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## **The Unconditional Love and Support of Grandparents Brought to Life**

*A New Chicken Soup for the Soul Collection Explores those Magical “Grand” Bonds*

**COS COB, Conn.** – Thalia Dunn lived across the street from her grandparents and spent a lot of time with her grandfather in his garden, where he grew flowers and vegetables and had beautiful flowering trees, including a magnificent magnolia. That magnolia tree was perfect for climbing, but Thalia couldn’t get over her fear. Finally, her grandfather came up with the perfect solution. One day, he showed her that the tree had magically bloomed with colorful lollipops instead of blossoms. Thalia forgot her fear and climbed right up that tree, gathering handfuls of lollipops.

When Sherri Woodbridge told her granddaughter Boo that she had to go away for specialized medical treatment, and that Boo couldn’t come, the little girl started to cry. She wanted to go with Grammy to take care of her. Boo’s solution? She gave Grammy her prized Black Doggy, the stuffed animal that was always with her. Now it was Grammy’s turn to get teary-eyed. She made sure to send Boo a photo of her stuffed animal with the doctor. And Sherri says, “I must admit, having Black Doggy along made everything just a little bit better.”

Grandparents taking care of grandchildren, and grandchildren turning around and returning that love, are two of the themes in a new collection of stories written by grandparents and grandchildren about the special bonds they share. ***Chicken Soup for the Soul: Grandparents* (Chicken Soup for the Soul, LLC; Amy Newmark; March 26, 2019, 978-1-611599862, \$14.95)** contains 101 stories about that unconditional love. Because one day you’re a parent... and the next day you’re a strange being called a grandparent. Now you’re whipping out your phone to share videos that no one else really wants to see—but you don’t know that. Because no matter what kind of parent you were, you’ve turned into a big mush. And thus starts a wonderful adventure, filled with mutual admiration, unconditional love, understanding, and even secrets!

Chicken Soup for the Soul’s editor-in-chief Amy Newmark says, “This is a wonderful way for children of all ages to let their grandparents know how much they are loved, how important their influence has been, and how much their children and grandchildren rely on them.” That was the case for five-year-old Evan Purcell, who didn’t understand why he liked different things than other boys, such as songs from *The Little Mermaid* and having tea parties with the neighborhood girls. He shocked his extended family when he chose what they considered to be a girl’s item as his prize on a family outing to the arcade. His cousins were laughing at him, so he quickly picked something else. That was when his Nana spoke up. She told the arcade girl to give him the prize he had picked first. Evan says, “I didn’t realize at the time what a big moment this was, both for me and my family.” Years later, he would understand the love and support that Nana Shirly provided that day.

### **ABOUT CHICKEN SOUP FOR THE SOUL**

Chicken Soup for the Soul, the world’s favorite and most recognized storyteller, publishes the famous *Chicken Soup for the Soul* book series. With well over 100 million books sold to date in the U.S. and Canada alone, more than 250 titles, and translations into more than 40 languages, “chicken soup for the soul” is one of the world’s best-known phrases and is regularly referenced in pop culture. Today, 26 years after it first began sharing happiness, inspiration and hope through its books, this socially conscious company continues to publish a new title a month, but has also evolved beyond the bookstore with super premium pet food, television shows and movies through its subsidiary, Chicken Soup for the Soul Entertainment, a podcast, positive journalism from [aplus.com](http://aplus.com), education programs, and licensed products, all revolving around true stories as the company continues “changing the world one story at a time®.”

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**To receive a review copy of *Chicken Soup for the Soul: Grandparents* or to request an interview, please contact Shelby Janner at (512) 638-6379 or [shelby@zilkermedia.com](mailto:shelby@zilkermedia.com).**