

## Adoption related books for Children

**Adoption Is for Always** by Linda Girard    Age range: 6-10 years

Although Celia reacts to having been adopted with anger and insecurity, her parents help her accept her feelings and celebrate their love for her by making her adoption a family holiday.

**All About Adoption: How Families Are Made & How Kids Feel About It** by Marc Nemiroff

Age range: 4-8 years

For the child who already understands the concept of adoption, this work provides a deeper understanding of how the adoption process works and the feelings that many children have about being adopted. Topics include why children are given up for adoption and why adoptive parents want to adopt. It also helps children understand feelings of sadness, anger, curiosity about the birth parents, fears about abandonment, worries about fitting in and being teased, and feelings about being different.

**Happy Adoption Day!** by John McCutcheon    Age range: 3-6 years

This adaptation of McCutcheon's song commemorates the day when a child joins an adoptive family. Complete with musical notation, these verses reassure adopted children they are special.

**How I Was Adopted** by Joanna Cole    Age Range: 4 - 8 years

Sam has a joyful story to tell, one completely her own, yet common to millions of families -- the story of how she was adopted. Most of all, it's a story about love. And in the end, Sam's story comes full circle, inviting young readers to share stories of how *they* were adopted.

**Is that Your Sister? A True Story of Adoption** by Catherine Bunin    Age range: 7-11 years

An adopted six-year-old girl tells about transracial adoption and how she and her adopted sister feel about it.

**A Mother for Choco** by Keiko Kasza    Age range: 3-6 years

Choco was a little bird who lived all alone. He wished he had a mother, but who could his mother be? "Just right for the preschool group or beginning reader."--Kirkus Reviews, pointer review. "Young listeners will be charmed by the book's humor, warmth, and surprise ending."--Horn Book.

**My Adopted Child, There's No One Like You** by Dr. Kevin Leman    Age range: 4-8 years

Every child is special. And every child deserves to be recognized for what makes him or her unique. Now birth order guru, Dr. Kevin Leman, and his artist son, Kevin Leman II, offer parents the perfect way to tell their adopted child just how wonderful he or she is.

A read-to-me children's picture book, *My Adopted Child, There's No One Like You* conveys love,

acceptance, and a sense of individuality to adopted children. The combination of Dr. Kevin Leman's trademark humor and his talented son's artwork makes this book a wonderful gift.

**My New Family: A First Look at Adoption** by Pat Thomas    Age range: 4 - 7 years

Children are sometimes upset to discover that they have been adopted. This book helps them understand how lucky they are to have to have loving, adoptive parents—and how lucky their parents are to have them!

**Rosie's Family: An adoption story** by Lori Rosove    Age range: 4-10 years

Rosie's Family is a story about belonging in a family regardless of differences. Rosie is a beagle who was adopted by schnauzers. She feels different from the rest of her family, including her brother, who is the biological child of her parents, and sets forth many questions that children who were adopted may have.

**Welcome Home, Forever Child: A Celebration of Children Adopted as Toddlers, Preschoolers, and Beyond** by Christine Mitchell    Age range: 2-8 years

Most children's adoption books reflect infant adoptions, and may not be appropriate for the older child who spent their early years in foster care or an orphanage. **Welcome Home, Forever Child** is a much needed book that social workers and therapists will want to recommend to families who adopted their child past the age of two. The book helps parents reassure children of their permanent place in the new family, and of how much they are wanted and loved. It will also make a very special and meaningful keepsake gift for a child upon joining his or her new family, upon finalizing the adoption, or upon the anniversary of either event.

**Zachary's New Home: A Story for Foster and Adopted Children** by Geraldine M. Blomquist

Age range: 3-8 years

This story for adopted and foster children describes the adventures of Zachary the kitten, who is taken from his mother's house when she is unable to take care of him. It follows Zachary as he goes into foster care, his adoption by a family of geese and his feelings of shame, anger and hurt.

