



Living Beneath the Radar; A Nine Year Journey Around the World

Jeffrey R. Crimmel

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This is the story of a young man who had a desire to travel and see the world. This nine-year journey gave him the opportunity to see our planet with different cultures and religions. The experience changed how he sees the world forever. Journey with the author and see what the world was like from 1970 to 1979.

During the journey the author helped to start trade between two countries that did not get along with each other. He visited a farmhouse in Italy where he lived in a previous life. He and another man where the first to surf in India. He crossed paths with Hindu holy men in the Himalayan Mountains and a Tibetan Nun who just finished a retreat sealed in a cave for six years. He was assisted by Muhammad Ali while crossing the border from Thailand into Malaysia.

Why have you never heard of these feats before or even the name of the author? It is because he chose to do it all while "Living Beneath the Radar."

Living Beneath the Radar; A Nine Year Journey Around the World Details

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Author : Jeffrey R. Crimmel

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From Reader Review Living Beneath the Radar; A Nine Year Journey Around the World for online ebook

Pamela Barrett says

Jeffrey Crimmel's book is somewhere between a travel guide and a memoir—full of interesting tidbits, reflections on times past, and places on the cusp of change. His nine year odyssey starts in Southern California in the 1970's and visits many exotic locations around the world. It is a book about coming of age as a world citizen: an emersion into different lifestyles, Eastern Religion, trade, and the impact a person has when interacting with other cultures. Some of the things he experienced in these far away countries can never be duplicated because of wars, border changes, and the modernization of these regions.

Even though I was told that this version of the book needed editing, I found the stories fascinating and he brought back memories of my own life in the 1970's living under the radar. I can't wait for the rewrite.

Caitlin says

Let me start by thanking the author for the signed and personalized copy I received through Goodreads Giveaways. Mr. Crimmel has an amazing story to tell, one that greatly piqued my interest just from reading the description. His book takes the reader all over the world, giving one a unique glance at life and culture in countries that are now ravaged by war and violence. In this sense, I give the book an A+. Really, the experiences of the author are quite profound, and very telling. For this reason, this is a book that is well worth the read.

My complaints: It is in definite need of an editor (or at least, a different editor). There are a large number of glaring errors that distracted me from the story, leaving me wondering how many people read this before it went to print. I would imagine that this would be the case for many readers. Luckily, an easily solved problem! The other complaint I have is the lack of in-depth description in some areas of the book. Granted, it's been 30-40 years since the author experienced these adventures. But, it seemed in some places that the author would essentially hype up a certain city or culture, and then rather abruptly move on (which left me flustered, confused, and wanting more explanation). This one may be a little more difficult to address...

However, on the whole, this is an enjoyable (and surprisingly educational!) read. Thank you, Mr. Crimmel, for sharing your adventures with us!

Bridget Ball says

This is a book about a man's 9 year journey around the world in the 1970's. This is the perfect book for open-minded or adventure seeking readers that are interested in other countries, cultures, and lifestyles. His story is not only the journey of the body but of the mind as well. This book has short chapters from the author's perspective that feels like he is talking directly to you. I recommend reading it with a cup of tea (or chai) and playing Tangerine Dream on your mp3 player. You will be transformed back into time seeing through the eyes of Crimmel and his once-in-a-lifetime adventure.

Lacey says

This is a self-published book that acts as the poster child for everything wrong with self-published books. The story is fascinating, but the book needed an army of editors to make it grammatically comprehensible and another army of ghost writers to make it enjoyable and make the narrator not sound like a pompous blowhard. The first page, where the foreword is proudly called the "Forward" may look like a simple typo, but it seems to me it actually serves as a warning - almost every single page has some sort of grammatical error somewhere in it, and some of them took five or more rereads to even understand what was being said.

And then there were the "I invented everything" passages. According to this guy he singlehandedly:

- created the international trade between Greece and Turkey.
- introduced surfing to India.
- caused the Taliban to be created by eating some Afghan food that didn't agree with him and sitting next to a guy in a black turban on a bus.

