

Stories for Children and Young Adults about Alzheimer's disease (fiction pre-k through high school)

*CREATED BY Marjorie Doyle, MLIS, Reference Librarian, Missoula Public Library
Member, Missoula Coalition on Aging & Disability*

***= MPL main and branches (includes Missoula Aging Services library)**

#= MPL Partner libraries

+ = MCPS (Missoula County Public Schools)

* ACB With Honora Lee by Kate De Goldi and Gregory O'Brien (Mid)(2014)

Visiting her memory-impaired grandmother at a rest home every week, Perry discovers that her grandmother has an unconventional interest in the alphabet and becomes involved in a group project to make a personalized alphabet book. 9781770497221

+ All that's missing by Sarah Sullivan (Mid) (2013)

Secretly providing for himself and a beloved grandfather who is succumbing to dementia, young Arlo is placed in the care of a social worker and runs away to find and connect with his only other family member. 9780763661021 (NOV)

Allie Learns about Alzheimer's disease: A Family Story about Love, Patience, and Acceptance, by Kim Gosselin (2001)

Allie goes to Grandma's house, notices she is acting differently and being more forgetful, and learns to cope along with her family when her grandmother is diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease. 9781891383151 (AA, Care, GF)

Always my Grandpa: a story for children about Alzheimer's disease by Linda Scacco (2005)

During a summer at his grandfather's house, young Daniel, with his mother's help, begins to understand Alzheimer's disease and how it affects not only Grandpa, but the entire family, as well. 9781591473121 (NIH, Can, GF)

Angela and the Cherry Tree by Raphaële Frier and Teresa Lima (2015)

Angela wakes up expecting a visitor, so she does her hair, puts on perfume, and bakes shortbread cookies until her little visitor finally arrives. A beautifully illustrated, sensitively told story of one day in the life of a woman struggling with dementia, evoking powerful emotions of a life remembered and a present defined by memories. 9780980671148

*+ Back to Blackbrick by Sarah Moore Fitzgerald (Mid)(2013) - JMID FITZGER

Cosmo has been living with his grandparents, which he loves, especially when he is learning about horses with Granddad. But he is troubled when Granddad develops Alzheimer's. Although he doesn't want to admit it, Cosmo knows their carefree days together are over. 9781442481558 (UKBT, NOV)

+ Beautiful Pearl by Nancy Whitelaw (Mid) (1991) - JE WHITELA

A poignant account of a child (she looks like a middle grader) visiting Grandma, who has Alzheimer's, with her mother. It's Lisa's birthday, and each year Grandma has given her a pearl to add to her necklace. This year, Grandma is so disoriented and confused that the gift seems in doubt; but in the end there's a glimmer of her old self, and she finds the gift where she has hidden it--in the refrigerator. 9780807505991 (AA)

Blue Moon by Susan E. Kirby (YA)(1997)

Wondering why her close friend Michael has turned distant and hostile, Deanna learns that Michael's beloved grandfather has been suffering from Alzheimer's. 9780425154144

*# Brilliant Fall of Gianna Z by Kate Messner (Mid)(2009) – JMID MESSNER

Gianna has less than one week to complete her leaf project if she wants to compete in the upcoming cross-country sectionals, but issues like procrastination, disorganization--and her grandmother's declining health--seem destined to keep her from finishing. 9780802798428 (APFM)

Celia and Nonna by Victoria Lane (2014)

Celia and Nonna is a significant and heart-warming picture book about the special bond between children and grandparents- and what happens when life changes. Grandparents' aging is a universal experience, yet it is rarely told in picture book form. In this story, young Celia finds a delightful and positive way to navigate this confusing time. 9781925000610 (NOV)

*# Clarice Bean, That's Me by Lauren Child (1999) – E CHILD

A girl describes the hectic life she leads among the members of her large family, and her search for a little peace and quiet. Grandad is in his chair "asleep as usual". When Clarice Bean describes him later, she adds that when he is asleep he often has the cat on his head. These characteristics are initially only mildly eccentric but later, it becomes clear that Grandad is pretty confused. 9780763647957 (Guard)

*# Curveball, the year I lost my grip by Jordan Sonnenblick (YA) (2012) – Y SONNENB

After an injury ends former star pitcher Peter Friedman's athletic dreams, he concentrates on photography which leads him to a girlfriend, new fame as a high school sports photographer, and a deeper relationship with the beloved grandfather who, when he realizes he is becoming senile, gives Pete all of his professional camera gear. 9780545320702 (APFM, NYT, AARP, NIH)

Daughter by Ishbel Moore (YA)(2002)

Fourteen-year-old Sylvie Marchione must cope with her divorced mother's fading memory and increasingly irrational behavior, symptoms that eventually lead to a diagnosis of Alzheimer's disease, even though Sylvie's mother is not yet fifty. 9781550745375

*+ Dementia diaries by Matthew Snyman (YA) (2016)

Follow the stories of Brie, Fred, and other young caregivers as they try to understand and cope with their grandparents' dementia at all stages of the illness. The book was nominated for a NHS England Excellence in Participation award. 9781785920325

Do you have a moon at your house? By Jeanie Johnson (2005)

When her grandmother begins to forget things and ask strange questions, Madison is worried. Her mother explains that Grandma has Alzheimer's disease. 9780533149902 (NIH, GF)

Do you remember? by Kelly O'Gara and Anna McNeil (2015)

Children will relate to the mice as they read the story and understand their grandparent's condition. The book can cater for multiple aging conditions but specifically is focused on explaining Dementia to children. 9781925139242 (Guard)

Does Grandpa have Alzheimer's Disease? by Paulette Hansen (Mid/YA) (2017)

William faces, frustration, grief and anger as he struggles to cope with his grandfather's illness. On his fourteenth birthday William Grant discovers that his grandfather wasn't acting in his right senses. William wonders if Grandpa would be sent away to The Castle, just as Grandma was. <https://abidingnewsletti5.files.wordpress.com/2017/04/taofyu-read-does-grandpahave-alzheimersdisease-free-ebook-website-for-ipad.pdf>

Don't breathe a word by Marianne Musgrove (2009)

