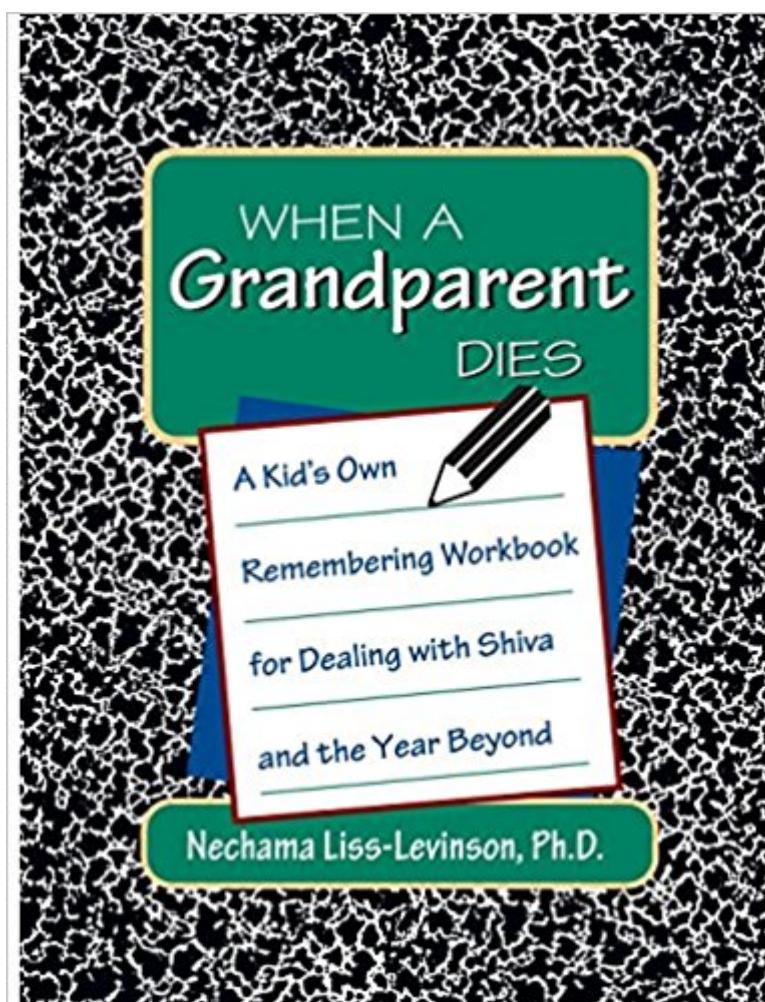


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# When A Grandparent Dies: A Kid's Own Remembering Workbook For Dealing With Shiva And The Year Beyond



## **Synopsis**

The death of a grandparent is often a child's first encounter with grief. Why did this happen? What should I do? How do I feel? When a Grandparent Dies helps children to participate in the process of mourning, and to overcome the awkwardness that can often accompany the traditional grieving rituals and events. Drawing on psychology and Jewish tradition, this workbook guides children from the immediacy of shiva through the entire year of mourning. For ages 7 to 13, it combines sensitive, down-to-earth guided exercises with places to write, draw, list, create, and express feelings. When a Grandparent Dies gives children and parents a unique opportunity for sharing as they come to know more about themselves, their family, and the complexities of life and death.

## **Book Information**

Hardcover: 48 pages

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Average Customer Review: 5.0 out of 5 stars 5 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #702,782 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #114 in Books > Children's Books > Religions > Judaism #539 in Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Difficult Discussions > Death & Dying #1323 in Books > Self-Help > Death & Grief > Grief & Bereavement

Age Range: 3 - 8 years

Grade Level: Preschool - 3

## **Customer Reviews**

"A child will not only learn the brilliance of our tradition, but will be able to celebrate the life of their grandparent while perpetuating memory in a meaningful way." -- David M. Techner, author of *A Candle for Grandpa*; Funeral Director, Ira Kaufman Chapel

