

*Weeping Willow: Lessons of Loss and Love*

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When she was 14, Michelle lost her younger brother, Chris, in an accident with a drunk driver. He was only 12. In this autobiography, Michelle introduces her readers to her life by establishing crucial background information about her family before diving into a highly descriptive, piece-by-piece retelling of the accident. She reveals every single one of her thoughts and even goes as far as explaining why she experienced certain emotions and how she arrived at several conclusions. Michelle's story goes as far as describing how her brother's passing continues to affect her years later in high school memories and even in decisions she makes during her college years.

*Weeping Willow* is structured very simply. The chapters are short and the diction and syntax are easy to understand. Although it was an easy read, I would suggest this book to any reader at a middle school reading level or higher. Because of its autobiographical and comprehensible nature, I found myself better relating to and understanding the characters than while reading other novels. *Weeping Willow* will undoubtedly teach readers of all ages important lessons about life and moving past hardships.