

OLIVE AND THE SECRET OF THE PIES

A Bibliotherapy Resource for Families in Transition

By Rob Arnold

THE HEALING

"Love [Mom/Dad] with a Whole Pie."

Children of divorce often try to "keep love even" as a form of emotional regulation—counting hugs and splitting treats to ensure fairness. *Olive and the Secret of the Pies* names that hidden burden, then replaces it with a relieving, child-friendly metaphor: Love isn't a cookie you have to split. It's a pie—and you never run out of ingredients.

THE STORY

Olive, a young girl with two loving homes, worries that her love is a finite resource. During a baking session with her grandparents, she learns "the secret of the pies": she can give each parent a "whole pie" of love, freeing her from the anxiety of keeping everything even.

More than just a picture book, *Olive and the Secret of the Pies* is a complete resource designed for the bibliotherapy market. It includes extensive back matter for parents, librarians, and counselors, making it a "must-have" for family support networks.

WHY PARTNER WITH US?

For Family Law & Mediation Professionals

- **Set a Constructive Tone:** Ideal as an intake resource or closing gift. The story empowers the child to love both parents freely, reducing loyalty conflicts from day one.
- **Neutral & Inclusive:** The story features safe, loving parents and neutral grandparents, avoiding "good guy/bad guy" tropes.
- **Actionable Language:** Gives clients a repeatable phrase—"Love [Mom/Dad] with a whole pie"—to encourage positive co-parenting talk.

For Counselors & Therapists

- **Clinical Framing:** A QR code links to a dedicated Counselor Guide that distinguishes between "Parent Brain" and "Ex-Partner Brain" and offers safety warnings for abusive situations.
- **Assessment Tools:** Includes prompts like "How full is your love pie today?" to help children articulate feelings of scarcity or abundance.
- **Addressing the "Hidden Burden":** Specifically validates the child's impulse to "keep things even" as a coping mechanism, then offers a healthier alternative.

WHAT PROFESSIONALS ARE SAYING

"I would 1000% recommend it to my clients... The burden I carried around similar to this every day of my life [as a child of divorce] is still something I think about... I truly feel like having something like this could have eased my burden and pain."

— Rachel, Licensed Counselor

"I especially appreciated how the grandmother's offer to bake pies for all family members felt so neutral and inclusive. It reaffirmed the child's place in the family without placing one relationship above another."

— Abby, Librarian

"A beautiful way to help young children and their parents with the fairness issues when splitting time between homes... It will be a useful resource for counselors and teachers also."

— Beth, Librarian & Educator

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Rob Arnold navigated his own parents' divorce at age 30, and later, a divorce of his own with young daughters. Leveraging his psychology degree and therapeutic experiences, Rob developed the "Pies Metaphor" to ensure his children never felt the need to measure their love.

PARTNERSHIP INQUIRIES

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