

A TRAVEL MEMOIR BY BASHO

# Trials & Tea Ceremonies

*Misadventures in Far Away Places*

*“A love story disguised as a travel memoir. Or perhaps, the other way around.”*

WORDS BY BASHO (JAMES BELL) · PHOTOGRAPHY BY CESCA

Staring down thirty-something complacency, Cesca and I quit our jobs and set off for a year across twelve countries — testing not just the world, but us. Beneath the journey runs the real thread: a marriage, laid raw on the road and healing in unexpected ways. Relentlessly honest, unflinchingly funny, and quietly profound.

## INSIDE THE BOOK

- ◆ Popping the backpacker bubble — third-class trains in Mumbai and connections that smell of chai and chaos, not Instagram filters.
- ◆ A comedy of errors — spitting alpacas, food poisoning in Goa, and a perpetual dance with giant spiders.
- ◆ Pilgrimage into music — from the grind of school > job > promotion to Zen gardens in Kyoto and Daoist climbs in China.
- ◆ The ultimate relationship test — Varanasi’s rivers and Tokyo’s neon, two rucksacks, and love that thrives on resilience, not comfort.

## PRAISE

*“An engaging and compelling travelogue.”*

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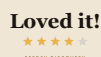
*“This book reminded me why we travel: not for the postcard moments, but for the mishaps and revelations along the way.”*

ALASTAIR HUMPHREYS · ADVENTURER & AUTHOR

*“Loved it! A reflective travel memoir that looks beyond destinations... left me with a renewed sense of curiosity and wanderlust.”*

RACHEL SHARP · REEDSY DISCOVERY (4★)

COMPARABLE TO WILD · EAT PRAY LOVE · NOTES FROM A SMALL ISLAND



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