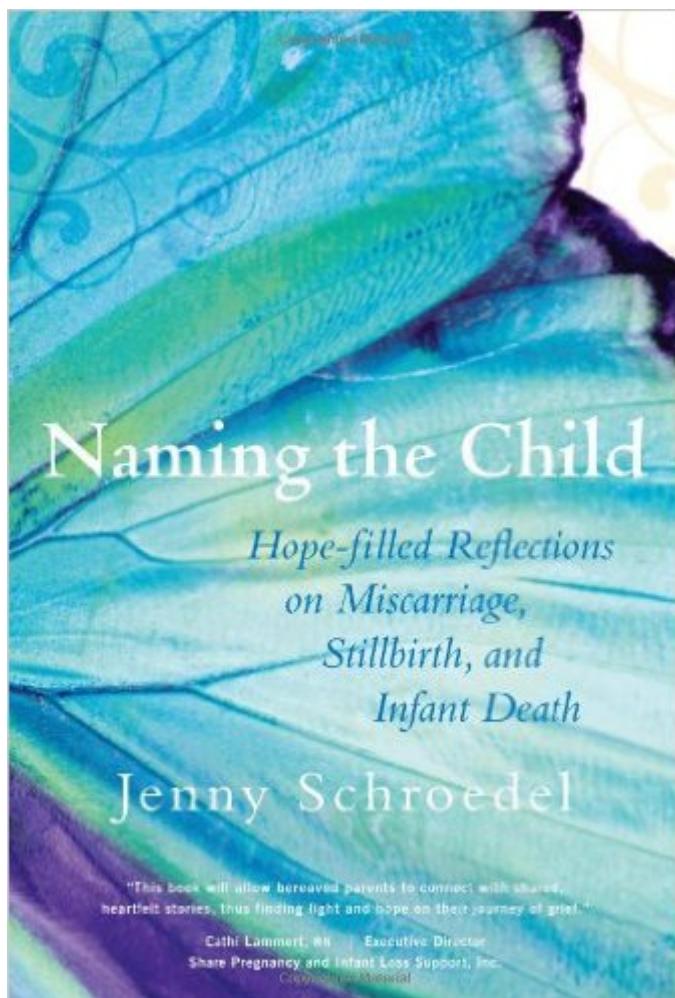


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# Naming The Child: Hope-Filled Reflections On Miscarriage, Stillbirth, And Infant Death



## **Synopsis**

Hope and healing for those who suddenly find themselves in the most terrible sort of grief. For those who have experienced miscarriage, stillbirth, or the death of a child within the first year, this gentle resource offers: stories of hope and wisdom; practical advice and guidance, based on the experience of many; comfort and ways to honor and remember. Naming the Child creates a community of love and support for bereaving parents and siblings, written with a light touch and sensitive spirit. "When I was nineteen weeks pregnant with my second child, Emma, I had a miscarriage. It's impossible to know ahead of time how such an experience will impact you or your marriage. I recognized many of the challenges I faced in Naming the Child. I can say with confidence that this is an amazing resource." Amy Wilson lawyer and mother of three

## **Book Information**

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## **Customer Reviews**

The tears I shed while reading this book were tears of hope and learning. Through friends, or through my own experiences I've struggled through every event listed in the subtitle, and while this book takes you into those difficult places, the help it gives is well worth the time and tears. Naming the Child is beautifully, powerfully written. Ms Shroedel finds just the right tempo, the right tone to convey peace to a subject that is filled with unrest and grief. I feel much better prepared to help a friend who miscarries or loses a young child, and believe that for someone struggling through a period of sadness, this book, with its numerous stories of those who have walked the same path, would be a timely instrument of help...

"Naming the Child" is a beautiful book, and beautifully written. The stories in the book are heart-breaking, it's true, but they also demonstrate how hope and life can arise from even the most terrible of events. Ms Schroedel discusses the wide range of emotions and experiences that grieving parents may face, including at least a couple surprises, such as "intuition" and "signs." Though I've never personally suffered the death of a child, Ms Schroedel's book gives me a window into the lives of friends who have and simultaneously reassures me that if a child of mine ever dies, both beauty and hope reside beyond and even in the grief. While "Naming the Child" is written by a Christian and does include stories about a few Christian couples, Ms Schroedel has also included the stories of numerous individuals and couples who are either "spiritual" but not Christian or who are simply not religious at all. I greatly appreciate this fact, as it means that I could feel safe giving it to anyone who has suffered a miscarriage, stillbirth or infant death, regardless of creed. I highly recommend this book.

Naming the Child is a jewel. This book offers comfort while raising awareness about our culture's fear of the grieving process. It includes interviews with parents who discuss their experience with vulnerability and strength. The book encourages health care professionals to allow grieving parents the opportunity to hold the infant. It is beautifully written - and quite relevant as I know many who have mourned such losses.

Naming the Child is like the first brilliant rays of sunlight breaking thru the storm clouds. It breaks the silence and isolation surrounding infant death by providing a very sensitive portrayal of families that have experienced this tremendous loss. I am no longer alone in my experience and I feel as if I've met some of Talia Joy's playmates who are with her on the other side.

We never know what to say to those that are grieving. This book helps educate and make those in these situations not feel alone. It's a wonderful collection of experiences and shows us that we have a loving God who still communicates with us. Quite the treasure!!

I can't recommend this book strongly enough. I've had two miscarriages in the past 8 months--one at 8 weeks, and one at 19 weeks--and "Naming the Child" was a tremendous source of comfort during both. It offers many excellent suggestions and resources for parents, especially mothers, to find healthy, concrete ways to express their grief. It gives parents the opportunity to remember their

children who have died, while moving forward with a hope that is informed by realism, acceptance and remembrance. The only thing I wish had been included, would be some discussion of the ways that mothers and fathers may grieve differently when a baby dies through early-term miscarriage--that in many cases, fathers do not feel the same sense of loss because they don't have the physical connection that the mother did, and do not grasp it in a concrete way when there is no body for them to hold and make it real for them. But this isn't enough of an omission for me to take away any stars, as I feel the rest of the book compensates for that omission in so many ways.

This is a loving look at the effect of pregnancy loss on parents. It is full of insight from those who have experienced it and great suggestions for health care providers and those who want to be supportive in a time of such loss. Read it!

I liked it as it did offer some hope and reflection during a very difficult time. I was disappointed in that it seemed to move toward and spend more time focusing on families who had had children born alive and then die shortly after birth, than those who had experienced miscarriage or stillbirth.

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