Of course, it's all couched in "maybe I did, maybe I didn't" type language, but it's still very clear that in his mind, he is the one and only reason that the Taliban exists. I spent the entire book wishing he would just get over himself. He's not the first person to spend years traveling the world, and he's far from the last, but according to his book you'd think he was the only person in history to ever leave his hometown.

Candice says

I think I found my new hero!!

It's hard to believe that one person could experience so many different random things.

I hope when I die, or retire, I can say that I've done something even remotely close to one of Jeff's many adventures. I've always wanted to travel and reading this book just makes my desire to travel stronger. to be continued.....

Dalton Blue says

Although the story of the author's various travels was highly interesting, the prose used to describe them was underwhelming.

Sabrina Rutter says

My first thought after closing this book for the last time was that this book could easily be called Living Beneath and All Over the Radar. I recently discovered how much I enjoy travel memoirs so I was very

excited when I received my copy of Living Beneath the Radar. I would have definitely given this book a five star review had it not been for all of the errors in the writing. I normally don't say anything about the writing, but there was so, so many words used in the wrong context throughout the whole book (on almost every page actually). It's a good thing Crimmel knows how to tell the story about his travels so well!

Crimmel makes some very good points in his book about respecting other cultures even though you might not understand them. I really liked his openness toward others, and the fact that he's not afraid to share his honest opinion. He really brought to light for me how narrow minded a lot of us Americans can be.

I read a lot of memoirs about people from the UK and never really understood what they meant when they say they are taking tests to see if they can go on to high school and that if they don't pass then they will then go into some sort of trade school. I now know thanks to Crimmel that when a student does not make good enough grades they will be sent to a trade school to learn a trade so that they can have a promising future. I agree 100% with Crimmel that the US should definitely have the same system in place. I know so many people who's lives would be completely different if our education system taught each of us who didn't graduate a trade.

Crimmel is one very lucky guy to have experienced all that he has and I'm really glad that he wrote this memoir of his travels! Some of it made me laugh, and some of it made me wonder! I definitely recommend this book to anyone who likes to read about traveling and other cultures.

Stuart says

No, it is not grammatically perfect, and Mr. Crimmel happily shares his social and political views, but isn't it amazing how travel can bring us together? His description of the people and land that he traveled gives me the feeling that I was with him. He saw parts of the world that I will never be able to visit...parts of the world that are forever changed since his journey. I am thankful to have read what it was like when times weren't quite so crazy there. This is an interesting, easy, and worthwhile read.

Soraya says

The author uses a beautiful language that transmits perfectly, in many cases, his emotions. It's a very interesting story of learning to accept and respect other cultures, religions and races. It's a great example of tolerance.

It's a beautiful journey around the world and the discovery of meditation as a key ingredient to the daily life of Crimmel.

I was a little amazed at how many typos and errors I found from beginning to end. I wonder how many people actually read the book before it was published. I have to admit that it bothered me a lot, but as I continued reading, the story wrapped me and that kept me going.

Tcrimmel says

Good, interesting. It could serve as a background for a great fiction novel. Pleanty of foreign exposure to develop intrigue and interest.

Jeffrey Crimmel says

"What I enjoyed most about the book is your willingness to try and relate to the people and the culture's that you visited. You didn't do it as an American onlooker trying to judge, but as a willing participant. While I don't think you created the Taliban, you did help define those "Stinking American's". Your journey was one of "going with the flow" and never judging differences to be deficiencies. You always understood that being open to your surroundings enabled the people you met to be themselves and not the stereotypes that are often established by our media. I know you will fit well with the El Dorado Ranch community."