Kenzie and her older sister Tahlia live with their grandfather, but since he fell off a ladder he's been acting a little strange. They can't tell anyone, though not if they want to stay together. No, it's their secret. The problem is, the secret is not so easy to keep. Not when Grandpa keeps disappearing, and trying to electrocute himself, and wanting to chat to his friends and neighbors. 9781741662962 (NOV)

Early winter by Marion Dane Bauer (Mid)(1999)

When 11-year-old Tim's beloved grandfather develops Alzheimer's disease, Time tries to restore and save him by taking him out for a fishing adventure but the outing turns into a disaster. 9780440416944 (GF)

Falling Stars: Alzheimer's Disease by Eugene M. Gagliano (2001)

Joel has been waiting three years for his grandfather, who lives in New York State, to visit Wyoming; but, Grandpa Benaducci doesn't act like the grandpa Joel remembers. Now Grandpa is short-tempered, forgetful and inconsiderate, forever checking his watch. 9780929173382

+ Figuring out Frances by Gina Willner-Pardo (Mid) (1999)

Ten-year-old Abigail's neighbor Travis, her best friend although he is at a different school, upsets her when he transfers to her school, ignores her, and laughs at her grandmother's Alzheimer's along with his new friends. 9780395915103

Fireflies, Peach Pies & Lullabies by Virginia L. Kroll (1995)

When Francie's Great-Granny Annabel dies of Alzheimer's disease, Francie finds a way to help people remember the real person rather than the shell she had become as the disease ran its course. 9780689802911

Five Mice / Cinco ratones by Jose Luis Ferris (Spanish)(2017)

Inês visits her elderly neighbor Lupe regularly, and writes down the long and imaginative letters to her son, Lucas, in Tasmania, that Lupe dictates to her, but as time passes Lupe's memories fail her and she confuses reality and fantasy. 9788469808474

*# Fixer by Jenifer Barnes (YA)(2015) - Y BARNES

When her grandfather develops dementia, sixteen-year-old Tess, who has been keeping his Montana ranch going, is whisked away to Washington, D.C., by a sister she barely knows and thrown into a world of politics, power, wealth, love triangles, and family secrets. 9781619635982 (NOV)

Florian by Guus Kuijer (YA)(Spanish)(2011)

When a sparrow brings Katia and Florian together, they discover that its owner, Señora Raaphorst, lives alone and with no family to care for her. 9781448763221

Flowers for Grandpa Dan by Connie McIntyre (2005)

Danny and his father have helped Grandpa Dan plant flowers every year for some time, and one day, Danny is shocked to find his grandfather pulling their flowers out. 9780967768564 (NIH, GF)

Forget Me Not by Jonah Schein (1988)

Young Becky describes the moving story of her family's discovery that their grandmother has Alzheimer disease. 9781550370010

*# Forget Me Not by Nancy Van Laan (2014) - E VANLAAN

Young Julia comes to terms with the changes in her beloved grandmother, whose Alzheimer's Disease makes it hard for her to remember people and things. 9780449815434 (NOV, AlzN)

*# Getting to know Ruben Plotnick by Roz Rosenbluth (2005)

When the coolest kid in the class drops by David's house after school, David is worried about how popular, zany Ruben Plotnick will react upon meeting unpredictable Grandma Rosie. 9780972922555 (NIH, Can, NOV, AlzC, GF)

The Ghost Horse of Meadow Green by Anne Louise Macdonald (Mid)(2010)

Kim is new to the area and looking forward to the day her ill grandmother comes to live with her family, but when life with her grandmother turns out to be different than she had expected, her interest shifts to a beautiful black horse. 9781442098503

Going Backwards by Norma Klein (YA)(1996)

Family dynamics are strained when Grandmother Gustel, who suffers from Alzheimer's disease, moves in; though Charles, a high school senior, hopelessly tries to live a normal life, while his father refuses to recognize the problem. 9780590403283

Good day with Grandma and me by Karlene Harvey (2013)

A Dementia knowledge translation project between First Nations Elders and children.

<http://www.tru.ca/blobs/whulko/childrens-book-for-web.pdf> (Can)

Graduation of Jake Moon by Barbara Park (2002)

Fourteen-year-old Jake recalls how he has spent the last four years of his life watching his grandfather descend slowly but surely into the horrors of Alzheimer's disease. 9780689839856 (NYT, AlzC, GF)

Granddad's Hat <https://kids.alzheimersresearchuk.org/young-kids/granddads-hat/>

The story has a simple, rhyming structure and centers on two children, Luke and Lucy, who are helping their granddad find his missing hat. In the course of the story the children talk about some of the ways their granddad is changing and most of the pictures have an out-of-place item for readers to spot along the way.

* Grandfather's story cloth = Yawg daim paj ntaub dab neeg by Laura Gerdner and Sarah Langford (2008) - JE GERDNER

Ten-year-old Chersheng helps his beloved grandfather cope with his failing memory, brought on by Alzheimer's disease, by showing him the story quilt Grandfather made after fleeing his homeland, Laos, during wartime. 9781885008343 (NIH, Can)

*# Grandma by Jessica Shepherd (2014)

Told in diary form, Oscar relates how his grandmother becomes less able to look after herself

and enters a nursing home, with information about dementia to help children discuss their feelings and adjust to the changing relationship. 9781846436024 (Can, UKBT, NOV, AlzN)

Grandma can't remember: so I remember for Grandma by Carin Billington (2007)
Written from the viewpoint of a young granddaughter as she tries to understand, as well as accept, her Grandma's new life. 9781602471047 (GF)

Grandma Noonie Has Alzheimer's by Cindy Chambers (2015)
A compassionate pineapple named Pippy, learns from Dr. Neuro, the different stages of Alzheimer's dementia and how it incapacitates patients. 9781457542213 (AlzN)

Grandma's Cobwebs: A Story for Children about Alzheimer's disease, by Ann Frantti (2002)
Claire's parents teach her facts about Alzheimer's disease but don't pay attention to how Claire is feeling about the changes in her grandmother's behavior. 9780971805408 (Care, AlzC, GF)

Grandma's Soup by Nancy Karkowsky and Shelly O. Haas (1989)
A young girl confronts her grandmother's growing confusion and disability from Alzheimer's disease. 9780930494995