"A valuable resource! Empowers children with tools to cope." -- Anne Brener, author of *Mourning & Mitzvah: A Guided Journal for Walking the Mourner's Path through Grief to Healing*

"Thoughtful, sensitive, practical." -- Rabbi Marc D. Angel, author of *The Orphaned Adult: Confronting the Death of a Parent*

"Will bring support, guidance, and understanding for countless children, teachers, and health professionals." -- Rabbi Earl A. Grollman,

D.D., author of Talking about DeathLong needed...splendid. -- Rabbi Harold Kushner, author of When Bad Things Happen to Good People

Nechama Liss-Levinson, PhD, is a psychologist and psychoanalyst in private practice and author of When a Grandparent Dies: A Kid's Own Remembering Workbook for Dealing with Shiva and the Year Beyond; Talking to Children about Death; and Remembering My Pet: A Kid's Own Spiritual Workbook for When a Pet Dies, as well as many articles on developmental milestones in the Jewish family, and the emotional impact of death and illness on children and adults. She lives on Long Island, New York, with her husband and two daughters. Nechama Liss-Levinson PhD is available to speak on the following topics: Musings, Milestones and Mayhem at Midlife, Not Your Bubby's Bubby: Being a Modern Jewish Grandmother, Talking to Children about Death, When a Grandparent Dies: Helping the Whole Family to Cope, Whose Bat Mitzvah Is It Anyway? Coming of Age and Coming Together

I got this for my 10 year old son after my mother passed away. Helped him understand and be more involved in Shiva and a place to record some of his thoughts and feelings.

Liss-Levinson's thoughtful approach to comforting and teaching a young child about death is skillfully orchestrated through a sequence of activities which serve as building blocks to a deeper understanding of death and a Jewish response. This process is accomplished by accessing a child's memories about their grandparent. Since it is likely, that the death of a grandparent will be the first introduction of death to a child, Liss-Levinson uses the event as a platform to allow the child to speak about their feelings through drawings, simple sentences or photos. It also allows for the child to ask questions and gain historical information from parents, family members and friends. The workbook weaves Judaic education through the exercises by explaining Shiva, the Kaddish, and common family practices. The child is given the opportunity to take charge and become a Shiva Detective as way to gain a larger memory base about their grandparent. The result creates a world of memory for the child to hold and cherish and introduces them to the Judaic concept of remembering. The inclusion of how the child can recall their memories at each Jewish holiday instills a sense of continuation and hope. The workbook assists parents by bringing difficult topics to the forefront and creates the possibility of ongoing discussions with a child. Most importantly, the child has gained a valuable skill, the power to remember and the confidence to treasure their memories. I would highly recommend this workbook to be suggested by rabbis, Jewish educators,

and child therapists. It is appropriate for 8-12 year olds, and should be encouraged to be used by younger children with their parents help. It is truly a "memory bank" and will be greatly appreciated by the family.

This is an exceptionally beautiful and sensitive guide for children to help them cope with the death of a grandparent. While targeted for children 7-11, I suspect that younger AND older children, and even adults, will find the information and various activities extremely worthwhile. It provides a very good overview of the way in which Jewish rituals associated with death and mourning serve to help the child and his/her family cope for the short and long-term. A must-have for rabbis, teachers, synagogue libraries and funeral directors. - and a book I wish I had when my grandparents died!

This is a wonderful book. Drawing from her professional and personal experience, the author, with her wisdom, sensitivity, and insight, provides moving, creative opportunities for children to work through the process of grieving and healing. I recently gave this gem of a book to a close friend for her eight-year-old daughter whose grandmother passed away. My friend was so excited about this gift, and she is eager to start going through the book with her daughter.

I really like this book because it gives kids (and their parents) specific tools and activities to use to explore a child's feelings about death. I really loved the "shiva detective" pages, where kids play an active role in the shiva house. I would recommend this book as a great gift to bring to a shiva house where there are grandchildren who have lost a grandparent; even better than rugelach. Missy Chase Lapine  
Author, The Sneaky Chef

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