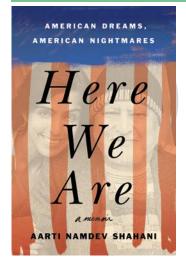


HERE WE ARE BY AARTI SHAHANI Discussion Questions



"DESTINED TO TAKE ITS PLACE AMONG THE FINEST MEMOIRS WRITTEN IN RECENT DECADES."

~ GUY RAZ

Co-creator of How I Built This, Wow in the World, and TED Radio Hour

TITLE: Here We Are AUTHOR: Aarti Shahani PUBLISHER: Celadon Books ISBN: 9781250204752 ON SALE DATE: 10/1/19 FORMATS: Hardcover, Ebook, Audio

- 1. Why did Aarti's parents decide to come to America even though they didn't have papers? Do you think they made the right decision?
- 2. How do you think A Better Chance Inc. and Brearley changed Aarti's perspectives and the course of her life?
- 3. What were the effects of the September 11, 2001 attacks on Aarti's advocacy efforts in New York and Washington, DC?
- 4. Aarti describes the gentrification of the area on Broadway where her father and uncle had their store. Have you seen anything similar happening in areas near you?
- 5. How do you feel about Judge Blumenfeld's criticism to Aarti: "You're not living a life about what you were really born to do"?
- 6. How did Aarti's relationship with her father evolve over the course of their story? In what ways did the tragedy he experienced actually increase their understanding of one another?
- 7. Why do you think Aarti became a journalist? How does her work as a journalist inform the way she shared her family's story?
- 8. Aarti comes to question if the U.S. is her home, and her father's home. What would you say makes your country your home?

HERE WE ARE IS A HEART-WRENCHING MEMOIR ABOUT AN IMMIGRANT FAMILY'S AMERICAN DREAM, THE JUSTICE SYSTEM THAT TOOK IT AWAY, AND THE DAUGHTER WHO FOUGHT TO GET IT BACK, FROM NPR CORRESPONDENT AARTI NAMDEV SHAHANI.