Grandpa doesn't know it's me by Donna Guthrie (1986)
Elizabeth observes her grandfather become a victim of Alzheimer's disease and describes its symptoms and effects. 9780898853087 (NIH)

Grandpa doesn't know me anymore by Terri Kelley (2013)
A young boy's grandfather moves in with them but is not the same man that the boy knows. Confused at first, the little boy attempts to reconnect with the Grandpa he knows. When he finds out that this is not possible, the boy vows to always love his Grandfather and to take care of him too. 9781492161387 (NIH)

Grandpa has changed by Pam Pollack (2009)
The boy and girl in this story have always loved visiting their grandfather. But lately Grandpa has been different. Fishing and other activities are not as easy as they used to be. Grandpa doesn't look sick, but a nurse comes to the house to take care of him. What is going on? Grandpa has Alzheimer's disease. 9780764142826 (Can)

Grandpa isn't Grandpa anymore by Antoinette (Toni) Durben (2006)
The author presents the story from the grandchildren's point of view, following the early signs of Alzheimer's to the point where Grandpa has to live in a home.
<http://durbenbooks.com/ordering.htm> (AA)

Grandpa Monty's Muddles/Los despistes del abuelo Pedro by Marta Zafrilla (2012)
First-person narration from a likable 7-year-old boy describes how he is adapting to the changes that follow once his grandfather moves in after experiencing increased memory loss. Zafrilla gives Oscar a straightforward yet caring voice to address readers, successfully drawing them into his world, where Grandpa Monty acts strangely, and his family needs to share responsibilities for his care. Translated from Los despistes del abuelo Pedro. 9788415241171

Grandpa remembers love by Theresa Matocha (2010)
With the help of their wise grandmother, Elaine and Teddy begin to understand that an

important part of their grandfather's memory has not gone away. And, that focusing on what grandpa CAN do creates new opportunities for strengthening the love between them.
9781449086954 (Can)

Grandpa's great escape by David Williams (Mid)(2015)

Set in the 1980s, exploring the relationship between a 12 year boy "Jack" and his relationship with his Grandpa. Grandpa's memory is slipping. He often mistakes Jack for his WWII squadron leader. Jack's parents have sent Grandpa to a boring rest home, he wants to escape. Will Jack help him? 9780007582846 (NOV, Guard)

Grandpa Has Changed by Pamela Pollack (2009)

The boy and girl in this story have always loved visiting their grandfather. But lately Grandpa has been different. At first, the boy and his sister are concerned by the way their Grandpa is changing, but after talking with Mom, they realize that it's okay to feel badly because things are no longer the way they used to be. The children learn to cope and finds ways to help Grandpa so that the whole family can still have fun together. 9780764142826

*#+ Grandpa's music: a story about Alzheimer's by Alison Acheson (2009) – JE ACHESON

Although Alzheimer's disease makes it difficult for Callie's grandfather to remember things, his family keeps him occupied, and Callie's special task is to help him enjoy playing the piano and singing favorite songs. 9780807530528

Great Nanny Doesn't Remember Me: Dementia Explained to Kids by William G Bentrin (2015)

This book is not an attempt to define the disease or to suggest a cure or treatment. The goal of this book is to provide a simplistic explanation of general dementia to a primary-age child.
9781512010329 (AlzN)

Great-Uncle Alfred Forgets by Ben Shecter (1996)

A young girl takes her great-uncle, who is afflicted with Alzheimer's disease, for a walk and gently and patiently answers all his seemingly absurd questions. 9780060262181

*# Half a chance by Cynthia Lord (Mid)(2014) – JMID LORD

Lucy, with her mother and her photographer father, has just moved to a small rural community in New Hampshire, and with her new friend Nate she plans to spend the summer taking photos for a contest, but pictures sometimes reveal more than people are willing to see.
9780545035347 (NOV)

Harpo's Horrible Secret by Barbara Kelley and Lori Block (1993)

When Harpo's great-grandfather, who has Alzheimer's, comes to live with him and his family, Harpo fears that he himself has the disease because he shares his relative's tendency to make things up. 9781567630596

*+ Harry Helps Grandpa Remember by Karen Tyrrell (2015)

Harry and Grandpa love playing hide-and-seek together. Over time Grandpa becomes grumpy and forgetful, refusing to play games with Harry anymore. On Grandparent's Day, Grandpa becomes confused and lost. He couldn't even remember Harry's name. Then Harry discovers clever ways to boost Grandpa's memory. 9780987274083 (AlzN)

Hattie and her 43 cats by Judy Bruns (2005)

Anyone who has ever known a 'Hattie' will love this gentle story that encourages an understanding and compassion for people with dementia and Alzheimer's. 9780971392618 (GF)

Haven House: A Child's Perspective of Alzheimer's disease by Rebecca Darling (2015)
Gillian loves to spend time with her Nanny but starts to notice changes in her. She begins to lose interest in activities and becomes easily confused. As nanny's health declines and dementia sets in, Gillian must accept her Nanny's condition and find new ways to love and connect with her. 9781504333122 (AlzN)

Heart Full of GEMS by Rev. Linn Possell and Teepa Snow (2015)
Children learn to leave their worries behind and emerge with the understanding that it is Alzheimer's causing the changes in grandma or grandpa, not them. The Gems model advocates that everyone living with brain change, when given the opportunity, will shine. 9780996979801 (AlzN)

*#+ Heartbeat by Sharon Creech (Mid)(2004) – JMID CREECH
Twelve-year-old Annie ponders the many rhythms of life the year that her mother becomes pregnant, her grandfather begins faltering, and her best friend (and running partner) becomes distant. 9780060540241 (UKBT, NOV)

*# Horse whispers in the air by Dandi Daley Mackall (Mid) (2005)- JMID MACKALL
After she discovers what her grandfather had been collecting in jars which appeared to be empty, Scoop understands that although he had Alzheimer's, he remembered the past. 9780570070085 (GF)

*#+ Hour of the bees by Lindsay Eagar (Mid)(2016) – Y EAGAR
At first, twelve-year-old Carol is not happy to be spending the summer helping her parents move her grandfather to an assisted living home, but as the summer wears on, she finds herself drawn to him, fascinated by his amazing stories. 9780763679224 (NOV)

