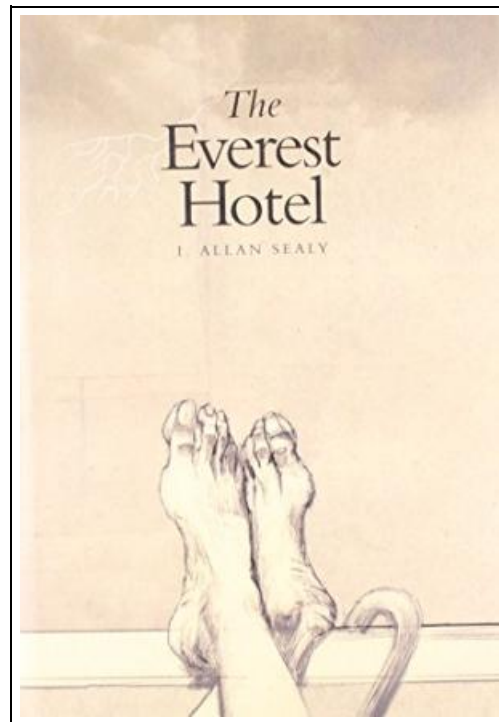


## The Everest Hotel: A Calendar



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## THE EVEREST HOTEL: A CALENDAR



Indialnk/Roli Books, New Delhi, India. Hardcover. Book Condition: New. Dust Jacket Condition: New. In the small town of Drummondganj, under the shadow of the Himalayas, stands the Everest, once an exclusive hotel now a home for the unwanted run by a small community of nuns. The owner, Jed, sometime mountaineer and flower-hunter, ninety but still smouldering, lives on the roof from where he looks out across the cemetery at his beloved snows. Obsessed with writing the Drummondganj Book of the Dead, he sees no visitors except his neighbour and disciple, the footloose bodybuilder Brij. The arrival of Ritu, a young botanizing nun assigned to look after Jed, skews matters both on the roof and in the garden where Thapa, a retired Gurkha soldier, is mali and chowkidar. But it is the entry of another newcomer, Inge, a German neo-Nazi in search of her uncle's grave that strains the equilibrium of life at the Everest. One night, the balance tips when Thaps's razor-sharp kukri disappears from its nail on the wall. Set against a backdrop of social and political unease and measured by the rhythmical changes of the seasons, The Everest Hotel is a rich, evocative and compelling read. In prose at once lyrical and wry, Allan Sealy has created a haunting array of characters whose lives and milieu will fascinate and enchant. Printed Pages: 333.

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