A VILLAGE WALK

BLESSINGS



ISBN 978-616-631-466-3



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ISBN: 978-616-631-466-3
© 2026 William Snyder

Published by:
William Snyder
Ban Kan Throm
Thailand

Printed by:
Lightning Source, LLC

oscarslamp.com

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This morning, I stepped out for another simple walk through the village. Camera slung over my shoulder. Nothing planned.

A few minutes into the walk I heard a concentration of voices up ahead – chanting, laughter, the unmistakable hum of people gathering. As I approached the house I realized a family was holding an annual ceremony to honor a loved one who had passed. Monks were assembled and neighbors were still arriving, quietly joining in.

Although it was already nearing its end, I moved carefully yet quickly into and through the yard, documenting the experience.

I was offered food and stayed a while longer. Just after the monks departed, a truck arrived carrying a brand new farm tractor. Within minutes a shrine was being prepared to bless the machine. The gathering quickly shifted into another ceremony.

Children ran through the yard. Dogs lay in the shade. Conversations floated through the air. And just a few feet away a herdsman tended to a cow being bred.

Then voices rose sharply, chants echoed, and prayers were offered as the tractor sat on a mat before them.

These pages offer a candid peek into a moment of daily village life. Ordinary and extraordinary often fold together into one here ... if you're paying attention.

For the people here in these small border villages, this is simply another day lived together as a community.










ด้วยรักและอาลัย
คุณแม่สอน




Kubota
L5228
คูโบต้าเจริญชัย



Beer, water, and soda given as offerings to the spirits are brought to the ceremony by the tractor dealership.




Kubota
Chang
Chang
LEO


Kubota




Synchro
LS228
LEO
LEO


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Previous: A highly respected phram from the temple is tying a string (sai sin) blessed by the monks to the post next to where the cow is being bred to bring success and good luck.









Thank you to my friends and neighbors for graciously allowing me to blend in like family. And thank you, dear reader, for sharing this walk with me. I hope you enjoyed it.

All images were made with vintage lenses from the 1960s retrofitted to a modern professional camera, creating an intentional, unique, and authentic aesthetic.

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