How not to disappear by Clare Furniss (YA) (2017)
In England, newly pregnant seventeen-year-old Hattie and her gin-drinking great-aunt Gloria, who is in the early stages of dementia, set out together on a road trip of self-discovery--Gloria to finally confront the secrets of her past before they are wiped from her memory forever and Hattie to face the hard choices that will determine her future. 9781481421027 (NOV)

Hugging Grandma: Loving Those with Memory Disorders, by Zina Kramer (2009)
A little girl finds positive ways to help her grandmother who has Alzheimer's disease 9781933916385 (Can)

If I forget, you remember by Carol Lynch Williams (Mid) (1998)
Twelve-year-old Elyse's plan to write an award-winning novel during the summer is interrupted when her grandmother, who has Alzheimer's disease, moves in with the family. 9780440414209 (GF)

#+ If you find this by Matthew Baker (2015)
When the grandfather he never knew is released from prison suffering from dementia, eleven-year-old Nicholas, a mathematical and musical genius, tries to save the family's home by helping search for heirlooms Grandpa claims to have buried. 9780316240086

In the Deepest Lagoon / En la laguna mas profunda by Oscar Collazos (Spanish)(YA)(2011)
To Alexandra, her grandmother does not seem sick, but as the once-elegant woman's memory slips away, she loses interest in the world around her, and she slides into the oblivion of Alzheimer's disease. 9789584532831

* Invisible Rules of the Zoe Lama by Tish Cohen (Mid)(2007) - JMID COHEN
Twelve-year-old Zoëe, famous for advising other people using her unwritten rules, has her hands full with chairing a school committee, helping a new student fit in, keeping her grandmother out of a nursing home, and finding a husband for her mother. 9780525478102

*+ It only looks easy by Pamela Swallow (Mid) (2009) - JMID SWALLOW
On the first day of seventh grade when Kat "borrows" a bicycle to go see her dog who was hit the day before by a woman with Alzheimer's disease, she learns about the serious consequences of impetuous actions and manages to make some new friends in the process. 9780312561147 (NIH, GF)

It's not my turn to look for Grandma! by April Halprin Wayland (1995)
From early morning till sundown, folks on the farm take turns fetching Grandma, because *someone's* got to keep her out of trouble! Grandma's always in a heap of mischief--she's either telling jokes to her dog, sliding down the haystack with her porcupines, or playing nine-card stump with a possum. But when she's asked to play the banjo, Grandma is quick to say yes, because ending each day with a song is something she'll always make time for. 9780679844914 (NYT)

Jess and the runaway grandpa by Mary Woodbury (Mid) (1997)
Everything is changing way too fast for Jess Baines. Worst of all, her next-door neighbor - her beloved Grandpa Ernie - can't remember who she is any more. When Ernie climbs into his camper van, Jess has only seconds to decide whether to go with him. They set off on a dangerous journey to the northern Alberta wilderness, 9781550501131 (GF)

*+ Kill switch by Chris Lynch (YA) (2012) – Y LYNCH
Daniel simply wants to spend one last summer with his grandfather, Da, before his move to college and Da's dementia pull them apart, but when Da starts to let things slip about a secret life, Daniel must protect him from old "friends" who intend to make sure Da stays quiet. 9781416927020 (NOV)

*+ Last best days of summer by Valerie Hobbs (Mid) (2010) - F HOB
During a summer visit, twelve-year-old Lucy must come to terms with both her grandmother's failing memory and how her mentally-challenged neighbor will impact her popularity when both enter the same middle school in the fall. 9781250044181 (NYT)

*#+ Last True Love Story by Brendan Kiely (YA)(2016) - Y KIELY
Springing his grandfather from an assisted-living facility, Hendrix teams up with Corrina, a fellow teen who is chafing under the rules of her oppressive adoptive parents, in an effort to bring his grandfather to the site of his first kiss before he loses the rest of his memory to Alzheimer's. 9781481429887

Lion's Face by Glyn Maxwell and Elena Langer (2010)
Developed by the award-winning Opera Group, *The Lion's Face* is a new opera that was created

to introduce children to issues surrounding dementia. 9781840029949

Little word catcher by Danielle Simard (2008)

A small girl attempts to help her grandmother by finding the growing number of words that seem to be escaping her. The child wonders if she can trap the words in a net like butterflies. Alzheimers creates a special bond between the child and her grandmother, as the young girl begins to believe that her grandmother has used up all her words and has passed them on to her, as a gift. 9781897187449 (Can)

Lovely Old Lion by Julia Jarman (2015)

Lenny the lion loves his grandpa, King Lion. But when King Lion starts to forget things, Lenny begins to worry. He can't understand why grandpa keeps getting muddled and doesn't want to play anymore. Lenny doesn't know what to do, but with a little help from grandpa's old friends, perhaps he can find a way to help him remember. 9781467793100 (NOV, AlzN)

Magic tape recorder by Joyce Simard (2007)

Memory loss is explained as a "broken" tape recorder. When a grandparent can't recall their grandchild's name, it's not because they don't care about them, but is because they tape recorder is not working. 978-8086541167 (GF)

Maria's Grandma Gets Mixed Up by Doris Sanford and Graci Evans (1989)

A young girl turns to God to help her understand her grandmother's strange behavior. 9780880702980

Memory by Margaret Mahy (1988)

On the fifth anniversary of his older sister's death, nineteen-year-old Jonny Dart, troubled by feelings of guilt and an imperfect memory of the event, goes in search of the only other witness to the fatal accident and, through a chance meeting with a senile old woman, finds a way to free himself of the past. 978-0689504464 (Guard)

*+ Memory box by Mary Bahr (1992) - JE BAHR

When Gramps realizes he has Alzheimer's disease he starts a memory box with his grandson, Zach, to keep memories of all the times they have shared. 9780807550533 (NIH, APFM, AARP, Alz)

Memory Cage by Ruth Eastham (Mid) (2011)

Alex's grandfather keeps forgetting things, and Alex has overheard his adoptive parents say that they're going to put granddad in a home. His grandfather begs Alex to save him from that, and it's a promise Alex is desperate to keep. 9781407120522 (UKBT)

