## **Death of a Pet**



Chichester, E. <u>Up in Heaven</u>. Daisy is Arthur's dog, and she's devoted to him. But she's very old, and lately she's finding it hard to keep up with Arthur. One night, after she goes to sleep as usual, she wakes up in heaven. Heaven is a wonderful place, and Daisy loves it there. But she knows Arthur is sad and misses her. So Daisy finds a way to let Arthur know she's happy—and that's the first step toward making him happy again, too.

j PAR PIC Chichester

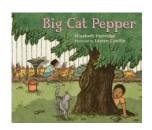


Cooper, E. <u>Big Cat, Little Cat</u>. The big white cat meets the little black cat and shows it how to be a cat: when to drink and when to eat, where to potty, and when to nap. The black cat grows up, and the two do everything together. Years go by, and the white cat gets older. One day the black cat is alone... and that is hard "for everyone." Then...one day, a little white cat appears, and the black cat shows it how to be a cat. A gentle, loving look at the life cycle of pets, and a perfect book for those who have lost a loved pet.

j PAR PIC Cooper



DiSalvo-Ryan, D. <u>A Dog Like Jack</u>. Jack is already eight years old when he's adopted from the animal shelter-- fifty-six in dog years. His first family must have loved him very much, because Jack is so good to his new one. No wonder Jack's family considers him a part of the family. But as Mike grows up, Jack gets older. The time is approaching when, after a long life of chasing squirrels, licking ice cream cones, and loving his adoptive family, the old dog comes to the end of his days. j PAR PIC DiSalvo



Partridge, E. <u>Big Cat Pepper</u>. Big Cat Pepper has always been a part of the family. But he seems to be sleeping more and more. And then one day he just doesn't wake up again. "His spirit lives forever," the boy's mother tells him gently. Heartbreaking and heartwarming at the same time, the complex issue of death for young readers is addressed here in a loving, accessible way. j PAR PIC Partridge



Rylant, C. <u>Cat Heaven</u>. "The way to Cat Heaven is a field of sweet grass, where crickets and butterflies play!" If your child wonders where his or her kitty goes after a happy life on Earth, they can rest assured that all cats "know where the angel cats fly. They'll run past the stars and the moon and the sun . . . to curl up with God in the sky." j PAR PIC Rylant

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Rylant, C. <u>Dog Heaven</u>. In Dog Heaven there are endless fields for running; clear lakes filled with teasing, honking ducks; and loving angel children playing everywhere. There are tasty biscuits shaped like cats and fluffy cloud beds for sleeping, memory trips back to favorite spots and people, and cozy homes with petting hands. Dog Heaven is enhanced by bright, bold paintings that perfectly capture an afterlife sure to bring solace to anyone who is grieving.. j PAR PIC Rylant



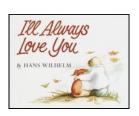
Viorst, J. The Tenth Good Thing About Barney. My cat Barney died this Friday. I was very sad. My mother said we could have a funeral for him, and I should think of ten good things about Barney so I could tell them... But the small boy who loved Barney can only think of nine. Later, while talking with his father, he discovers the tenth -- and begins to understand.

j PAR PIC Viorst

j PAR PIC Wild



Wild, M. <u>Harry & Hopper</u>. Redheaded Harry and his spotted dog, Hopper, are constant companions, accomplices, and bedmates. The dog's sudden death (an accident that happens while Harry is at school), leaves the boy devastated. But gradually, Harry finds that Hopper lives on his heart. This understated, empathic book offers both a voice for a child unable to articulate his grief and the reassurance that those we love never really disappear.



Wilhelm, H. <u>I'll Always Love You</u>. In this gentle, moving story, Elfie, a dachshund, and her special boy progress happily through life together. When she is young, Elfie is full of pep and pranks; but as her master grows taller and taller, Elfie grows fatter and slower. One morning Elfie does not wake up. The family grieves and buries her, and the boy refuses a new puppy. He is not yet ready for another pet; but when he is, he will tell that one, as he told Elsie every night, ``I'll always love you." j PAR PIC Wilhelm



Yolen, J. The Day Tiger Rose Said Goodbye. A peaceful and inspiring book to help children and adults cope with the loss of a pet, the story, focuses not on the death as much as the life in the last day of an older cat named Tiger Rose. Tiger Rose's kitten days are long gone and she's grown too tired to stay, so she says her goodbyes to all the creatures and the joys of her natural world—from the scolding blue jay, to the dog and children she shares her home with, to a chipmunk, startled by her gentleness, to her favorite shady patch under a piney bush. In a final vision, Tiger Rose takes one last leap into the blue sky and becomes one with all—the earth, the air, the sun. . . . This

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	is perhaps the most reassuring book on death available for children. j PAR PIC Yolen