# Came All This Way to Meet You: A Journey of Love, Loss, and Family

Jami Attenberg's memoir, *Came All This Way to Meet You*, is a heartwrenching and poignant exploration of love, loss, and family. The book tells the story of Attenberg's relationship with her father, a Holocaust survivor who died when she was a teenager. Attenberg's writing is raw and honest, and she does not shy away from the difficult topics of loss, grief, and family.



#### I Came All This Way to Meet You: Writing Myself Home

by Jami Attenberg

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ 4.1 out of 5 : English Language File size : 5010 KB Text-to-Speech : Enabled Screen Reader : Supported Enhanced typesetting: Enabled : Enabled X-Ray Word Wise : Enabled Print length : 253 pages



The book opens with Attenberg's father's death. She is only 19 years old, and she is devastated. She does not know how to cope with her loss, and she feels lost and alone. In the wake of her father's death, Attenberg begins to explore her family's history. She learns about her father's experiences in the Holocaust, and she begins to understand the impact that these experiences had on him.

As Attenberg learns more about her father, she begins to see him in a new light. She realizes that he was a complex and flawed man, but he was also a loving and devoted father. Attenberg also learns more about her own family, and she begins to understand the importance of family ties.

Came All This Way to Meet You is a powerful and moving memoir that explores the complex and often contradictory emotions of love, loss, and family. Attenberg's writing is honest and insightful, and she does not shy away from the difficult topics of loss and grief. The book is a testament to the power of love and family, and it is a reminder that even in the darkest of times, we can find hope and healing.

#### **Themes**

The following are some of the main themes that are explored in *Came All This Way to Meet You*:

- Love: Attenberg's memoir is a testament to the power of love. She writes about the love she has for her father, her mother, and her siblings. She also writes about the love she has for her friends and her community.
- Loss: Attenberg's memoir is also a story about loss. She writes about the loss of her father, her mother, and her siblings. She also writes about the loss of her innocence and her sense of self.
- **Family:** Attenberg's memoir is a story about family. She writes about the importance of family ties and the power of family love. She also writes about the challenges of family life and the complexities of family relationships.

#### Characters

The following are some of the main characters in *Came All This Way to Meet You*:

- Jami Attenberg: The author of the memoir. She is a young woman
  who is struggling to come to terms with the death of her father.
- Max Attenberg: Jami's father. He is a Holocaust survivor who died when Jami was a teenager.
- Miriam Attenberg: Jami's mother. She is a strong and independent woman who has always been there for her children.
- Josh Attenberg: Jami's brother. He is a successful businessman who has always been close to Jami.
- Rachel Attenberg: Jami's sister. She is a talented artist who has struggled with mental illness.

### Setting

The following are some of the main settings in *Came All This Way to Meet You*:

- New York City: Jami Attenberg grew up in New York City, and the city plays a significant role in her memoir.
- Poland: Jami's father was a Holocaust survivor, and the book includes several scenes that are set in Poland.
- Israel: Jami travels to Israel to learn more about her father's past.

### **Critical Reception**

Came All This Way to Meet You received critical acclaim upon its release. The book was praised for its honesty, insight, and powerful storytelling. The book was also a commercial success, and it was a finalist for the National Book Award for Nonfiction.

#### **Awards and Honors**

- Finalist for the National Book Award for Nonfiction
- Named one of the best books of the year by The New York Times, The Washington Post, and NPR

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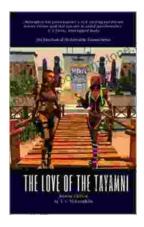
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