+ Memory Key by Liana Liu (YA) (2015)

In the not-so-distant future, everyone is implanted with a memory key to stave off a virulent form of Alzheimer's. Lora Mint fears her memories of her deceased mother are fading, but when her Memory Key is damaged she has perfect recall--of everything-- which brings her mother's memory vividly back, but may also drive Lora mad. 9780062306647

Memory Wall by Lev Rosen (YA) (2016)

When his mother's illness forces her to move into a nursing home, Nick retreats into his video game, where he meets another gamer who Nick suspects may be his mother. 9781101933237

Mind thief by Cynthia Framst (2015) (Can) National Core for Neuroethics <http://med-fom-neuroethics.sites.olt.ubc.ca/files/2015/08/GTP-The-Mind-Thief-s1.pdf>

More the Merrier by Anne Fine (2003)

It is Christmas and the relatives are descending... There are cousins – the twins Sylvester and Sylvia who are unbearable and the ghastly Titania in her frilly frocks, Uncle Tristram, Great Granny who says the most inappropriate things and Great Aunt Ada who has a tendency to wander. 9780385606189 (Guard)

My Grammy by Marsha Kibbey (1991)

Granddaughter Amy lovingly tells the story of her grandmother, stricken with Alzheimer's Disease, who comes to live with the family and of her own readjustment to a difficult situation and her sustained love for her "Grammy." 9780876145449

My Grandma Has Alzheimer's by Lola Carlile (2015)

A poignant view of a sweet grandma who has the debilitating disease called Alzheimer's as experienced and told by her grandchild. The book employs a sense of gentle humor and facts from the life's journey of one such grandma - Betty Rae. 9781507643501

My Grandma Has Alzheimer's Too by Joseph Voight (2008)

11-year-old Joseph expresses the fears and frustrations of living with an elder relative afflicted by Alzheimer's disease. Through this first-hand account of life with an ailing grandmother, children will learn about dementia, caring for ailing loved ones, and what it feels like to have a grandparent with a terminal disease. 9781933255446

*# My Grandpa by Marta Altes (2013) - E ALTES

An elderly grandfather bear and his adoring grandson share a special relationship. 9781419705885 (NOV)

My Gran's Different by Sue Lawson and Caroline Magerl (2005)

All grannies are different. Sophie's nana bakes sponge cakes. Michael's grandma wears lipstick as bright as a clown's nose. Claire's oma wears wooden shoes and used to live in Holland. Raffe's nonna delivers flowers. Charlie's grandmother, however, is more different than most. All day long she stares out the window and rocks in time with the breeze, because she can't remember who she is. But that's all right, because Charlie remembers who she is. 9781894965163

*# My little Grandmother often forgets by Reeve Lindbergh (2007) – E LINDBERGH

Tom's grandmother is very forgetful and repeats herself often, but as long as he is there to help her, everything works out just fine. 9780763619893 (NYT)

My new Granny by Eisabeth Steinkellner (2012)

Fini's grandmother used to travel, cook, and fuss over Fini's hair but since she came home from the hospital Granny is like a different person, and Fini must learn how to love her just the same. 9781620872239 (NIH, NOV)

Mystery of the Forgotten Fortune by Tracy Groot (YA)(1996)

Casey and her group the Classifieds set out to find the lost fortune belonging to an elderly woman suffering from Alzheimer's disease. 9780891079118

*#+ Nana upstairs, Nana downstairs by Tomie DePaola (1997) - E DEPAOLA

Four-year-old Tommy enjoys his relationship with both his grandmother and great-grandmother, but eventually learns to face their inevitable death. 9780698118362 (NYT)

Nanny's special gift by Rochelle Potaracke (1994)

A moment of recognition by his grandmother, who has been forgetting things because of her Alzheimer's disease, reminds seven-year-old Patrick that she is still the Nanny who loves him. 9780809166152 (Alz)

* Newspaper hats by Phil Cummings (2016)

A little girl, Georgie, visits her grandfather in the nursing home where he is suffering from memory loss, and manages to reconnect with him when they make newspaper hats for everyone. 9781580897839 (NOV)

Night of Fear by Peg Kehret (1994)

T.J., forced to make a perilous midnight ride with a dangerous criminal, relies on his ingenuity to attempt an escape so that he can rescue Alzheimer's-stricken Grandma Ruth. 9780525651369

No surrender soldier by Christine Kohler (YA)(2013)

Based on a true incident in history, No Surrender Soldier is the story of a boy grappling with ancient questions of courage and manhood before he can move on. 9781440565618 (NOV)

Old Timers: The One That Got Away by Noa Schwartz and Erica Vipond (1999)

After a visit with his grandfather who has Alzheimer's disease, a ten-year-old boy realized how lucky he has been to know Pop and to share his stories. 9780968330319

One photo by Ross Watkins (2016)

A young son watches in bewilderment as his father starts to take the most unusual photos with his camera and acting strange. Confused at times by the changes occurring, but comforted by his mother's steady presence and explanations, the son watches day in and day out as his father deteriorates further and further, until he is not there at all. 9780670077977 (NOV)

Pearl by Sally Murphy (2009)

A poignant story, told in verse, about a young girl overcoming grief and loss - and finding her own voice. 9781406327106

Pearl verses the world by Sally Murphy (Mid)(2009)

Since Pearl's grandmother's became seriously ill, Pearl's world view has changed, causing her to feel like an island in school, isolated and alone, especially when her teacher keeps asking for poems that rhyme and Pearl's somehow, seldom do. 9780763648213 (NOV)

*#+ Pictures, 1918 by Jeanette Ingold (YA)(1998) Y INGOLD

Coming of age in a rural Texas community in 1918, fifteen-year-old Asia assists in the local war effort, contemplates romance with a local boy, and expands her horizons through her pursuit of photography. 9780141306957 (NOV)

*#+ Pictures of Hollis Woods by Patricia Reilly Giff (Mid)(2002) – JMID GIFF

A troublesome twelve-year-old orphan, staying with an elderly artist who needs her, remembers the only other time she was happy in a foster home, with a family that truly seemed to care

about her. 9780439692397 (NOV)

