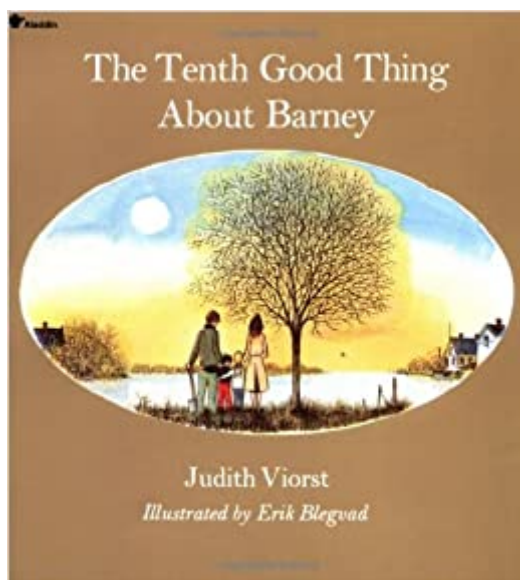


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The Tenth Good Thing About Barney



Synopsis

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.

Book Information

Lexile Measure: 490L (What's this?)

Paperback: 32 pages

Publisher: Atheneum Books for Young Readers; 1 edition (September 30, 1987)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0689712030

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Product Dimensions: 6.2 x 0.2 x 7 inches

Shipping Weight: 0.8 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 stars 121 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #24,706 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #34 in Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Difficult Discussions > Death & Dying #64 in Books > Children's Books > Animals > Pets #96 in Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Friendship, Social Skills & School Life > Social Skills

Age Range: 6 - 9 years

Grade Level: 4 - 6

Customer Reviews

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.

Judith Viorst was born and brought up in New Jersey and has lived in Washington, DC, since 1960, when she married Milton Viorst, a political writer. A graduate in 1981 of the Washington Psychoanalytic Institute, Viorst writes in many different areas: science books, children's chapter and picture books including the beloved *Alexander and the Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day*, which has sold some four million copies; adult fiction and nonfiction including the New York

Times bestseller, *Necessary Losses*; poetry for children and adults, and four musicals. Her most recent book of poetry for children, *What Are You Glad About? What Are You Mad About?* was published in 2016. *Lulu Is Getting a Sister* is the fourth book in the Lulu series. Erik Blegvad was born in Denmark and studied at the School of Applied Arts in Copenhagen. Mr. Blegvad has illustrated more than one hundred children's books, including *Twelve Tales* by Hans Christian Andersen, *Riddle Road* by Elizabeth Spires, *Hurry, Hurry, Mary Dear!* by N. M. Bodecker, and *Sea Clocks: The Story of Longitude* by Louise Borden. The Blegvads divide their time between England, France, and Wardsboro, Vermont.

When my daughter was very young we read many Judith Viorst books from our local library. One day we borrowed this one without realizing what the topic was. At the time we had 3 cats at home and it happened that one did die a few months after that. We re-read this book many times. It was so helpful and comforting when that sad time came. I can't tell you how many times I have recommended it to families with young children, the copy I bought in 2012 is waiting for my grandson when the need arises. Any family with pets needs to be prepared to help them cope with the death of their beloved companions.

Well written story. Contrary to what another reviewer said, I believe that it can be used to talk with children about death & dying for people as well as pets. We used it for the children's time in both of our churches. It's very honest in its admission that we don't know too much about what heaven is like & doesn't answer whether our beloved pets are in heaven or not. We used it as an occasion to talk about two things. First, that while the loss of a pet may seem like a small thing to many, nothing is too small for us to grieve. Second, that as much as we might love those whom we have lost, we can be assured that God loves them even more & that we can trust them into God's care.

The most sweetest book I have ever read about losing a pet/animal. I lost my big Main Coon cat in a fire & never got to say 'good-bye'. This story gave me comfort & an idea on how to honor my Minnie! A must have book for any child or adult who's lost a pet!!! Great price & fast delivery :)

We recently lost our family pet. Before we put him down, we got this book for our girls after a recommendation from a friend. We read it with them and it allowed us the opportunity to gently approach the subject of his inevitable passing in a way that they could understand and cope with. After reading it, they made their own list of "The Ten Good Things About Peyton". We read them as

a family and cried about losing him, but we wouldn't have done that without this wonderful book. If your child is losing or has lost a pet, this is the book they should have!

Really good book to read to a child when they lose a pet. My Granddaughter's cat just got put to sleep, and we have read this and cried together several times.

A lovely book for young children to process the death of a pet by honoring their memory. I recall reading a review that mentioned they didn't like the image at the end (spoiler alert: the tenth good thing is the buried animal helps new life grow) but to me that's a perfect way to take comfort in the cycle of life. My then-4-year-old didn't mind that final point and the book seemed to help her process the death of our pet.

This classic is helping our granddaughter deal with the loss of our 20 year old kitty and I am so very grateful! Such a precious book!

A favorite for a long time.

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