***

Elizabeth Drew



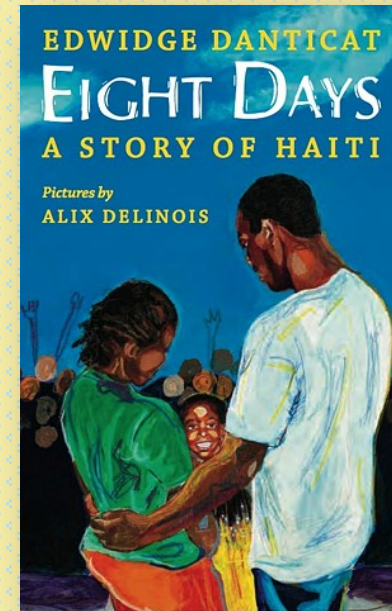
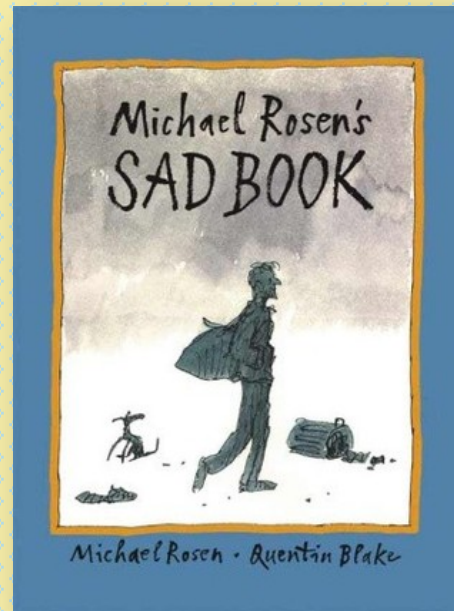
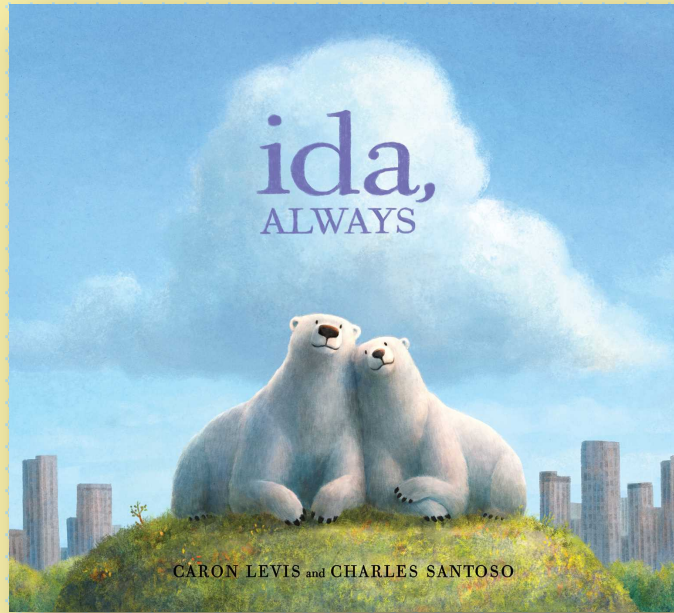


