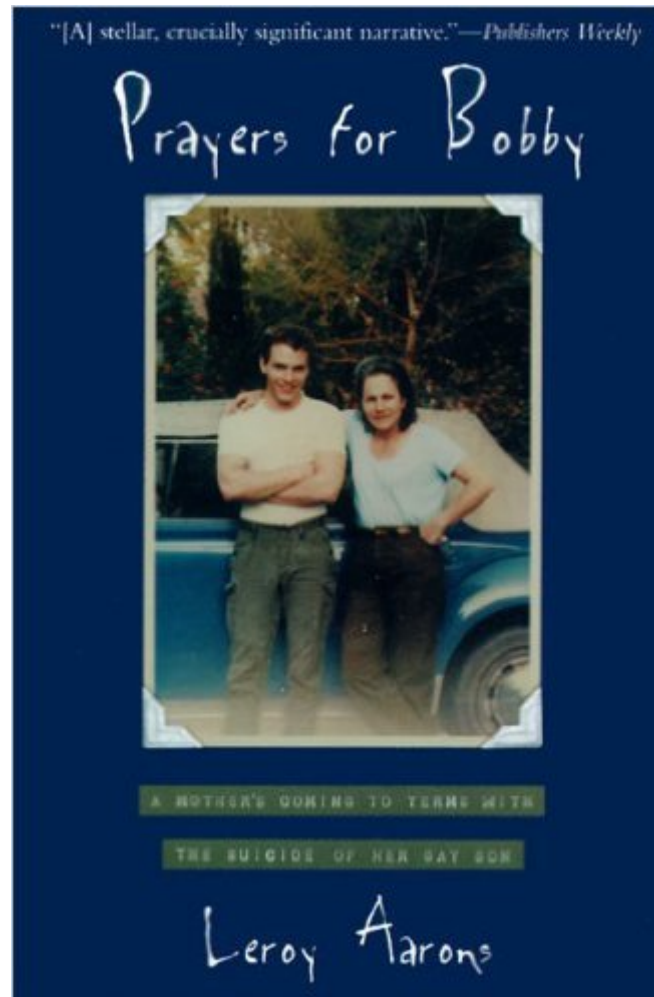


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Prayers For Bobby: A Mother's Coming To Terms With The Suicide Of Her Gay Son



Synopsis

Bobby Griffith was an all-American boy ...and he was gay. Faced with an irresolvable conflict-for both his family and his religion taught him that being gay was "wrong"-Bobby chose to take his own life. *Prayers for Bobby*, nominated for a 1996 Lambda Literary Award, is the story of the emotional journey that led Bobby to this tragic conclusion. But it is also the story of Bobby's mother, a fearful churchgoer who first prayed that her son would be "healed," then anguished over his suicide, and ultimately transformed herself into a national crusader for gay and lesbian youth. As told through Bobby's poignant journal entries and his mother's reminiscences, *Prayers for Bobby* is at once a moving personal story, a true profile in courage, and a call to arms to parents everywhere.

Book Information

Paperback: 288 pages

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Product Dimensions: 5.3 x 0.6 x 8 inches

Shipping Weight: 10.4 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.9 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (80 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #149,148 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #26 in [Books > Gay & Lesbian > Parenting & Families](#) #60 in [Books > Self-Help > Death & Grief > Suicide](#) #163 in [Books > Biographies & Memoirs > Specific Groups > LGBT](#)

Customer Reviews

Mary was absolutely certain that with enough prayers, counseling and love God would heal her gay son of his homosexuality. Mary was a kind and loving mother of four children. Bobby was a loving son and a sensitive person. His highest values were to be accepted by God and by his family. After trying prayers and counseling for several years, realizing that his attraction to men had not diminished at all, he had tried to preserve his inner core by rebelling. However, the lack of acceptance by his beloved family was too painful to rebel against, and he committed suicide. His suicide was a big shock, and a wake up call for his family. Mary, a deeply spiritual and loving person was unable to fathom why God had not cured Bobby and why did God allow him to die. After many months of inner searching, she also started listening to the gay perspective. She read books, talked to a gay minister, and met other parents of lesbian and gay children. A dream lead her to the answer

for the first question: God had not cured Bobby because Bobby was beautiful and perfect to God. Being a caring person, Mary answered the second question by resolving the Bobby's death and her learning must save other lesbian and gay kids from depression and suicide. The book is beautifully written, describing the evolution of Mary from an insecure person, trusting authority to guide her every motion, to a strong leader affecting the social change of attitudes towards lesbian and gay youth. Leroy Aarons' rich journalistic experience provides us with a narrative which maintains journalistic objectivity, while at the same time wrenches our hearts.

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