

Grace and Mia Still A Family: A Story and Activity Book

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A Story and Activity Book

Based on a true story

Written and Illustrated by Desiree Gordon-Tomlinson

“A divorce or family breakup doesn’t have to be a negative, if you have two positive parents, and regardless of where each parent and children live – you’re still a family. - Desiree

Making the tough decision to divorce, when kids are involved, is gut-wrenching, but making the decision to stay for the sake of the children can be damaging. Desiree believes that, when parents are amicable, it can lessen the stress on the entire family, especially the children, when making the decision to get a divorce. What is most important when making that tough decision is, ensuring that your kids understand that it is not their fault, they are loved, and no matter the distance – they are still a family.

Statistically, approximately 45% of marriages in the United States, end in divorce. *Still A Family: A Story and Activity Book* is a great tool for children and their parents, to move forward through a divorce or family breakup (not all parents get married). Desiree Gordon-Tomlinson used her very own personal experience with a divorce to write, illustrate, and self-publish this children’s book. She wants to encourage parents to remain positive throughout their divorce process, as she knows first-hand, how damaging a dysfunctional divorce process can affect children, following them into adulthood, causing their own dysfunctional relationships. The fun interactive activities include, contracts for children and parents to sign, to promote positive behavior; Check For Learning exercise to create positive dialogue; pages for drawing or pasting family pictures; Word Search and Unscramble the Words. These are all great tools for children.

Based on a true story, sisters, Grace and Mia, face the challenge of accepting the news that their parents are divorcing. When they first learn that Mommy is moving to South Carolina and Daddy is staying Washington, D.C., it is very saddening. However, the girls quickly learn that what they thought was bad news, has a happy ending. They discover that, even though the family will be miles apart, they are *Still A Family*.

Desiree wrote this book to help other children and parents better navigate through a divorce process or family breakup, in an amicable manner. She knows firsthand how a dysfunctional divorce process can have lasting negative effects on a family, especially our children – the silent victims. Desiree wants to give our children a voice.

ISBN: 978-0-578-61330-7

Category: Children/Divorce/Counseling

Publisher: Sunshine Press

Format: Paperback; 34 pages

Trim: 8.5 x 11

Ages: 4-12 (helpful for adults, too)

Price: \$15.00

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Publication Date: February 2020 (Revised)

Available: www.graceandmia.com

Desiree was born and raised in rural Hemingway, SC and is a retired Army veteran, single mom of two daughters, author, illustrator, self-publisher, adjunct professor at Midlands Technical College, entrepreneur, motivational speaker, and Webster University Alumni Chapter President. She holds three degrees: Management and Leadership and Human Resources Development (MAs, 2015, 2018), Webster University, and Public Relations (BS, 2013), Bowie State University. In addition to writing, illustrating and publishing books, Desiree enjoys teaching, travelling, interior decorating, and cooking. Her goal is to write, illustrate and self-publish more books to help children and parents, better cope with difficult or life-changing events, in a positive manner. Follow her on Facebook and Instagram @Author Desiree Gordon-Tomlinson.

