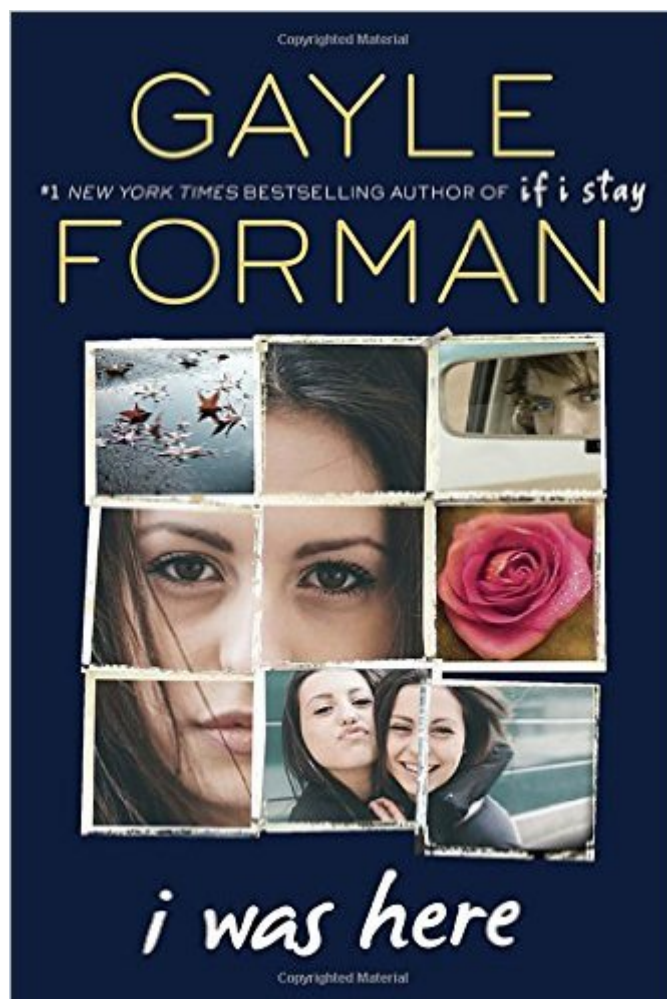


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# I Was Here



## Synopsis

The newest heartwrenchingly powerful novel from the bestselling author of *IF I STAY*. When her best friend Meg drinks a bottle of industrial-strength cleaner alone in a motel room, Cody is understandably shocked and devastated. She and Meg shared everything—so how was there no warning? But when Cody travels to Meg's college town to pack up the belongings left behind, she discovers that there's a lot that Meg never told her. About her old roommates, the sort of people Cody never would have met in her dead-end small town in Washington. About Ben McAllister, the boy with a guitar and a sneer, and some secrets of his own. And about an encrypted computer file that Cody can't open until she does, and suddenly everything Cody thought she knew about her best friend's death gets thrown into question. *I Was Here* is Gayle Forman at her finest, a taut, emotional, and ultimately redemptive story about redefining the meaning of family and finding a way to move forward even in the face of unspeakable loss.

## Book Information

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Shipping Weight: 12.6 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.2 out of 5 stars See all reviews (310 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #56,575 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #21 in Books > Teens > Literature & Fiction > Social & Family Issues > Suicide #46 in Books > Teens > Literature & Fiction > Social & Family Issues > Depression & Mental Illness #228 in Books > Teens > Literature & Fiction > Social & Family Issues > Friendship

## Customer Reviews

2 - "If that's what happens to normal, what hope is there for the rest of us?" Stars. I think I should firstly say that I am a huge fan of Gayle Forman's books. She somehow manages to take a bunch of fairly unremarkable, usual characters and give them what starts out as an ordinary story, but with one unique twist, turns them into extraordinary books. I am guaranteed to need tissues and want a hug after finishing a book by her, but I always feel I am a better person for having read the story she has given me. You get all of the above with *I Was Here* with the exception of needing

tissues and wanting a hug. This book left me cold; I know that is a pretty blunt summation, but that's how I felt. I am not sure what went wrong but for me there was no emotion from me or the characters, I felt no empathy or sympathy for what any of them were experiencing, and I could find no real solid reasoning for half of the things Cody did, thought or said. I would go as far as to say disliked her, her mother, their attitudes and just them in general intensely. Ben didn't evoke much from me either, in fact no one in the book did really, apart from Meg's little brother Scottie. Meg's suicide and the reasoning behind it, her family's behavior in the aftermath, and the actions Cody took to try and get to the bottom of the mystery | nothing. I felt absolutely nothing, I kept reading as I was sure that at some point something would happen to give me that lump in my throat, bring on that lip wobble or just a slight tear to the eye. I have absolutely no doubt that I am probably in the minority with my feelings about this book, Gayle is, and will always be an author I am happy to read a book by.

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