

Caring Ministry Lending Library Books

*Any age range mentioned has been found online;
adults should use their own judgement for children*

– Adult books begin on page 3 –

Young Children, Middle School, and High School

A Garden of Creatures by Sheila Heti, Esmé Shapiro (Illustrator), May 2022, picture book. Children's fiction, death, grief, conversations.

A Queer History of the United States for Young People by Michael Bronski, June 2019. Nonfiction, LGBTQ, history, pre-1492 to the present. Middle grade and young adults.

A Safe Place By Maxine Trottier, Judith Friedman (Illustrator), January 1997, picture book. Children's fiction, domestic violence, safety, shelter housing, hope, conversations.

The Balancing Girl by Berniece Rabe, Lillian Hoban, April 1981, picture book. Children's fiction, disability, conversations.

Becoming Nicole: The transformation of an American family by Amy Ellis Nutt, June 2015, hardcover. Nonfiction, biography, memoir, transgender, family and relationships, parenting. From Random House publishing: appropriate for grades 11 and 12.

Becoming Nicole: The transformation of an American family by Amy Ellis Nutt, June 2016, paperback. Nonfiction, biography, memoir, transgender, family and relationships, parenting. From Random House publishing: appropriate for grades 11 and 12.

Bodies Are Cool by Tyler Feder, June 2021, picture book. Toddler nonfiction, bodies, disability, LGBTQ, conversations.

Each Kindness (Jane Addams Award Book) by Jacqueline Woodson, E. B. Lewis (Illustrator), October 2012, picture book. Children's fiction, friendship, school, sadness, conversations. Used in 4-5 grades.

Enemy Pie (Reading Rainbow book) by Derek Munson, Tara Calahan King (Illustrator), October 2000, picture book. Children's fiction, friendship, family, conversations.

Everywhere, Still: A book about loss, grief, and the way love continues, by M.H. Clark, Claire Sahara Lemp (Illustrator), June 2023, picture book. Children's fiction (4+), grief, loss, conversations.

The Fall of Freddie the Leaf: A story of life for all ages by Leo Buscaglia, September 1982, paperback. Children's fiction, seasons of life, spirituality, parenting, change, grief, death.

Franklin's New Friend by Paulette Bourgeois, Brenda Clark (Illustrator), April 2011 picture book. Children's fiction, friendship, school, conversations.

Freedom Summer by Deborah Wiles, Jerome Lagarrigue (Illustrator), January 2005, picture book. Children's historical fiction, friendship, civil rights, prejudice, conversations.

Goodbye: A first conversation about grief by Megan Madison, Jessica Ralli and Isabel Roxas, November 2023, picture book. Children's nonfiction, grief, parenting, death, loss, health, conversations.

Grandmama's Pride by Becky Birtha, Colin Bootman (Illustrator), November 2016 Hardcover. Children's historical fiction, civil rights, conversations.

Henry's Freedom Box: A true story from the underground railroad by Ellen Levine, Kadir Nelson (Illustrator), January 2007, hardcover. Children's historical fiction, slavery, freedom, conversations.

How It Feels When a Parent Dies by Jill Krementz, February 1988, paperback. Young people (age seven to sixteen) discuss the questions, fears, and bereavement they experienced.

How It Feels When Parents Divorce by Jill Krementz, March 1988, paperback. Young people (age seven to sixteen) share their feelings.

How It Feels to Be Adopted by Jill Krementz, February 1988, paperback. Young people (age seven to sixteen) share straightforward accounts of what it means to them to be adopted.

Just Ask Elsie by Ari Koontz, June 2026, hardcover. Middle school realistic fiction, LGBTQ, health, school.

Just Kidding by Trudy Ludwig, Adam Gustavson (Illustrator), April 2006, picture book. Children's realistic fiction, boy friendship, teasing, parenting, social skills, conversations.

Lifetimes: The beautiful way to explain life and death to children by Bryan Mellonie and Robert Ingpen, January 1998, picture book. Children's nonfiction, parenting, death, nature, conversations.

My Secret Bully by Trudy Ludwig, Abigail Marble (Illustrator), April 2005, picture book. Children's realistic fiction, girl friends, bullying, friendship, middle school, parenting, conversations.

The Saddest Time by Norma Simon, Jacqueline Rogers (Illustrator), January 1986, picture book. Children's fiction, helpful conversations, death, grief, conversations.

Say Something by Peggy Moss, Lea Lyon (Illustrator), October 2013, hardcover. Has helped start countless conversations among kids and adults about teasing, worldwide.

