

MOVING TIMES

Trauma is part of life, and moving undoubtedly causes trauma in kids because I know it does for adults. There are not too many good books already out there on the topic, so when I came across **THE LOST AND FOUND HOUSE** by Michael Cadnum, illustrated by Steve Johnson and Lou Fancher (Viking, \$15.99) I was very eager to read it.

The storyline is about a child who moves, misses the old house, begins to forget what the old house and the old neighborhood looks like, and then gradually becomes embedded in the new place, new friends, new life. The illustrations are loaded with images that evoke nostalgia, emotion: a buttery sunlight fills the hallway in the morning because the curtains are not up yet.....parents vacillating over where to hang a picture almost becomes a symbol for "where to hang your heart". I love this book. I heartily recommend it as a gift for a child who has moved recently, as a way to heal the hurt.

Books can do that, you know. Books can help us heal. TV can't. There is a good chance that the reason we have so many "broken" people wandering around out and about is that we have become a nation that does not read. Make the exception in your family; take time to read twenty minutes a day to your kids, to each other. In **THE MOTHER DAUGHTER BOOK**

CLUB, (Harper, \$12.95) Shireen Dodson tells how she and her daughter read aloud and silently, side by side and how it has bonded them in the heart. The book is jam packed with titles that will help parents and kids find common ground for discussion that does NOT involve cleaning your room, washing your hair, or changing the way you dress. The book does provide lots of ideas for making reading fashionable in your family. In the author's words, " When you read together, it's taking a trip with somebody, versus taking a trip alone. And because there's another person, you get different perspectives."

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