



Shay and their dog Fluffy are best friends. Through the years they are each other's source of comfort and companionship in times of both sadness and joy. When Shay learns that Fluffy is sick and they must say goodbye, they feel angry and scared. But Fluffy offers a gentle reassurance—as she always has—and Shay reflects on the meaningful bond they have shared with their friend and the love for her that they will hold in their heart forever.

Discussion Questions

1. Fluffy helped Shay whenever Shay had a bad day. What helps you when you're having a bad day?
2. What things can you do to comfort others when they're having a bad day?
3. Why was Shay upset about saying goodbye to Fluffy?
4. What did Shay's mom tell Shay when they felt sad about missing Fluffy?
5. Why did Shay keep Fluffy's favorite toy? Do you have an item that is special or important to you? Why is it so special?
6. What are the ways Shay remembered Fluffy after she was gone?
7. Every culture and family has different ways of remembering their loved ones. Is there anything you do in your culture or family to honor loved ones who are no longer here?

Activities

1. Do you ever feel like you miss someone (a friend, pet, family member)? Draw a picture representing a nice or funny memory about that person or animal.
2. How can talking about what we're feeling help us feel better? Make a list of people you can talk to when you're feeling sad or upset.
3. In the book, Shay and Fluffy enjoyed doing everything together. What are three things you like doing with the people or animals you love? Share with a partner.



About the Author

T'Áncháy Redvers is a Dene/Métis two-spirit writer, creator, speaker, advocate and multidisciplinary performer belonging to Deninu K'ue First Nation in Treaty 8 territory. They have been nationally and internationally recognized for their work and advocacy across many forms. T'Áncháy co-founded We Matter, a national Indigenous-led organization dedicated to Indigenous youth hope and life promotion. T'Áncháy has recently been enjoying screenwriting youth content for networks such as Apple TV+ and PBS Kids. They can usually be found dreaming up diverse stories and cuddling on the couch with their partner and their dogs, Yákay and Mocha, in Tkaronto (Toronto).



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