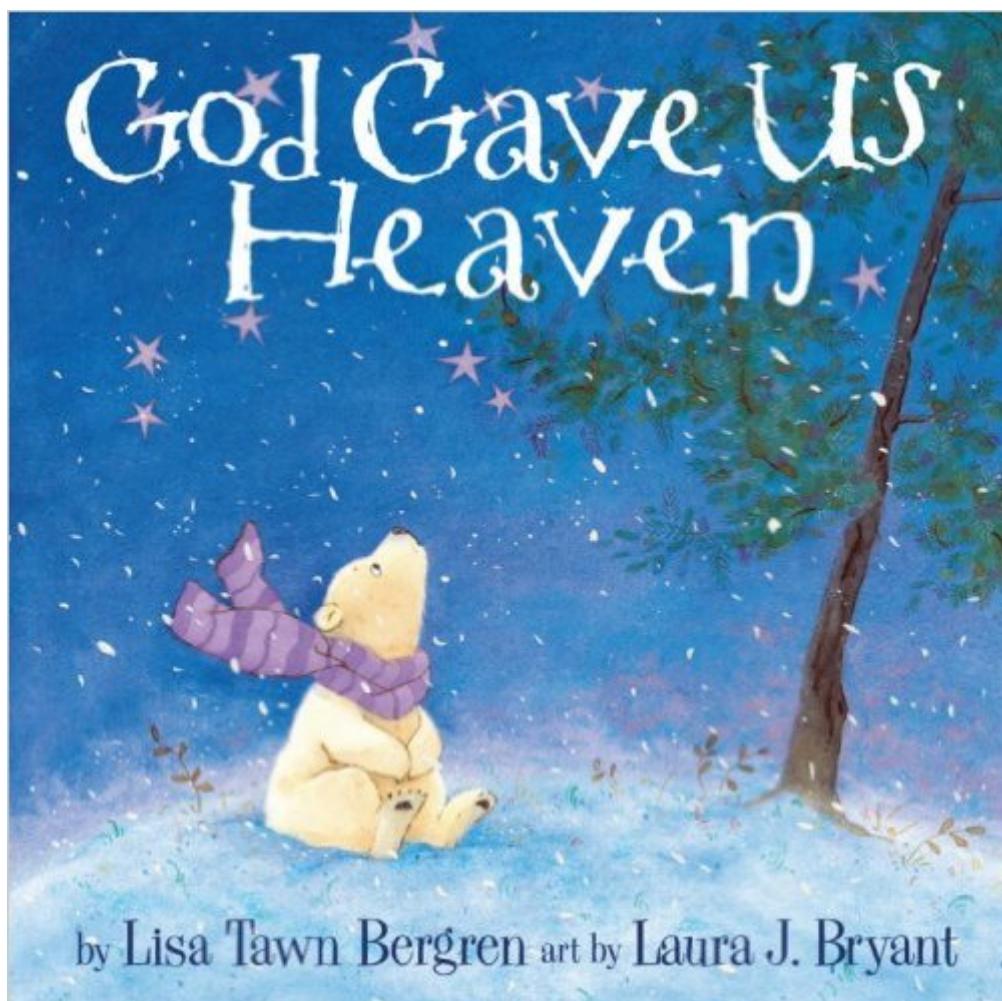


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# God Gave Us Heaven



by Lisa Tawn Bergren art by Laura J. Bryant



## **Synopsis**

As the sun rises on her snow-covered world, Little Cub wonders aloud âœWhat is heaven like?â •With tender words, her Papa describes a wonderful place, free of sadness and tears, where God warmly welcomes his loved ones after their life on earth is over. Little Cub and Papa spend the day wandering their beautiful, invigorating arctic world while she asks all about Godâ™s home: How do we get to heaven? Will we eat there? Will I get to see you in heaven? Papa patiently answers each question, assuring her thatâœHeaven will be full of everything good.â •This gentle story provides satisfying answers for a young childâ™s most difficult questions about what happens after this life, inviting âœlittle cubsâ• to find comfort in knowing that God Gave Us Heaven. Also available: God Gave Us You God Gave Us Two God Gave Us Christmas

## **Book Information**

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Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 starsÂ See all reviewsÂ (104 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #6,768 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #15 in Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Difficult Discussions > Death & Dying #29 in Books > Children's Books > Literature & Fiction > Religious Fiction > Christian #50 in Books > Children's Books > Religions > Christianity

Age Range: 3 - 7 years

Grade Level: Preschool - 2

## **Customer Reviews**

My 9 year old nephew passed away and my 6 yr old was having trouble dealing with it. Although we are faithful and I talked with her about God calling him home, I knew I needed help breaking things down to her level. This book was exactly what I'd hoped it would be. The reassurance of God's love and beautiful place He has waiting for us not only eased my daughter's mind, it also brought a smile to my nephew's mother and helped to remind her of the wonderful place my nephew is in now. I 100% recommend this book.

