



APA Citation	Franz Ransom, J. (2000). <i>I don't want to talk about it</i> . Washington, DC: Magination Press.
Number of pages	28
Illustrator's name	Kunz Finney, K.
Genre	Fiction
Age range	4 - 9
Brief summary	Jeanie Franz Ransom gently addresses the sensitive topic of divorce through the eyes of a young girl in <i>I Don't Want to Talk About It</i> . She makes excellent use of metaphor as she describes the various emotions the child feels through animal characteristics. For example, to protect herself against harm by others she longs for the quills of a porcupine or to express her anger she wants the powerful roar of a lion. The beautiful illustrations of Kathryn Kunz Finney wonderfully accompany and strengthen the messages in the book.
Brief evaluation	16/18 This book carefully handles the trauma of divorce for readers of a very young age.
Awards	Today's Librarian "Best Children's Resource" Award

Criteria for Evaluation	0 Does not meet curriculum standards	1 Acceptable but not a first choice	2 Satisfactory	3 Right on target!
Plot	The plot is not interesting.	The plot holds the reader's attention and engages the reader.	The plot is intriguing and enjoyable.	The plot is engaging and provides a story line that invites the reader to turn to the next page!
Issue/Theme	The issue/theme is not pertinent to and/or inappropriate for the intended age group.	The issue/theme is engaging but is not handled in an impressive manner and/or does not thoroughly address the issue/theme.	The book carefully and effectively addresses a critical issue/theme for the intended age group.	The book appropriately covers relevant matters and enables the reader to critically think about his/her position on the issue/theme.
Characters	The characters are undeveloped.	The reader gets a sense of the characters and is somewhat able to get inside their thoughts and motivation but character development could be stronger.	The characters are well-developed. The reader is able to understand their motivation and behavior.	The character development is strong. The reader is able to empathize with their situations, understand their actions and reactions, and critically think about how s/he would behave in the characters' situation.
Dialogue	The dialogue is not effective and does not flow.	The dialogue strengthens the story and character development but is, at times, misplaced and overused.	The use of dialogue is appropriate and effectively provides character attributes, motivation, and assists with story development.	The dialogue is strong and the author makes careful word choices, effectively telling the story while letting the story tell itself.
Writing Style	The writing style is poor, the story line unclear. It is difficult to follow the progression of events.	The writing style and fluency is acceptable. The reader may be confused on occasion as to sequence of events.	The writing style is enjoyable and the story flows in a natural, coherent progression.	The book is well-written, clearly relays critical information, and exemplifies exceptional mechanics of writing.
Reaction & Response	The book does not provide insight or provoke independent thought, opinions, or ideas.	The book causes the reader to think about the story, characters, and theme but may send conflicting messages that are too confusing for the intended age group.	The book effectively evokes a personal reaction to the text.	The book elicits some sort of a strong emotional reaction while provoking further contemplation of the theme and guiding the reader to independent thought.