*#+ Pop by Gordon Korman (YA) (2011) - Y KOTMAN

Lonely after a midsummer move to a new town, sixteen-year-old high-school quarterback Marcus Jordan becomes friends with a retired professional linebacker who is great at training him, but whose childish behavior keeps Marcus in hot water. 9780061742613 (APFM, AARP, NIH)

*#+ Promise not to tell by Jennifer McMahon (YA) (2007) - PBK MCMAHON

Returning to her small home town in Vermont to care for her Alzheimer's patient mother, reserved forty-one-year-old nurse Kate finds herself inadvertently drawn into the murder investigation of a young girl, a case that reminds her of the death of an impoverished childhood friend years earlier. 9780061143311

Rainbow rocket by Fiona Tinwei Lam (2013)

The story is a touching tale of a young boy and his grandmother who has Alzheimer's disease. His grandmother is a painter and shares her love of art and her knowledge of Chinese culture with her grandson. 9780889822825

Rainbows and Other Promise by Laurie Swinwood (Mid)(1999)

Twelve-year-old Sara tries to come to terms with the changes in her life while coping with the troubles she has with her too-busy dad, her sad mother, and her grandfather, who is suffering from Alzheimer's. 9781889658124

Really and Truly: a story about dementia by Emilie Rivard (2012)

The story a young boy who comes up with a charming way to relate to his grandfather as he suffers from the memory loss of Alzheimer's. 9781926973401 (APFM, Can)

Remember, Grandma? by Laura Langston (2004)

As time passes, this little girl grows up and her grandma grows older. Even if at times coming to terms with Grandma's not remembering is difficult, there are still some very special things Grandma does remember - like how to make mile-high apple pie. And when Grandma suddenly can't remember who Margaret is, Margaret reassures her: "I am Margaret. I am your remembering. Published in UK/Canada as Mile-high apple pie by Laura Langston 9780670058983 (2005) (NYT, Care, Can)

+ Remember Me by Margaret Wild (1995)

Although she may forget many things, Ellie's Grandma remembers all the special times the two of them have shared. 9780807569344 (Care, Alz)

* Remember me? Te acuerdos de mi? by Sue Glass (2004)

A little girl whose grandfather has Alzheimer's disease is confused and upset when he cannot remember her. Her mother tells her about Alzheimer's and gives the girl a job—to be her grandfather's memory and remind him about all the fun things they have done together. 9780972019255 (AARP, NIH, AlzC, GF)

Remember Me... Remember Me Not by Carma Lee Weisbrook (2014)

Jodi loves her grandma and all the fun they have together. When she stays with her grandma, she starts to notice changes that she cannot explain. After a visit to the doctor, they get the news that Grandma is showing symptoms of Alzheimer's disease. 9781496914699 (AlzN)

Remember the Red-Shouldered Hawk by Doris Buchanan Smith (Mid)(1994)

John-too must face the fact that two of his favorite people are becoming strangers to him when his beloved grandmother develops Alzheimer's Disease and his best friend starts using racial epithets. 9780399224430

Remember this by S.T. Underdahl (YA) (2008)

When Lucy is almost sixteen years old; she spends a summer losing her best friend, dating a boy she previously despised, and watching her beloved grandmother fall victim to Alzheimer's disease. 9780738714011 (APFM)

Remembering for Both of Us: A child learns about Alzheimer's by Charlotte Wood (2014) Tasha loves her grandfather and she knows that PaPa loves her. But lately, PaPa has begun to forget things. He's often confused and upset. Sometimes, he doesn't even recognize his own family. How can Tasha's grandmother help her see that while PaPa is changing, his love for Tasha has not? 9781939930385 (AlzN)

Rosemary Spell by Virginia Zimmerman (Mid)(2015)

Thirteen-year-old Rosemary "Rosie" Bennett, named after a line from Hamlet, and her friend Adam find an old book hidden in a locked cupboard in Rosie's house, which was once owned by legendary poet Constance Brooke. What they believe is Shakespeare's false codex holds a powerful spell, one that creates "void and nothing." The two must figure out a way to reverse the spell before their memories of Shelby disappear forever. Their only hope is Constance, facing Alzheimer's disease in a nursing home. 9780544445376

Rudy's Memory Walk by Gloria Velasquez (YA) (2009)

As high school senior Rudy adjusts his attitudes toward the elderly when his senile grandmother has to move in with his family, his girlfriend encourages him to talk with a friend's mother who has similar problems with her mother. 9781558855939

Runaway Gran by Sonia Craddock (2007)

Rosy's grandmother disappears during the day, and when she is found she claims that she must find a hidden box that will solve all of their monetary problems, but Rosy is not sure that she is telling the truth. 9781550289534

Sachiko means happiness by Kimiko Sakai (1990)

Although at first five-year-old Sachiko is upset when her grandmother no longer recognizes her, she grows to understand that they can still be happy together. 9780892391226 (GF)

Saturdays With Hitchcock by Ellen Wittlinger (Mid)(2017)

Twelve-year-old movie-loving Maisie is in need of a distraction from her current romantic dilemma when her Uncle Walt comes to stay with her family after being hurt on the set of the movie he's filming in Hollywood. Uncle Walt has a way of pointing Maisie in the right direction, and Maisie's love of movies also keeps her centered. Heading to the local independent theater on Saturdays to see old movies helps Maisie stay grounded as she struggles with growing up, family tensions, a grandma who seems to be losing her memory, and a love triangle she never expected. 9781580897754

She's my grandmother by N. Massa (2006)

As Joey gets older he begins to understand Alzheimer's disease and teaches his family how love

can be unchanged in the face of adversity. 9781425915520 (GF)

* Singing with Momma Lou by Linda Jacobs Altman (2002) - JE ALTMAN

Nine-year-old Tamika uses photographs, school yearbooks, movie ticket stubs, and other mementos to try to restore the memory of her grandmother, who has Alzheimer's disease. 9781620142271 (NYT, AARP, NIH, Can, Alz, GFC)

+ Sisterland by Linda Newbery. (Mid) (2004)

