

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910818673003321
Autore	Armbrecht Ann <1962->
Titolo	Thin places : a pilgrimage home // Ann Armbrecht
Pubbl/distr/stampa	New York, : Columbia University Press, c2009
ISBN	1-282-79644-5 9786612796449 0-231-51829-3
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (293 p.)
Disciplina	305.89549
Soggetti	Yamphu (Nepalese people) - Nepal - Hedanga - Social life and customs Women anthropologists - United States Women anthropologists - Nepal - Hedanga Hedanga (Nepal) Social life and customs
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Description based upon print version of record.
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references (p. [273]-274).
Nota di contenuto	Growing rice -- Seeds -- Conserving the land -- The books -- The black box -- The Barun Festival -- The bamboo bridge -- Stories as boundaries -- Gold earrings -- Thin places -- The sacred spring -- Kelekpa the shaman -- Mapping power -- Lost souls -- Leaving -- Baiseti Thuma -- A far-off place -- Absence -- Manguhang -- Birth -- Sage Mountain -- Sacred stories -- Listening -- The healing stone -- The black bag -- Voices in the land -- The waterfall -- Bare feet on wet earth.
Sommario/riassunto	Thin Places is an eloquent meditation on what it means to move between cultures and how one might finally come home, a particular paradox in a culture that lacks deep ties to the natural world. During the 1990's, Ann Armbrecht, an American anthropologist, made several trips to northeastern Nepal to research how the Yamphu Rai acquired, farmed, and held onto their land; how they perceived their area's recent designation as a national park and conservation area; and whether as she believed they held a wisdom about living on the earth that the industrialized West had forgotten. What Armbrecht found instead were men and women who shared her restlessness, people also driven by the feeling that there must be more to life than they could find in their

village. "We each blamed our dissatisfaction on something in the world," she writes, "not something in ourselves or in the stories we told ourselves about that world. If only we lived elsewhere, then we would be at home." Charting Armbrecht's travels in the mountains of Nepal and in the United States and her disintegrating marriage back home, *Thin Places* is ultimately an exploration not of the sacred far-off but of the sacredness of places that are between the internal and external landscape, the self and others, and the self and the land. She finds that home is not a place where we arrive but a way of being in place, wherever that place may be. Along the way, Armbrecht explores the disconnections in our most intimate relationships, how they stem from the same disconnections that create our destruction of the land, and how one cannot be healed without attending to the other.
