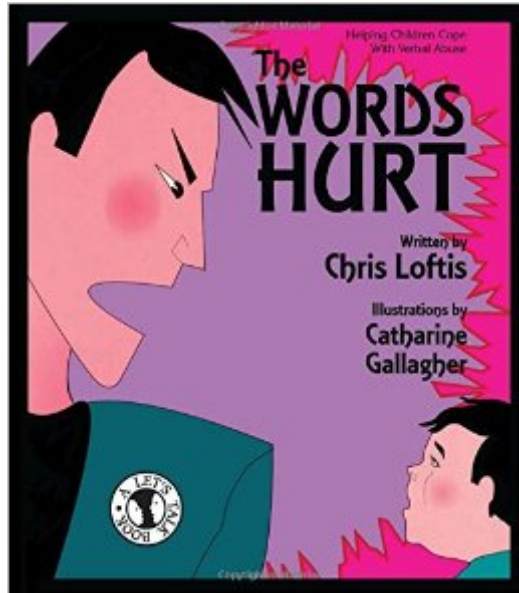


The book was found

# The Words Hurt: Helping Children Cope With Verbal Abuse (Let's Talk)



## Synopsis

Physical abuse is not the only thing that scars a child. Words hurt too, and children often have no way of handling the harsh criticism of parents. In *The Words Hurt*, readers follow the story of Greg, whose father's problems have caused him to lash out at this son and fail to express the love he truly feels. Beautiful illustrations and a moving story provide critical support for children suffering from verbal abuse; reassuring them that they are good, not bad people, and are not alone.

## Book Information

Series: Let's Talk

Paperback: 45 pages

Publisher: New Horizon Press (January 1, 1997)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0882821326

ISBN-13: 978-0882821320

Product Dimensions: 7.5 x 0.2 x 8.5 inches

Shipping Weight: 4 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 3.7 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (15 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #324,901 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #77 in [Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Difficult Discussions > Dysfunctional Relationships](#) #144 in [Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Difficult Discussions > Abuse](#) #955 in [Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Family Life > Parents](#)

Age Range: 4 - 8 years

Grade Level: Preschool - 3

## Customer Reviews

This book does a good job of expressing how children experience verbal abuse. However, the quickness with which the father decides to stop the abuse suggests that it may be better suited to convincing abusers to seek help rather than helping children cope with abuse. It does not address tactics that children can use to shield themselves from ongoing verbal abuse. All resolution was extrinsic to the child's realm of influence.

I am an elementary school teacher, and this book has been helpful in classroom discussions on self esteem. I've been surprised how many children relate to the situation described, and think this is an excellent learning tool. The illustrations are Matisse like- children enjoy the playful colors. I

recommend this work.

I wasn't able to return this because I missed the return window. I bought this for my 6yr old but after reading decided against reading it to him. I found it inappropriate. The story has a happy ending and the dad realizes his behavior and changes. I didn't feel I should be giving my child false hope.

Disappointed.

As a clinical psychologist, I would NEVER use this book. First, it has typos. Second, it has way too many words per page. Finally, it concludes with everything being perfect. I was looking for a realistic book. This is no it.

The first half of this book was very good and very true to the pain caused by emotional abuse. However, it makes me cringe every time a story ends with the abusive individual being confronted, either by another person or child and then that makes everything okay. I think that is a false message.

This has been a helpful book to use in my clinical work with children. Verbal and emotional abuse can be difficult to label with young children, but this book offers a great story with opportunities to ask questions and explore a child's experiences and feelings.

The first thing I disliked was the hideous font. It's a font I've never seen before and it is very hard on the eyes. I had trouble finishing the book because the font was giving me a headache. I didn't care for the illustrations. I found them a little weird and creepy. The author needs to learn proper usage of the semi colon, the ellipsis and the hyphen. And I have no idea what this word is supposed to be--"shoooh." It tries to be written as a poem but is done so poorly that it is difficult to read it as such. I was 2/3 through the book before I even realized that the paragraphs ended with a rhyming word. I don't like that when the angry father has been forced to realize that he needs to deal with his anger, he reflects on how his own father was cruel. This is not the case in the situation of the family of the boy that I bought this book for and I am bothered by the assumption. I am even more bothered by the happy ending that probably has a slim-to-none chance of happening with most families. Abusers rarely feel remorse and seek help just from being confronted. I'm afraid that this book will give false hope to a child and make them think that other abused children are experiencing happy endings while they, themselves, are not. The premise of this book is good but I think it could have been much

better. I bought it because it was all I could find as a book to give to a verbally abused child. What a shame that there are hundreds, if not thousands, of books to help abused adults but virtually nothing for kids.

I really liked this book, it helped me as a frustrated parent and my older child whom tends to get into a lot of trouble. After reading this book to her (and crying a good bit) we both agreed to try harder to be better. The illustrations are a bit odd, but I like it.

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