The Other Side by Jacqueline Woodson, E. B. Lewis (Illustrator), January 2001, hardcover. Children's picture books, historical fiction, friendship, segregation, conversations, 'a classic', an American Library Notable Book Award (ALAN) winner. Any school age.

Through My Eyes Hardcover - by Ruby Bridges, Margo Lundell (Compiler, Editor), September 1999, hardcover. For older children, nonfiction, autobiography, racism, segregation, conversations.

Why Am I Different? by Norma Simon, Dora Leder (Illustrator), picture book. Children's nonfiction, , conversations, differences 'make the world a colorful and exciting place!'

Wonder by J.R. Palacio, February 2012, hardcover. Middle Grade / Young Adult realistic fiction, friendship, conversations.

Adults

A Bittersweet Season: Caring for our aging parents - and ourselves by Jane Gross, May 2012, paperback. Nonfiction, aging, death.

Braiding Sweetgrass: indigenous wisdom, scientific knowledge, and the teachings of plants by Robin W. Kimmerer, October 2013, Hardcover. Nonfiction, memoir, Indigenous, nature, science.

Blessing It All: Rituals for transition and transformation by Heather Concannon and Allison Palm (Editors), June 2024, paperback. Spirituality, rituals, relationships, community, transitions.

The Body Keeps the Score: Brain, mind, and body in the healing of trauma by Bessel A. Van Der Kolk, M.D., June 2014, hardcover. Nonfiction, health, science, recovery.

The Book of Hope: A survival guide for trying times, by Jane Goodall and Douglas Abrams with Gail Hudson, October 2021, hardcover. Nonfiction, memoir, nature, science, self help.

The Book of Joy: Lasting happiness in a changing world, by His Holiness the Dalai Lama and Archbishop Desmond Tutu with Douglas Abrams, September 2016, hardcover. Nonfiction, spirituality, philosophy, religions, self help.

Breaking the Age Code: How your beliefs about aging determine how long and well you live, by Becca Levy PhD, April 2022, hardcover. Nonfiction, health, aging, science.

The Cure for Sorrow: A book of blessings for times of grief, by Jan Richardson, November 2016. Nonfiction, self help, prayer, comfort.

How It Feels to Fight for Your Life by Jill Krementz, November 1989, hardcover. Personal stories and feelings of youngsters who are battling disabilities and life-threatening illnesses.

How It Feels to Live with a Physical Disability by Jill Krementz, April 1992, hardcover. Interviews showing the spirit and strength of children living with physical disabilities.

It's OK that you're NOT OK by Megan Devine, October 2017, paperback. Nonfiction, grief, self help, death, health.

The Joy of Connections: 100 ways to beat loneliness and live a happier and more meaningful life, by Dr. Ruth K. Westheimer with Allison Gilbert and Pierre Lehu, September 2024, hardcover. Nonfiction, relationships, self help, health.

Kitchen Table Wisdom: Stories that heal by Rachel Naomi Remen, M.D., January 1996, paperback. Nonfiction, memoir, self help, courage, health.

Master Slave Husband Wife: An epic journey from slavery to freedom by I Lyon Woo, January 2023, hardcover. Nonfiction, biography, slavery.

Mindwise: How we understand what others think, believe, feel, and want, by Nicholas Epley, January 2014. Nonfiction, self help, science, business, personal development.

My Grandfather's Blessings: Stories of strength, refuge, and belonging by Rachel Naomi Remen, M.D., April 2001, paperback. Nonfiction, spirituality, memoir, self help.

My Grandmother's Hands by Resmaa Menakem, August 2017, paperback. Nonfiction, social justice, racism, health, self help.

On Grief and Grieving: Finding the meaning of grief through the five stages of loss by Elisabeth Kubler-Ross and David Kessler, June 2007, paperback. Nonfiction, grief, self help, death, spirituality, health.

Questions and Answers on Death and Dying, by Elisabeth Kubler-Ross, paperback. Nonfiction, death, grief, self help, health, spirituality. "one of the most important books ever written on the subject and is still considered the bench-mark in the care of the dying."

Rosa Parks: My story by Rosa Parks and Jim Haskins, January 1999, hardcover. Nonfiction, autobiography, politics, civil rights.

This Book is Gay by Juno Dawson, September 2014, paperback. Nonfiction, LGBTQ, self help, sexuality, relationships, health, humor.

Together: The healing power of human connection in a sometimes lonely world, by Vivek H. Murthy, MD (19th Surgeon General of the United States), January 2020. Nonfiction, self help, health, relationships.

Who Dies? An Investigation of Conscious Living and Conscious Dying, by Stephen Levine, paperback. Spirituality, Buddhism, philosophy, death, self help. “a foundational text in end-of-life care.”