## Adoption related books for Young Adults

### **Returnable Girl** by Pamela Lowell

Thirteen-year-old Ronnie has been "returned" for most of her young life. Nine times to be exact. Meaning she has been bounced from foster home to foster home since she was abandoned by her birth mother at the age of eleven to move to Alaska with her boyfriend. According to Ronnie's journal nine moves doesn't count emergency placements and some time with family. But on top of life as a foster child, Ronnie has to also deal with life as a Middle School Student. ***Special Note** - Before allowing teens to read, please be aware of mild language and sexual themes that are a part of this story line. Teen depression and acts of violence are also included. While very well written and handled in an appropriate manner, this may not be ideal for every teen.*

### **Adopted: The Ultimate Teen Guide** by Suzanne Slade

Adopted: The Ultimate Teen Guide enables young adults to explore their feelings as they read the personal experiences of other adopted teens. Through these stories, adopted teens can learn how others have resolved some of their adoption issues and gain powerful insights.

### **Pictures of Hollis Woods** by Patricia Reilly Giff

Hollis Woods was an infant when she was abandoned and for 12 years she has been transferred from one foster home to another. To the social agency, she is a "mountain of trouble" because she skips school and runs away, even from the Regans, a family willing to give her a real home. When she is placed with Josie, an elderly artist who is becoming very forgetful, Hollis begins to feel needed and doesn't ever want to leave this eccentric old woman who knows a lot about friendship and love.

### **Breathe My Name** by R.A. Nelson

Frances Robinson is in high school now. She lives a quiet, suburban life, far from her horrifying past. When she was a child, her birthmother smothered her three sisters. Through pure luck, Frances survived. Now her mother has just been released from prison . . . and she wants to see Frances.

### **Parents Wanted** by George Harrar

When 12-year-old Andy meets Laurie and Jeff at an adoption party, he has already been in eight foster homes. Andy longs for a loving home and parents he can trust, but his attention deficit disorder, combined with the legacy of his dysfunctional parents, causes him to constantly challenge authority. But Andy's new parents refuse to give up on him, and Andy must fight to save his soon-to-be-father's reputation and his own chance at having a real family.

**Chicken Soup for the Adopted Soul: Stories Celebrating Forever Families** by Jack Canfield), Mark Victor Hansen, LeAnn Thieman

*Chicken Soup for the Adopted Soul* will touch your heart with stories of finding and creating families. From tales about international orphaned babies and children who spent years in the foster-care system to those who were adopted at birth, this very special compilation conveys the true meaning of unconditional love.

**Straits** by Ron Koertge

Trapped in the unwelcoming world of foster care, Ted relies upon his strong connection with animals as he struggles to determine his life's direction.

**Ball Don't Lie** by Matt De La Peña

Sticky, 17, foster care victim and talented white basketball player overcomes his tough upbringing with the support of his girlfriend and the older hoopsters at the local gym.

**Three Little Words: A Memoir** by Ashley Rhodes-Courter

An inspiring true story of the tumultuous nine years Ashley Rhodes-Courter spent in the foster care system, and how she triumphed over painful memories and real-life horrors to ultimately find her own voice.

**To Whom It May Concern: a memoir of a foster child** by Laurie Kast-Klein

With a warm conversational tone, Laurie Kast-Klein describes her tumultuous childhood and the lack of care demonstrated by the Michigan foster care system. From the loving atmosphere of her grandparents' home to a variety of abusive foster care homes, Laurie has survived and ultimately flourished. Her story is heartfelt and heartbreaking, but her words will inspire you.

**Kinda Like Brothers** by Coe Booth

The novel starts with the arrival of a new set of foster children in the home of 11-year-old Jarrett. He's been through this many times before, but always with babies. This time, a young girl named Treasure is brought to his house late one night, along with her 12-year-old brother, Kevon. The book follows Jarrett and Kevon as they grow from being strangers to sort of enemies – and then, kind of like family.