



Volume 61 | Issue 1

Article 61

5-1-2018

Hsu's "Grieving a suicide" (book review)

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Recommended Citation

Chatmon, Cathie L. (2018) "Hsu's "Grieving a suicide" (book review)," *The Christian Librarian*: Vol. 61: Iss. 1, Article 61.

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.55221/2572-7478.1958>

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Book Reviews



Hsu, A. Y. (2017). *Grieving a suicide*. Downers Grove, IL: IVP. 224 p. \$16.00. ISBN 9780830844937

Albert Hsu received a message from a neighbor informing him of the unthinkable one Thursday morning – his father had committed suicide. In this expanded edition of the 2001 volume, Hsu details his journey through grief. People who commit suicide often do so, because of a profound lack of hope in their lives. Those they leave behind, termed “suicide survivors” must struggle to find hope amidst their cloud of grief. Hsu invites the reader to accompany him on his journey of grief – a journey no one willingly undertakes. A first impression may be that the book is compendium of quotes that relate to suicide, grief, and survivor recovery. Yet the book is a window into Hsu’s soul and allows the reader to learn key facts about helping others cope in the aftermath of the suicide of a friend or loved one. He provides statistics and information related to suicide set apart from his text. Such facts are well documented. Two of the most helpful portions of the book relate to the eternal destiny of the departed and advice to those coming alongside as to what not to say. This book would be helpful for the library that serves an institution with a counseling program.

Reviewer

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