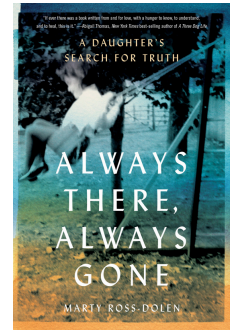


Discussion Questions



1. How is using “wisps” an effective way to write this memoir? Have you ever read a book before that is written in a different style like this one is?
2. How does including real artifacts like letters and photographs enhance the storytelling?
3. Have you heard of the concept of intergenerational trauma before? In what ways do you think trauma can be passed down from one generation to another? In what ways can the passing down of trauma be prevented?
4. *Always There, Always Gone* is Marty’s memoir. Is it also her grandmother’s memoir? Can one person write another person’s memoir?
5. What responsibility does a memoir writer owe to those who have passed away? To those who are living? To themselves?
6. Writing her memoir seems to have been a healing experience for Marty, a way to discover and explore the losses she felt. How do you think the creation of art through creative writing, dance, or the visual arts, for example, can help people process their grief or trauma?
7. Did you read *Highlights* as a child? What was your favorite part of the magazine?
8. How do you think Marty’s background as a psychiatrist enriched her writing?
9. What do you think of the book cover? How do you think it represents the story?
10. Being in a digital age with most communication now occurring through email and text, could someone write a book like Marty's in the future? How would it be the same? How would it be different?

