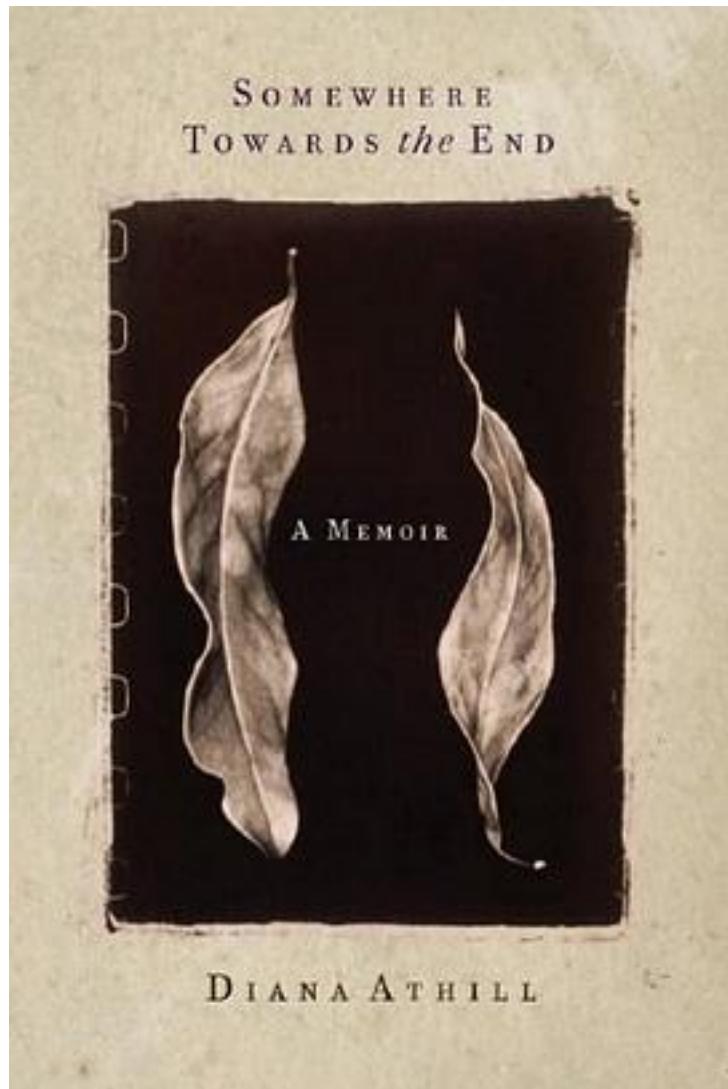


# Somewhere Towards the End



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著者:Diana Athill

出版者:Granta Books

出版时间:2008

装帧:Hardcover

isbn:9781862079847

Diana Athill will be ninety in December, 2007. "Somewhere Towards the End" tells the story of what it means to be old: how the pleasure of sex ebbs, how the joy of gardening grows, how much there is to remember, to forget, to regret, to forgive - and how one faces the inevitable fact of death. Athill has lost none of her skill or candour as a writer, her love of the intimate detail. Her book is filled with stories, events and people, and the kind of honest, intelligent reflection that has been a hallmark of her writing throughout her long career. 'We rarely did anything together except make ourselves a pleasant little supper and go to bed, because we had very little in common apart from liking sex,' she writes of her last affair, when she was in her late sixties. 'We also shared painful feet, which was almost as important as liking sex, because when you start feeling your age it is comforting to be with someone in the same condition.' Diana's previous books are: "Instead of a Letter", "After a Funeral", and "Stet", her much praised memoir of her life as a book editor (many said the best in London) with Andre Deutsch. She describes her books as 'documentaries' and her early work prefigured the modern taste for memoir. As she writes in "Somewhere Towards the End", 'I believed, and still believe, that there is no point describing experience unless one tries to get it as near to what it really was as you can make it, but that belief does come into conflict with a central teaching of my upbringing: do not think yourself important.'

作者介绍:

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## 评论

作为子女，和终要走向衰老死亡的人们，都应该读这本书。它让我考虑死亡和衰老的问题。使我决心花更多的时间与老人在一起。希望还不算太晚。

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《译林》10年增刊夏季卷 《暮色将尽》 /2008

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## 书评

有人说过，如果你没有经历过，就无权评价。我想，对于人生，情欲这个命题，Diana Athill虽然还差一个死亡，但也是最接近于评价的人啦。

现年91岁，用她的话讲，在一个没有明天的日子里，细细咀嚼的过去。

有的人是觉得她在做她的卧房展示，有的人羡慕她在情欲方面的自我存在...

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