

EPISODE **87**

# Books to Celebrate Your Adopted Child

Guest: Brooke Cooney

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## Meet Brooke Cooney



Brooke and her husband have been married for 15 years and are adoptive parents. They have also been foster parents. She writes about her experience and shares tons of book recommendations on her [blog](#).

## In This Episode

Brooke and Sarah talk about books that celebrate adoption and adopted children. Brooke also recommends books from picture books through books for teens and even parents.

## The Listening Guide

Use this guide to skip to parts that most interest you, or listen to the entire podcast.

- **2:08** Meet Brooke
- **5:10** Books for the adoption/fostering journey
- **8:44** Celebrating Adoption
- **11:04** Helping adopted children feel understood
- **13:51** Brooke's recommendations
- **18:17** The Read-Aloud Family
- **20:36** Middle grade and chapter book recommendations
- **27:42** Book suggestions for teens
- **31:02** Encouragement for families who hope to adopt
- **33:45** Let the kids speak

“ ...Looking at adoption as a celebration, knowing that adoption is not plan A, that all children really should grow up with their own mom and dad and live in their home with them, but it is a plan B, and it can be a beautiful plan B. It's definitely a thing to celebrate. - Brooke Cooney

## Quotes and Questions

### \* **Windows, mirrors and sliding glass doors.**

*"This idea came from Rudine Sims Bishops, she wrote an article about how children need books that are windows, mirrors, and sliding glass doors. Windows, in that they allow you to peek into the life of someone else that lives very differently than you do ... And then also mirrors, in that you need to see your own life reflected back at you. A child feels deep kinship with the character in a book who they can relate with, and they see their lives reflected back at them. And, also sliding glass doors, which is more like the idea of going through fantasy or seeing a whole new world, or seeing things from a completely different paradigm."*

Want to explore this more? Listen to [this episode](#) with Linda Sue Park or listen to Grace Lin's [TEDx Talk](#).

### \* **One of the best audiobooks ...**

*"Oh, my goodness. I think that has to be one of the best audio books I have ever heard in my life. It is so magnificent."*

Sarah and Brooke both love Echo on audiobook! Find it [here](#).

### \* **Fanning the flame.**

*"For children like myself who had that passion (for adoption) we can fan that flame for them and guide them in that direction from an early age, that they can even be doing things now that change the world by just helping their kids that they know of at church who've been adopted, or they go to school—those at school, befriending them and loving them for who they are not because of their situation but just the person that they are."*

Do you have a child who wants to help other children? Sharing the books mentioned in this episode is a wonderful way to help them grow their empathy!

## Show Notes

### Books from today's episode:

- The Green Ember
- Corduroy
- Anne of Green Gables
- Emily of New Moon
- The Sign of the Beaver
- The BFG
- Little Men
- Listening for Lions
- A Girl of the Limberlost
- Freckles
- In Between
- A Single Shard
- A Long Walk to Water
- Holly and Ivy
- Hattie Big Sky
- Ember Falls
- Hattie Ever After
- Echo
- The Boxcar Children
- Kisses for Katie
- Daring to Hope

- [Amazing Grace](#)
- [Adopted for Life](#)
- [The Little Match Girl](#)
- [I Love You Like Crazy Cakes](#)
- [Every Year on Your Birthday](#)
- [The Red Thread](#)
- [I Don't Have Your Eyes](#)
- [Eleanor](#)
- [You Learn by Living](#)
- [Only Opal](#)
- [Just David](#)
- [Pollyanna Grows Up](#)
- [Pollyanna](#)
- [Maniac Magee](#)
- [Ruby Holler](#)
- [Akin to Anne](#)

**Other links from today's show:**

- [Brooke's post at iBelieve: A Letter to My Younger Self Concerning Adoption](#)
- [Brooke's site](#)
- [RAR #53: Can a Children's Book Change the World, Linda Sue Park](#)
- [Mirrors, Windows and Sliding Glass Doors, Rudine Sims Bishop](#)
- [Grace Lin's TEDx talk: The Windows and Mirrors of Your Child's Bookshelf](#)
- [RAR #52: Bonding Through Books, Tricia Goyer](#)
- [Brooke's Book](#) – download it for FREE
- [A Kickstarter for physical copies of Brooke's book](#)

# READ-ALLOUD REVIVAL

Cheat Sheet Episode **87**

- [Order The Read-Aloud Family](#)
- [Premium Membership](#)
- Get the RAR Booklist [here](#) or **text the word “books” to 345345**

To find more resources to help you build your family culture around books, visit [ReadAloudRevival.com](http://ReadAloudRevival.com).