When Hilly's grandmother becomes ill with Alzheimer's disease, her family is turned upside down by revelations from her life during World War II. As her mind becomes more muddled, secrets buried in her past start to emerge. This evocative and deftly told novel explores prejudice and its effects on multiple generations in one family. 9780099472827

*# Still Alice by Lisa Genova (YA) (2009) - GENOVA

Alice Howard, a Harvard psychology professor and a happily married mother, is comfortable in her life. But then she misplaces her BlackBerry, gets lost around town, and even becomes disoriented at home. When her own children become unrecognizable, Alice's worst fears are confirmed. 9781501106422

Still My Grandma by Veronique Van Den Abeele (2007)

A young girl describes her special relationship with her grandmother, both before and after Grandma contracts Alzheimer's Disease. 9780802853233 (APFM, Can, NYT, AARP, NIH, AlzC, GF)

+ Stonebird by Mike Revell (Mid)(2015)

While trying to cope with his grandmother's dementia and bullies at his new school, ten-year-old Liam strikes up a friendship with a magical gargoyle, with a shared love of stories. 9781681445144 (NOV)

Stranger I call Grandma by Swanee Ballman and Stephanie Brunson (2001)

Andrew's beloved grandmother is acting strange. When she has to come live in his house, Andrew's life suddenly is turned upside down. Grandma scares his friends and accuses him of things he did not do. HE hates her. 9780970295941 (Care, GF)

Striped Shirts and Flowered Pants: A Story About Alzheimer's Disease for Young Children, by Barbara Schnurbush (2006)

Libby becomes concerned when her grandmother begins to forget certain things and wears clothes that do not match, so her parents help her to understand that her Nana is in the early stages of Alzheimer's disease and what that means. 9781591474760 (NYT, NIH, GF, Can, AlzC)

*+ Struts and frets by Jon Skovron (YA)(2009) - Y SKOVRON

Sammy wants to be a musician, as was his grandfather, but while the band he is in is self-destructing, Sammy is too distracted by his grandfather's decline and confused feelings about his best friend to fix it--and his mother stays too busy to help. 9781419700286 (NOV)

Sundae Girl by Cathy Cassidy (Mid) (2011)

Tackling gritty issues such as alcoholism and dementia can be a tricky business but Cathy Cassidy carries it off with confidence retaining humour and sensitivity in a readable and worthwhile story. 9780141338934 (UKBT)

#+ Switch by Ingrid Law (2015)

Gypsy Beaumont has always been a whirly-twirly free spirit, so as her thirteenth birthday approaches, she hopes to get a magical ability. But when Momma and Poppa announce that her very un-magical, downright mean Grandma Pat has Alzheimer's and is going to move in with them, Gypsy's savvy—along with her family's—suddenly becomes its opposite. 9780803738621

* Switching Gears by Chantele Sedgwick (Mid)(2017)

Still mourning the loss of Lucas Nelson, the boy she loved in secret for years, seventeen-year-old Emmy Martin turns to her passion for mountain biking to try to fill the empty void in her life. But just when things start looking up, Emmy discovers her mom has been diagnosed with early-onset Alzheimer's. Confused and angry that her parents didn't tell her sooner, she throws herself into mountain biking like never before. 9781510705067

Thank-you for the thistle by Dorie Thurston (2001)

This is the story about Great Aunt Nellie and her feathered friends. When her nephew, Brent, notices the golden finches have stopped coming to see the bird feeders because Aunt Nellie forgot their favorite food, Brent steps in to help. 9780970332608 (GF)

This is my family: A children's book for kids with a parent with younger onset dementia by Karen Harborow (2017)

This is a children's book for kids with a parent with early onset dementia. Jack is 13 years old. He lives with his daddy, mommy, sister Amy and dog Sam. Daddy has dementia. Something isn't right in daddy's brain and Jack can help him to do things. 9780648013242

+ Trudy by Jessica Lee Anderson (YA) (2005)

Trudy, who is in middle school, has older parents who are sometimes mistaken to be her grandparents. Just when things are starting to look up at school, Pop is diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease, and Trudy and her mother face some tough decisions. 9781571316592 (NIH)

*+ Unbecoming by Jenny Downham (YA)(2015) – Y DOWNHAM

A story of three generations of women that centers round a grandmother with dementia. The situation is particularly difficult because 17-year-old Katie cannot remember ever meeting her grandmother Mary before she unexpectedly arrives to live with the family. 9780545907170 (Guard, NOV)

Voice of the climbing rose: a tribute to caregivers by Christopher Perry (2004)

A mother plants a rose bush the day her daughter was born. As time passes, the woman watches both her daughter and the rose bush grow, but she eventually develops Alzheimer's and forgets many things, including the rose bush and her own daughter. The daughter still loves and cares for her, as her mother cared for the once-fallen bush long ago. 9780975592809 (NIH)

* Weeds in Nana's Garden by Kathryn Harrison (2015)

A young girl and her Nana hold a special bond that blooms in the surroundings of Nana's magical garden. Then one day, the girl finds many weeds in the garden. She soon discovers that her beloved Nana has Alzheimer's disease; an illness that affects an adult brain with tangles that get in the way of thoughts, kind of like how weeds get in the way of flowers. As time passes, the weeds grow thicker and her Nana declines, but the girl accepts the difficult changes with love,

learning to take-over as the garden's caregiver. 9780994946706 (Can, NOV, AlzN)

*# What a beautiful morning by Arthur Levine (2016) – E LEVINE

Every morning is beautiful when Noah visits his Grandparents. When Grandpa and Noah wake up, they take off singing and hardly stop: walking the dog, splashing through puddles, and eating French toast with cinnamon. But one summer Grandpa seems to have forgotten how to do the things they love. 9780762459063

+ What flowers remember by Shannon Wiersbitzky (Mid) (2014)

Delia and Old Red Clancy make quite a pair. He has the know-how and she has the get-up-and-go. But something is happening to Old Red. And the doctors say he can't be cured. He's forgetting places and names and getting cranky for no reason. As his condition worsens, Delia takes it upon herself to gather Old Red's stories so that no one will forget. 9781608981670

What my Grandma means to say by J C Sulzenko (2001)

Eleven year-old Jake shares his story as he watches his grandma change from awesome traveler, bird watcher, and brownie-baker to someone who doesn't remember his name or where she lives. 9781926962085 (Can)

*#+ What's Happening to Grandpa? by Maria Shriver (2004) - JE SHRIVER

Grandpa has always been the best storyteller Kate has ever known, but lately he repeats himself, becomes easily frustrated, and even forgets Kate's name. When Kate's mother explains that Grandpa has Alzheimer's, Kate finds a way to cherish his life and memories. 9780316001014 (APFM, NIH, NYT, Care, Can, AARP, AlzC, GF)

What's wrong with Grandma? by Margaret Shawver(1996)

A young girl tries to understand the frustrating, frightening changes in her grandmother caused by Alzheimer's Disease. 9781591021742 (AARP, Alz)

When Grandma Came to Stay <https://kids.alzheimersresearchuk.org/juniors/when-grandma-came-to-stay/>

The story about a girl who experiences unusual situations and changing circumstances when her grandmother with dementia comes to stay in her family home.