Robert Winters

El Dorado Ranch

Baja Mexico

Hello Jeff, I just finished reading Living Beneath the Radar and loved it! Your story was a window to a world I will never know but wish I could. I cried when I read of Pavitra's early death she must have been an amazing woman and I would have liked to of met her. Reading the Epilogue brought us full circle to the man ...you must be today. Your timing for this book is perfect. It scares me when I hear people say, "I want my country back; close our borders" I'm not exactly sure what folks mean when they say that but I do know it is motivated by fear and some ignorance and I pray that what seems to be so somewhat of a "movement" in that regard will lose steam very soon. Maybe your book will help.

Sonia Hinshaw April 2010

You stated in your book that it "...is for those who have experienced life differently..." and it certainly is. You lived a lifetime of experiences during your nine-year journey through many different countries. It is clear that your open heart and love of commerce lead you to meet interesting people, to see and understand parts of this world that few have glimpsed, and brought into your life many synchronistic encounters. I'm so glad I got an opportunity to read this and to feel like I know you so much better. Now I understand why you were always trying to trade your jeans while we were in Peru! Thanks for sharing your stories.

Jeanice Cady
May 2010

"This is a life experience I have only been able to dream of... Jeff had the guts to do it. It is a "pass it on" book ... of course it is of greater benefit to Jeff if you purchase it. I will re-read this book. Jeff, thanks so much for making me aware of it and for personalizing the hard copy I purchased from you."

Glenn Gutridge July 2010

5.0 out of 5 stars A fascinating read..., July 16, 2010

By Dave, UK - See all my reviews

This review is from: Living Beneath the Radar: A Nine-Year Journey Around the World (Paperback)

Back in the early seventies, on the Hippy Trail East, me and my friend actually crossed paths with this guy. We met him in Athens, Greece and spent a few days together on the island of Mykonos. We eagerly listened to his tales of adventure on the trail to India and beyond and he gave us many useful tips on places to stay and sights to see...

Now this book tells the whole story of his travels, in a world that seemed much bigger then...no mobile phones or internet to get in the way of adventure travelling, maybe just a letter or two waiting for you in the Poste Restante of the next big town ...if you were lucky!

If you like to read about the wonders and pleasure of travel in Europe, Asia and the Far East in the era before mass communication made everything 'easier' then I highly recommend this book.

Dave, UK July 16, 2010

Living Beneath the Radar, a young mans travel journey dishes more than local color and scenery to the reader. I found it a fascinating geographical human map that, although I consider myself with little sense of direction, I could easily follow from one locale to another. To my amazement I could actually see myself trekking along in the author's shadow at times.

An added bonus in this book is the historical significance that becomes apparent upon its conclusion. The fact that the author is looking back thirty odd years and chronologically recalling places and events in a manner that is clear and concise is evident in his story telling.

I especially enjoyed (with a bit of envy) the tale of the friend searching for ancient Roman coins and against all odds actually finding one that he would treasure for a lifetime. I could just place myself there at the moment of discovery and the joy he must have felt.

There are many such interesting and amazing tales in this book and I highly recommend it to anyone who enjoys not only travel but tales of adventure and mishap, too. I especially think historical buffs will enjoy the read with the wealth of information provided on trade and customs in the various countries portrayed.

Finally, I appreciated very much the author's handling of religion and religious beliefs in this story. In a word he essentially showed ~ respect. He drew no conclusions but led the reader to make their own conclusions. The journey ended like it began, a young man still looking for his niche in life.

Pamela Hogue
July 31, 2010

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful:

5.0 out of 5 stars Fascinating True Questing, August 20, 2010

By Peter F. Stickney "SharePrayer" (Santa Rosa, CA United States) - See all my reviews
(REAL NAME)

This review is from: Living Beneath the Radar: A Nine-Year Journey Around the World (Paperback)
A fascinating view into the world of the 70's from an individual with the guts to follow his heart and move out into the larger world on what I would call a quest for understanding life on earth. He seems to move from place to place following the direction of an inner guide that he may or may not recognize, but still he shows up for just the right experience for him, at the right time.

