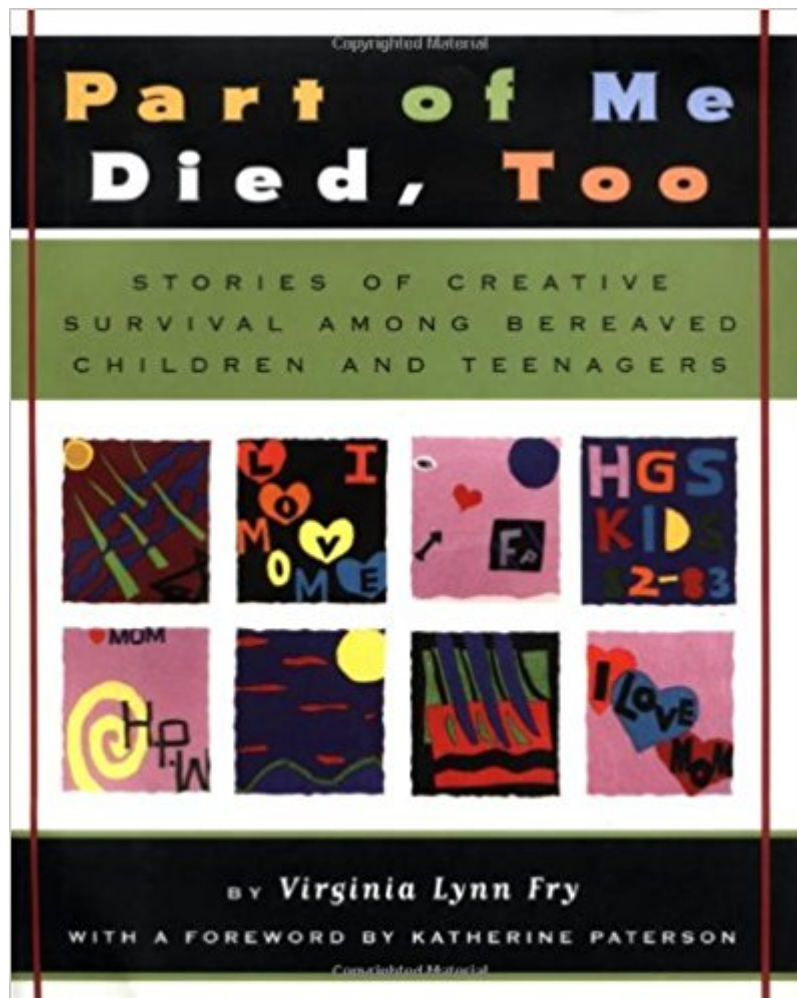




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# Part Of Me Died Too: Stories Of Creative Survival Among Bereaved Children And Teenagers



## Synopsis

A moving and eloquent chronicle of eleven children, ranging from toddlers to teenagers, who have lost family or friends shows how drawing, music, and other rituals can help the grieving process, offering creative strategies for dealing with loss.

## Book Information

Hardcover: 240 pages

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## Customer Reviews

Although the author directly addresses young readers, this unusually perceptive and sensitive book can be shelved with confidence alongside adult titles about bereavement and death. Fry, an artist and bereavement counselor at a hospice in Vermont, presents 10 graceful studies of children and teenagers in mourning, progressing from the experience of a toddler preoccupied and puzzled by the death of a family dog, to a 13-year-old girl's reactions to the accidental death of her mother, to the complex situation of a girl who protected herself and her small brother as her father killed first her mother, then himself. Fry's compassion and her admiration of her young subjects shine through the sadness of these accounts; to each of the 10 chapters she appends a short list of "creative survival strategies" that outline journal exercises and other projects to help channel grief. An epilogue visits each of the mourners some years after their losses, thus implicitly demonstrating to the reader that sorrow can indeed be surmounted. Adults will find much of interest in Fry's discussions of the particularities of children's responses to death; young mourners and their peers will be moved and fortified by Fry's thoughtfulness and honesty. Illustrated with drawings by bereaved children. Ages 10-up. Copyright 1995 Reed Business Information, Inc.

Grade 5 Up? In this sensitive and informative presentation, a hospice artist and counselor uses examples from her work with children, ages 18 months and up, to teach about the healing process. Fry's focus is on loss due to death, but the healing methods described could also be applied to divorce or abandonment. Through 11 true accounts, readers see how young people face the deaths of pets, parents, grandparents, siblings, and friends caused by long-term illness as well as by accident, murder, and suicide. As the author presents the stories, she explains how the children dealt with their grief and often interprets the artwork they did at the time. These black-and-white drawings appear beside appropriate text. Each chapter ends with practical suggestions for readers' self-help in overcoming or facing such a trauma and with an annotated recommendation of an age-appropriate book or two. An epilogue brings readers up to date on the progress of each person. A useful book that illustrates methods of separating facts from emotional responses and suggests ways to bring out and deal with those emotions. ?Dona Weisman, Northeast Texas Library System, Garland Copyright 1995 Reed Business Information, Inc.

had an inscription on the inside page I wish we'd known about. otherwise, it was fine.

My name is Amy Petrucelli and chapter 5 is about me, my sister Betsy and our brother Frankie. The very first time I read Ginny's story and at that time it was a draft, it brought tears to my my eyes and my late mothers. If it were not for Ginny and Hospice to help us as children to cope with death and dying, I do not think I would be here today. This book is more than helpful and insightful, at least for me. I encourage any person(s) having known a child or know one who is going through death and dying to read this book and share it with that child and help them to work through their loss, questions and fears, Lord knows the author Virginia Fry did that for me.

I was given the amazing opportunity to spend time with Virginia Fry while living in Vermont this past winter. My 14 year old sister had recently passed away after her struggle against cancer. I was completely lost, and met with Virginia several times. She is one of the most amazing people that I've ever been privileged enough to have come into my life. This book enveloped every part of her ideas and extremely heartfelt suggestions to get you through the most horrible times. She is such an amazing person and this book reflects that to the fullest extent.

Please note that this is a lengthy text--appropriate for grades 4-12. Great book.

Each chapter is a learning story unto itself. Some, very poignant. This book would be worthwhile for any age. Also, very instructive in showing how art therapy and tactile experience can be vital. Spending time with the recently deceased body is crucial to start the goodbye process, and, one chapter, especially, shows this well.

I really enjoyed this book. I bought it a few years after my mother died, and it helped me a great deal with what I was feeling, thinking, and seeing. It also helped me deal with the day-to-day struggles that I encountered. Thank you so much for writing this book.

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