# MOVING BEYOND BIBLIOTHERAPY

Books as Part of the Cultural Landscape

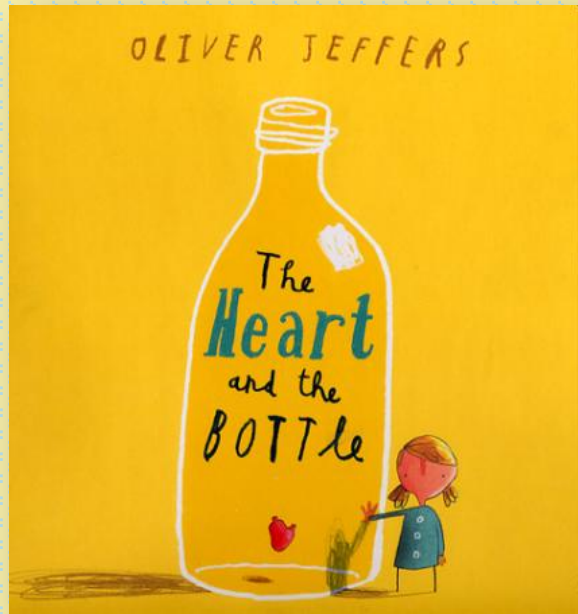


# OUTSIDE ORDINARY EXPERIENCE

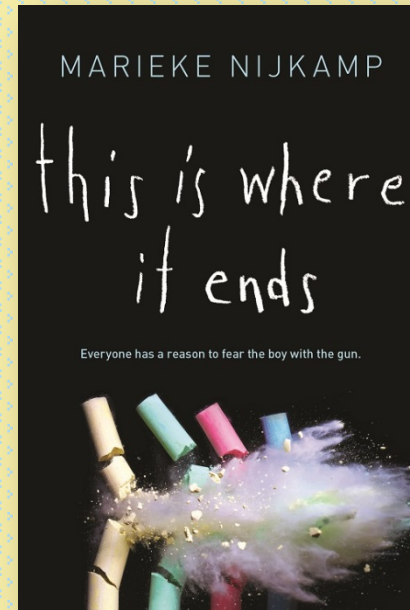
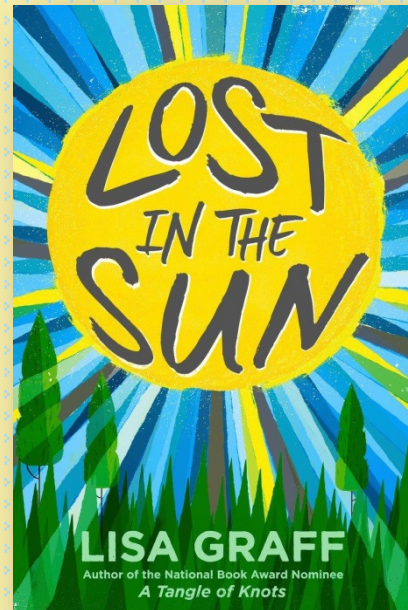
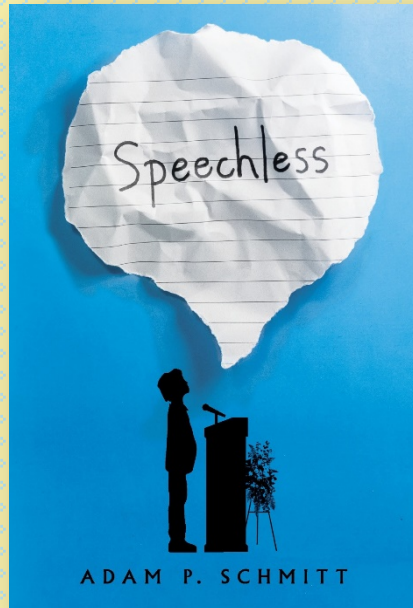




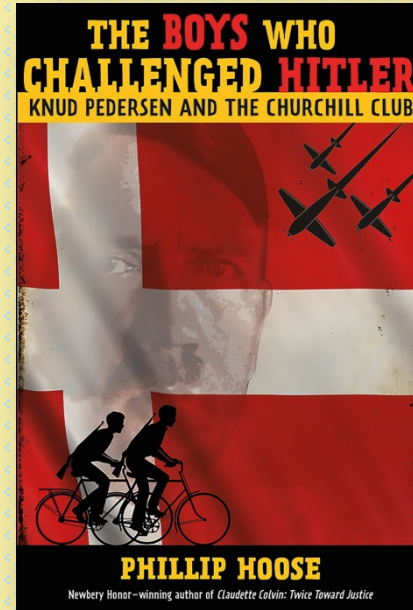
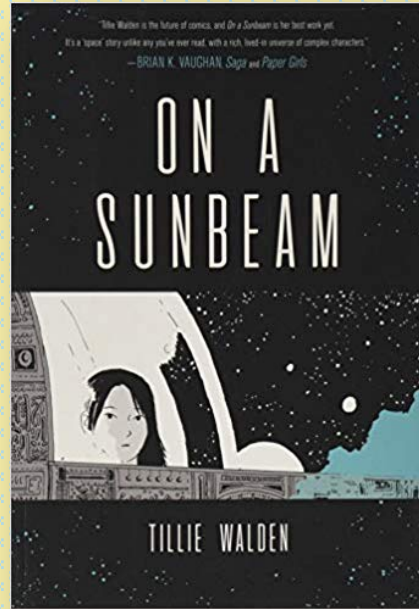
# METAPHOR



