



Included in this Press Kit:

- [Book Description](#)
- [Praise for the Book](#)
- [Author Biography](#)
- [Additional Information](#)

Beneath Blossom Rain

Discovering Bhutan on the Toughest Trek in the World

Kevin Grange

April 2011

376 pp. 36 illustrations, 1 map

\$19.95 hardcover

978-0-8032-3433-8

\$23.95 Canadian/£13.99 UK

Book Synopsis:

In 2007 Kevin Grange decided to acquaint himself with the country of Bhutan by taking on this infamous trail, the Snowman Trek. He was thirty-three, at a turning point in life, and figured the best way to go at a crossroad was up. Against a backdrop of Buddhist monasteries and soaring mountains, Grange ventured beyond the mapped world to visit time-lost villages and sacred valleys. In the process, recounted here with a blend of laugh-out-loud humor, heartfelt insight, and acute observation, he tested the limits of physical endurance, met a fascinating assortment of characters, and discovered truths about faith, hope, and the shrouded secret of blossom rain.

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Watch the *Beneath Blossom Rain* book trailer on [YouTube!](#)

Book Description

In a remote kingdom hidden in the Himalayas, there is a trail said to be the toughest trek in the world—twenty-four days, 216 miles, eleven mountain passes, and enough ghost stories to scare an exorcist.

In 2007 Kevin Grange decided to acquaint himself with the country of Bhutan by taking on this infamous trail, the Snowman Trek. He was thirty-three, at a turning point in life, and figured the best way to go at a crossroad was up. Against a backdrop of Buddhist monasteries and soaring mountains, Grange ventured beyond the mapped world to visit time-lost villages and sacred valleys. In the process, recounted here with a blend of laugh-out-loud humor, heartfelt insight, and acute observation, he tested the limits of physical endurance, met a fascinating assortment of characters, and discovered truths about faith, hope, and the shrouded secret of blossom rain.

Beneath Blossom Rain, Grange's account of his journey, packs an adventure story, a romantic twist, and a celebration of group travel into a single entertaining book. The result is the ultimate journey for any traveler, armchair or otherwise. Along with high adventure, it delivers an engaging look at Bhutan—a country that governs by a policy of Gross National Happiness and that many regard as the last Shangri-La.

Pre-Publication Praise

“A powerfully descriptive account of what it takes to survive the world’s toughest hike. With each page and each step, Kevin Grange had me clinging to his backpack on this epic search for adventure and meaning.”
—Mike Leonard, author of *The Ride of Our Lives* and *nbc Today Show* correspondent

“Following Grange through the high Himalayas is a pleasure page by page. *Beneath Blossom Rain* has left me longing to stand at the top of the world.”—Tony D’Souza, travel writer and author of *Whiteman*

“Kevin Grange’s dramatic journey across Bhutan’s treacherous, mystical landscape is an enthralling adventure in the art of living questions rather than seeking answers.”—Randy Sue Coburn, author of *A Better View of Paradise*

Post-Publication Praise

Please visit this book’s [web page](http://www.nebraskapress.unl.edu/product/Beneath-Blossom-Rain,674765.aspx) (<http://www.nebraskapress.unl.edu/product/Beneath-Blossom-Rain,674765.aspx>) for the most current post-publication praise.

Author Biography



Kevin Grange is an award-winning freelance writer who has written for *Backpacker Magazine*, *National Parks Magazine*, and the *Orange County Register*, among others. He has been to Bhutan four times and has completed the Snowman Trek three times, including twice as a guide. A native of New Hampshire, he currently lives in California.

Photo by Jeri Koegel

Additional Information

Events

For an up-to-date listing of author appearances, visit the Author Events and Book Signings page on the UNP website at: <http://www.nebraskapress.unl.edu/Catalog/ProductEvents.aspx?SearchOnLoad=true>

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Book Web Page

Visit this book's web page at:

<http://www.nebraskapress.unl.edu/product/Beneath-Blossom-Rain,674765.aspx>

Author Website

Visit Kevin Grange's website at: <http://www.kevingrange.com>

Book Trailer

Watch the *Beneath Blossom Rain* book trailer on YouTube:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IGMD71fcwIA>

Author Facebook Page

<http://en-gb.connect.facebook.com/pages/Beneath-Blossom-Rain-Discovering-Bhutan-on-the-Toughest-Trek-in-the-World/164936170208101>

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