God Gave Us Heaven by Lisa Tawn Bergren is the latest entry in her God Gave Us series. The first book, God Gave Us You, is on Mia's bookshelf, but I can't read it, because Bergren handles the idea of impending parenthood and the love a parent has for a child, even before they are born, so well that I cry all the way through it. I've read most of Bergren's children's books, and I believe that she has an amazing talent for interpreting God and his love in a way that is easy for kids to understand without ever talking down to them and giving new insight to their parents as well. My daughter, Mia, has long had a fear of Heaven because the idea of something completely different from this world was frightening to her. Bergren, through Papa Bear, speaks of a Heaven where there are no more tears or pain or wars. Papa Bear answers the normal questions kids ask: what we will eat there? what will we do? with tenderness and honesty, even when that means the answer is I'm not sure. This book answers questions and soothes worries. Mia's fears have been allayed, and I am grateful to Bergren for writing this book and taking those fears away.

The dedication for this book is to a child that died at the age of six, bringing a wistful pause before the book begins. This is a special story dedicated to the hope Christians have in an assurance of a future in Heaven. The story states that while physical death is unavoidable in a fallen world, God offers Christians the Hope of a bridge to Him through Jesus. This is the kind of hope that soothes the parents of a deceased child or the small child left behind by the death of pets or relatives. It can even comfort the polar bear tribe, an endangered species facing extinction amid disappearing sea ice. Even in this danger, the polar bears show joy to their cubs, because all creation will sing His Name in Heaven, where ice is unnecessary. A polar bear father teaches his she-cub about Heaven by using scriptural tenets. For instance, polar bears do not become angels when they die, because angels and polar bears have their own unique, much-needed purposes in God's plan. The circle of family can be unbroken in Heaven, if all have used God's bridge. There, sorrows are left behind and Heaven is full of joy and smiles. Thus, Jesus is a real gift from God, but we have to accept, believe, and use Him as the bridge to Heaven. The polar bears go fishing, but don't catch any fish. The fish are wearing bibs, ready for the "all-day dinner" in Heaven that is sung and preached quite often. The bears delight in the thought of such a buffet and the undercurrent in the story is that while a lack of resources plagues the earth, such lack is nowhere in Heaven. The bears return home in the story, the little cub content that Heaven is real. God Gave Us Heaven is a good resource for the Christian home for comforting young children about human and animal deaths. Armchair Interviews says: Children from pre-school to mid-elementary ages will enjoy it.

My husband passed away a year and a half ago and my son is now almost 6 and has questions from time to time about heaven and God and where daddy is. I read this to him and he seemed to like it, feeling a little better about some of his questions. I'm sure we will read it often, and will keep it on the bookshelf for his sister who is now 3 when she starts asking more questions. It is a very cute story with beautiful illustrations. Felt a tug on my heart and had a tear in my eye along with a smile on my face while reading it, perfect book for us. Will be getting the other "God gave us" books too.

The adorable white polar bear cub, wearing a jaunty purple scarf on this book's cover, gives a preview of what is inside the book's pages. Little Cub is full of questions for her dad, about what heaven is like. Dad gives her upbeat answers. Little Cub asks "Can we take our stuff to heaven?" and Dad answers "No, we won't need our stuff there, Little Cub. Our best stuff doesn't weigh anything at all - stuff like love, family, friends and faith." While they talk the bears have all kinds of bear adventures, swimming and hiking with backpacks and fishing with fishing poles. A kind and gentle way to explain what heaven is like for children from ages one to eight. Review written by author of: *A Scrapbook of Christmas Firsts: Stories to Warm Your Heart and Tips to Simplify Your Holidays*

God Gave Us Heaven is a very special book and the illustrations are lovely. Little Cub asks Papa Bear about heaven, and Papa Bear explains in one of the most beautiful, simplistic descriptions I've ever read. When Little Cub wonders how to get to heaven, Papa gives a very child-friendly explanation on this very important subject. Buy this book for every little boy and girl you know. They'll love it.

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