# BEYOND GRIEF

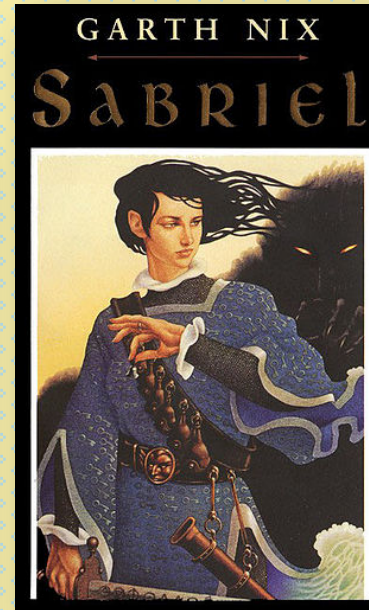
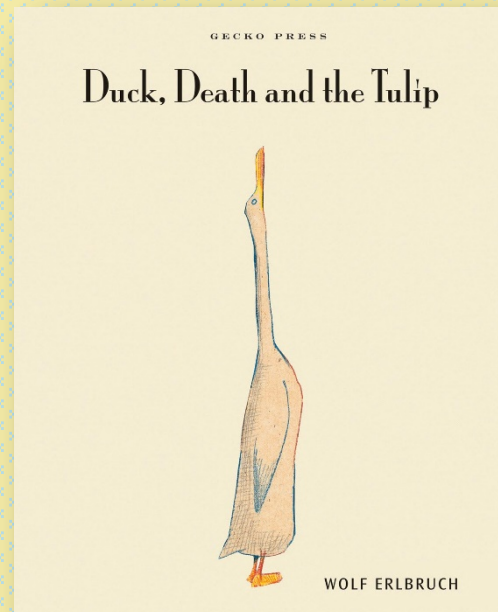


# DEATH AS BACKDROP

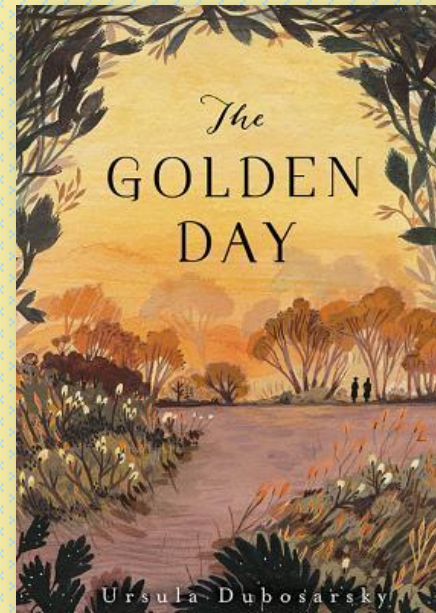
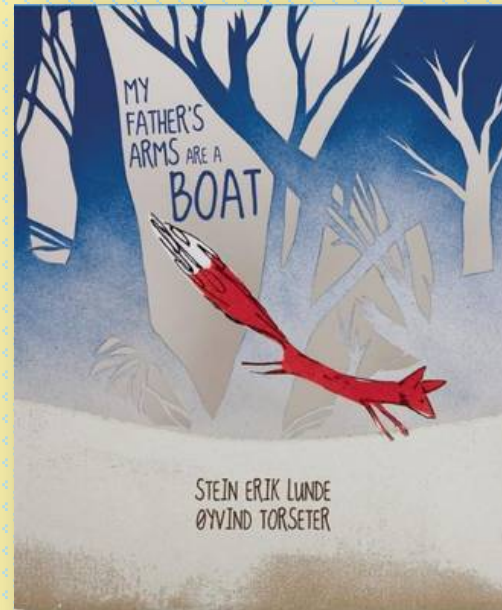
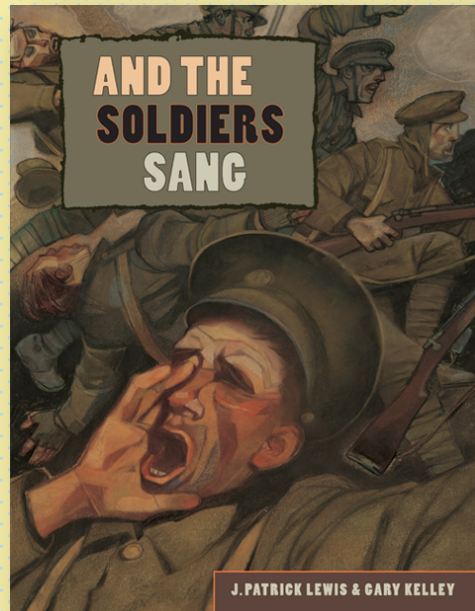




# ABSTRACT EXPLORATIONS



# FURTHER CONVERSATIONS



Go to our website for booklists and contact information:  
[www.notifbutwhen.org](http://www.notifbutwhen.org)



# OTHER RESOURCES



[www.our-treehouse.org](http://www.our-treehouse.org)



[www.campfiresnoco.org/camp/grief-camp/](http://www.campfiresnoco.org/camp/grief-camp/)



[www.nctsn.org](http://www.nctsn.org)



[www.whatsyourgrief.com/childhood-grief/](http://www.whatsyourgrief.com/childhood-grief/)