Telling his story with a grace and ease that comes with the ability to look back at himself without judgment, is very refreshing and compelling. I couldn't wait to get to the next part of the story that flows easily from episode to episode.

It definitely brought to my mind what I was doing during those years, which was similar in some respects, but all here in North America, as I searched for meaning from the spiritual smorgasbord present at that time. I highly recommend this book for everyone. It gives a glimpse into the larger world that we live in, and the possibilities that unfold when we follow our heart into the unknown.

Brad says

The bad: rather self-indulgent, and riddled with typos and minor grammatical errors. However, that was pretty much what I expected. Otherwise a fun book; filled with personal vignettes of the places and people, which was precisely what I was hoping for.

Timothy James Dean says

Back in tumultuous 1970, **Jeffrey Crimmel** steered away from the career rodent race his friends were jumping onto. Instead, he left his home in California, bound for Europe. He had no idea that he would spend the next nine years wandering the continent, going on to the exotic Middle and Far East, and eventually, Australia. Or that, along the way, he would end up married, with children.

His journey was more whimsy than order, more fortuitous connection and a willingness to leap to the next experience, than any travel plan.

Eventually, just in time for the 80's, he returned to the USA, enjoyed a full career as a teacher, and found himself approaching retirement. At last the time was ripe to dig out his dusty journals, and record those historic global encounters from the 1970's. At first, this was simply to satisfy his two daughters, who wanted to know the full story of how he met their mother in India.

But the result grew into a book: "**Living Beneath the RADAR - A Nine-Year Journey Around the World.**"

I am the founder of **Worlders International**, a support group for those like me who have been moving from one country to another since we were born. As such, I have a special interest in travel books.

I especially like those that are not your typical travel guide (although those have their place). I enjoy a good armchair journey through an individual's idiosyncratic adventures (or often, misadventures). Jeffrey Crimmel's work is in this tradition - an honorable one, blazed by the likes of **Eric Newby** in his famous "*A Short Walk in the Hindu Kush.*"

Much in this manner, Jeffrey Crimmel's "Radar" is presented in a strong, first-person, conversational voice. You can almost hear the author telling you each of his yarns. He has a sharp eye, and presents his stories with insight and humor (often at his own expense).

From taking credit for starting trade relations between those traditional enemies, Turkey and Greece, to an unfortunate case of diarrhea that may have begun the Taliban's hatred of the West, to introducing surfing in India, or building a home in the wilds of Australia, Mr. Crimmel has a rich storehouse to draw from.

In various of my own world travels, including my years an American school in India, my path crisscrossed Jeffrey's. While we did not meet, I can tell you that his observations about India, Nepal, and Australia, have the ring of truth.

If you'd like to go traveling in a more innocent era - back in time when no one searched your luggage, you kept your shoes on while boarding a plane, and the world's roads were populated by idealistic youths with smiles on their faces and a pack on their backs - then "**Living Beneath the RADAR**" is for you!

Timothy James Dean, author of **TEETH - The Epic Novel With Bite**

<http://amzn.com/0982539800>

Worlders - A Tribe of Wanderers

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/WORLDER...>

Lorri says

This was my first free book since joining this site. I was so excited when it arrived in the mail. When I started reading the opening chapter, it was like the author was having a conversation with me! Jeffrey definitely had an interesting early adulthood and this was a great way for him to share it with others. Sometimes the writing did not flow smoothly, but I suppose this could be just the comfortable way he chose to tell it and keep it like a conversation.

Suzanne says

Being married to the author has allowed me to hear most of the adventure stories that are included in the book. Jeff, when writing the book after 30 years, read many of the passages to me in order to make the reading flow and become more interesting. I am an avid reader so I guess he wanted my input.

The book is about Jeff's Nine years of traveling around the world and the stories are told with humor and insight. The reader will learn a lot about the places he visited as well as the adventures he encountered while in these different cultures and countries. Read it and you will not be disappointed and you will have learned a lot about the people of that part of the world through the eyes of Jeff.
