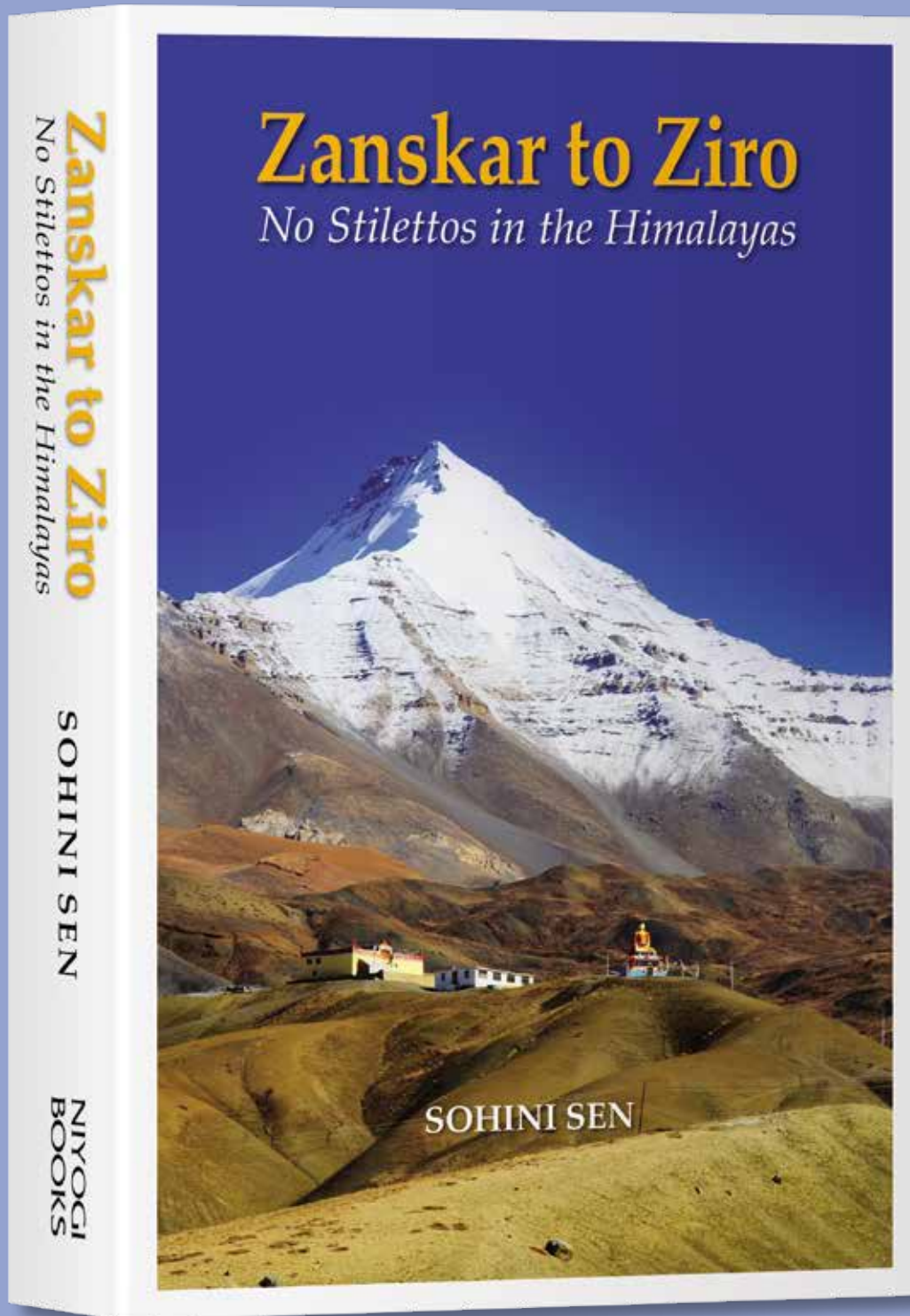


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Zanskar to Ziro

No Stilettoes in the Himalayas

by
Sohini Sen

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Z*anskar to Ziro: No Stilettoes in the Himalayas* is a travelogue about two women's decade-long love affair with the Himalayas. Their 10,000-kilometre trail stretched from the remote Zanskar Valley in Ladakh through Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Nepal, Sikkim, Bengal and Bhutan to Ziro in Arunachal Pradesh.

It is the 'female gaze' that sets this book apart, since it also narrates how women cope with 'being woman' in an unfamiliar land. The two ladies have had an eye for the aesthetic and the curious, a heart for the exotic, and an ear for the local lore, or even a recipe.

Zanskar to Ziro: No Stilettoes in the Himalayas emerges thus as an infusion of luxuriant landscapes and rich history, a successful evocation of a sense of place. The book is further enriched by echoes and allusions from all that the ladies have read, and high-quality visuals.

The acceptance that comes from having lived half of one's life has allowed the travellers to wade across difficulties with a sense of humour—often self-deprecating—that twinkles through the book.

Firsthand experience, vivid descriptions, high quality photographs, arresting narrative and scintillating wit are the highlights of the book.

The reader practically travels with the author to places not found on the regular tourist map and experiences the glory of the Himalayas and the genteel, cultured way of life of the hill folk.

The travelogue about two women's decade-long love affair with one of the youngest mountain ranges in the world: the Himalayas.



Once a successful journalist with *The Telegraph*, Sohini Sen is now a full-time travel writer and photographer. Sen's other books are *The Talking Table and Other Stories*, a book of short

stories for children, *Yatra Pathe Rabi*, a collection of travel photographs taken by her matched with Nobel Laureate Rabindranath Tagore's autograph-poems, and *Ladakh: A Photo Travelogue* (published by Niyogi Books), a tale told through high-resolution colour photographs laid out in a comic-strip format.

