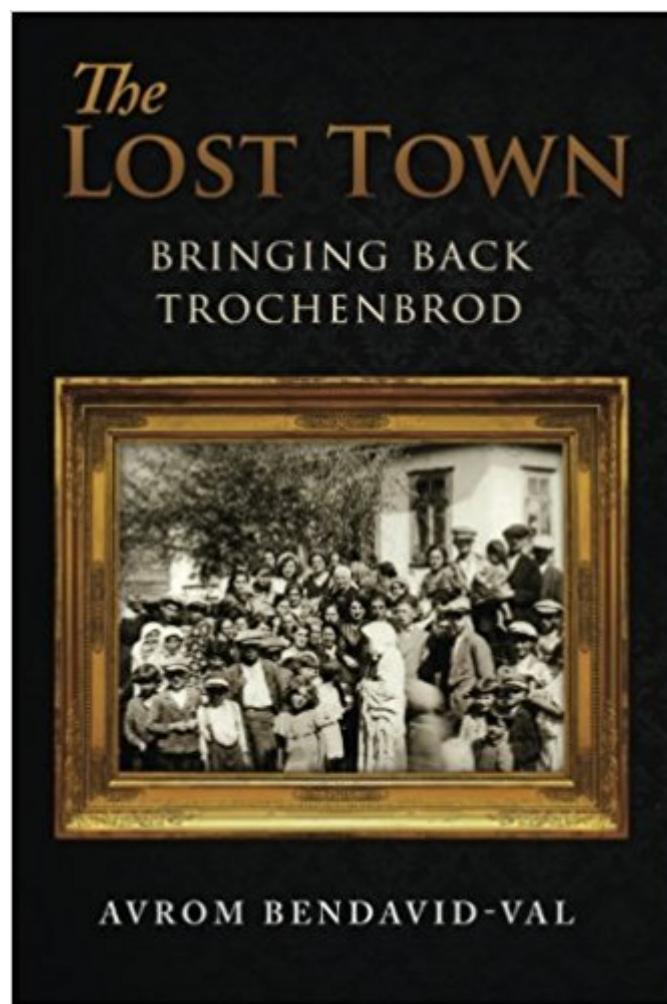


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# The Lost Town: Bringing Back Trochenbrod



## **Synopsis**

Trochenbrod was a bustling commercial center of more than 5,000 people, all Jews, hidden deep in the forest in Northwest Ukraine. It thrived as a tiny Jewish kingdom unnoticed and unknown to most people, even though it was *the* big city • for surrounding Ukrainian and Polish villages. The people of Trochenbrod vanished in the Holocaust, and soon nothing remained of this vibrant 130-year-old town but a mysterious double row of trees and bushes in a clearing in the forest. In this new book, Avrom Bendavid-Val makes Trochenbrod's true story accessible, enjoyable, and memorable for young readers. The Lost Town follows his adventures while uncovering the lost history of the magical place where his father was born and raised. An imagined Trochenbrod was the setting for Jonathan Safran Foer's novel, *Everything is Illuminated*, and the movie by the same name.

## **Book Information**

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Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 stars 21 customer reviews

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## **Customer Reviews**

Avrom Bendavid-Val was working as an environmental consultant in Poland in 1997 when he decided to cross the Ukrainian border and visit the place his father came from, the town of Trochenbrod. Finding nothing there, he was determined to uncover the history and spirit of the vanished town. Avrom continues to this day to research, write and make films about the town, and serve as the anchor for the American community of Trochenbrod descendants. Avrom Bendavid-Val lives in Washington, D.C.

Book certainly brought forth the horrors of the Holocaust! I really liked how the author put himself

into the creation of this book from the history of when the borough acquired it's name, the townspeople's reaction to government mandates like wanting their sons as conscripts, the simple things such as how they celebrated their life during that turbulent time and the description of the eventual murders of more than 6,000 souls when the Nazis invaded (only a mere 33 escaping). Photos provided were doubly appreciated, a superb read overall and leave you with one final chilling passage to always remember it by, 'My father yelled, "Run, run, run, don't stop," and we jumped over dead and dying people we knew, our own flesh and blood, while we ran to save our lives..."

I never would have thought the Russians would have been as mean to the Jews as the Germans. I didn't know about this lost town it was started in the late 1700's. The first baby was born in the 1800's. A lot of history and a lot of history unfortunately was lost. The mass murders of these poor Jewish families. I gave the memoirs a 5 star so much work went into this and he was able to find a few towns people to give their accounts. Excellent but very sad read

I wish to thank the author for keeping Trochenbrod alive. I felt the joy and pain of the inhabitants of this once thriving community.

This is a deeply emotional book for me to write about. What an amazing story of an all Jewish town! Read this book. You will not regret it. I can't recount it without crying, so I'll leave it at that. I feel a connection to my Ukrainian Jewish ancestors, even though they did not come from this town.

An interesting book, and a lot of work went into the research.

over detailed for me. others may like that about it.

Little known history brought to life!

Author Bendavid-Val has done a splendid job of bringing back to life in words and photos the town of Trochenbrod and sharing it with the world. It is their happiness and joy in life that will linger in my mind, rather than the inhuman tragedy that befell them in the Holocaust.

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