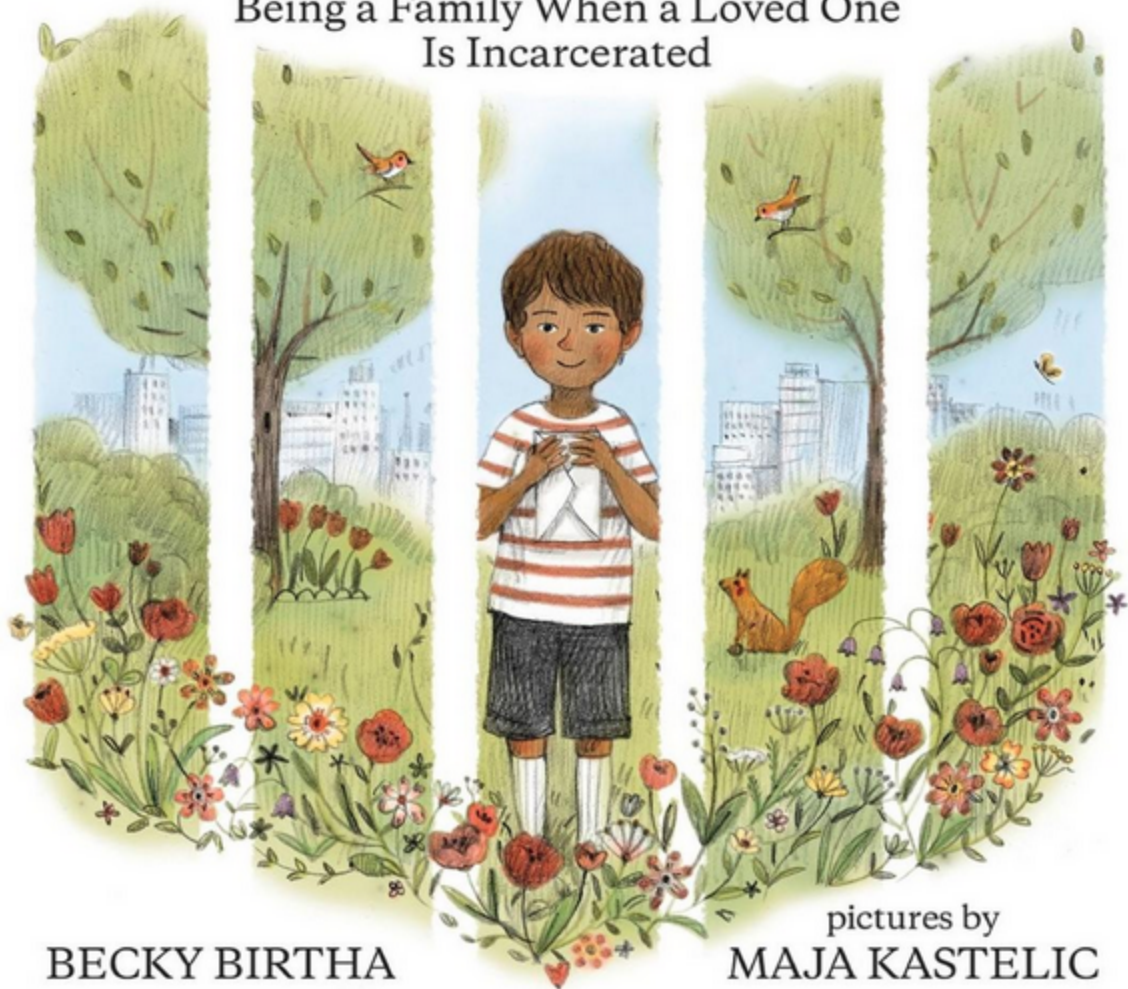


Far Apart, Close in Heart

Being a Family When a Loved One
Is Incarcerated



BECKY BIRTHA

pictures by
MAJA KASTELIC

For Justin, Jayden, and Natalie—BB
To N and L—MK

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Far apart, close in heart : being a family when a loved one is incarcerated

Becky Birtha ; illustrated by Maja Kastelic

Summary: Children from all walks of life experience various emotions when their parent is in jail or prison, but they learn there are ways to communicate their feelings that will help improve their situation and remind them they are not alone.

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If your dad or mom is in prison, you probably have questions. Simple questions can have easy answers, but other questions are harder to answer and may even be hard to ask.

Yen has questions that she doesn't want to ask anyone but her mother. Her father gives her paper and a pencil. Yen writes:

Why are you there?

Is it my fault?

When are you coming home?

Do you still love me?

They mail the letter to her mother.





When other kids hear about Rafael's papa,
they ask questions.

“What did he do?”

“How many years did he get?”

Rafael feels embarrassed that he doesn't know
the answers.

If you don't know how to answer, you can find
different ways to respond.

Rafael says, “I don't want to talk about it.”