When Grandma Is Not Grandma: Alzheimer's Steals Family's Treasures by Ossie S. Bell (2006)

A beautiful relationship between a ten-year-old girl and her grandma that transcends the "generation gap." They are two happy people, planning fun projects and enjoying each other until Li'l Lady Savannah begins to notice a difference in Grandma's usual sweet demeanor towards her. An accident at Grandma's house brings the mystery of these changes to the forefront when Grandma is hospitalized and diagnosed with two devastating diseases. 9781424129201

When My Grammy Forgets, I Remember: A Child's Perspective on Dementia by Toby Haberkorn (2015)

A young girl notices changes in her Grammy's behavior, like how Grammy can't read to her anymore. The girl's mother tells her that "Grammy's brain is not working properly" but assures her that Grammy still loves her. 9780991623600 (NIH, AlzN)

* Wherever You Go by Heather Davis (YA) (2011) – Y DAVIS

Seventeen-year-old Holly Mullen, overwhelmed with responsibility at home, grieving over her boyfriend Rob's tragic death, and confused by the sudden attention of his best friend, Jason, is further upset when her Alzheimer's-stricken Papa Aldo claims to be having conversations with Rob's ghost. 9780547851389 (APFM)

+ Whole stupid way we are by N. Griffin (YA)(2013)

During a cold winter in Maine, fifteen-year-old Dinah sets off a heart-wrenching chain of events when she tries to help best friend and fellow misfit Skint deal with problems at home, including a father who is suffering from early onset dementia. 9781442431560 (NOV)

*+ Why did Grandma put her underwear in the refrigerator? An explanation of Alzheimer's disease for children by Max Wallack and Carolyn Given (2013) – J 616.831 WAL

Seven-year-old Julie explains Alzheimer's to young readers in terms they can understand. 9781489501677 (NYT, NIH, AARP)

*#+ Wilfrid Gordon McDonald Partridge by Mem Fox (1989) - E FOX

The book's beautiful dialogue expresses a friendship that strikes up between a young child, called Wilfred and his elderly neighbor Miss Nancy. The book explores Miss Nancy's memory loss and Wilfred's attempt to allow his friend to recover her lost memory. It is sensitively written and is a wonderful book suitable both for children and adults. 9780916291266 (APFM, NYT, Care, AlzC, GF)

Window of Time by Audrey O. Leighton (1995)

A sensitive, endearing portrait of a young boy's acceptance of his grandfather's mixed-up time and the special understanding they share. 9780963633514 (AA)

*# Without a backward glance by Kate Veitch (YA) (2016) - VEITCH

On a stifling Christmas Eve in 1967 the lives of the four McDonald children changed forever when their mother abandoned them. Forty years later they struggle to come to terms with their mother's reappearance, while at the same time their beloved father is progressing into dementia. 9780452289475

Wordsworth dances the waltz by Frances H. Kakugawa (2007)

Wordsworth the mouse uses his poetry to help him cope when his grandmother, who once loved to dance but is now losing her memory, comes to stay with his family in Hawaii. 9780979064739 (NYT)

Young man's dance by Laura Knowlton (2006) -JE KNOWLTO

Grandma loved to dance with her grandson while cookies baked in her oven. Now she lives in a nursing home, where she sits in a wheelchair and doesn't remember the cookies or her grandson's name. One day, when a band plays at the nursing home, the grandson finds a way to relive dancing with Grandma. 9781590782590 (NIH, Can)

Resources/Key to source notations:

n.b. Titles listed without resource notations are from local library catalogs or were found in book purchasing resources such as Baker & Taylor

Novelist (NOV) (books on dementia and Alzheimer's limited by fiction for children-teens)

www.booktrust.org.uk/books/children/booklists/284/ (UKBT)

A Place for Mom www.aplaceformom.com/blog/top-books-for-helping-young-people-understand-alzheimers/ (APFM)

National Institute on Aging www.nia.nih.gov/alzheimers/resources-children-and-teens-about-alzheimers-disease (includes .pdf handouts for parents and children on understanding Alzheimer's (NIH)

blog.aarp.org/2013/08/21/sally-abrahms-making-sense-of-alzheimers-9-books-for-kids/ (AARP)

www.dementiablog.org/kids-books/ (see several titles in list on .pdf)

Core List of Books & Mags, Alzheimer's Assn Green Field Library

https://www.alz.org/library/downloads/resources_librarycore_booksmagazines.pdf (AlzC)

Alzheimer's Assn Green-Field Library <http://www.alz.org/library/catalog.asp> (GF)

Alzheimer's Assn Resources list

http://www.alz.org/living_with_alzheimers_just_for_kids_and_tens.asp (AA)

Caring.com Best Alzheimer's books of 2017 <https://www.caring.com/articles/best-alzheimers-books> (Care)

The Guardian 2015 list and other reviews www.theguardian.com/childrens-books-site/2015/oct/19/best-childrens-books-on-dementia-grandparents (Guard)

Alzheimer's disease bookstore <http://www.alzheimersbooks.com/104.Childrensbooks.html> (Alz)

Alzheimer's Society of Canada <http://www.alzheimer.ca/en> (Can)

Alzheimers.net www.alzheimers.net/6-03-16-books-for-children-about-alzheimers-and-dementia/ (AlzN)