



## In the Company of Bears

What Black Bears Have Taught Me about Intelligence and Intuition

Benjamin Kilham

Foreword by Temple Grandin

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“ **Ben Kilham’s work with black bears is more than just revealing, it’s revolutionary.** —**Sy Montgomery, author of *Walking with the Great Apes*** ”

Imagine raising an orphaned bear cub, carefully reintroducing her to the wild, then being welcomed back, almost daily, to observe her wild world for more than seventeen years. Imagine visiting her in her feeding spots, watching her with her mates and her young, peering into her den, and, over time, observing the lives of all the other wild bears in her territory and surrounding ones. That is what happened to Ben Kilham, whose long-term study of wild black bears has shattered conventional wisdom about how they live their lives.

*In the Company of Bears* unveils Kilham’s groundbreaking work. Like others, he once thought that black bears were solitary. But he discovered that they actually have extraordinary communication and interaction with each other—creating and enforcing codes of conduct, forming alliances, and even sharing territory and food when supplies are ample. After being shunned by the traditional scientific community, though, Kilham’s unique findings now interest bear researchers worldwide. His techniques even aid scientists working with pandas in China and bears in Russia.

*In the Company of Bears* (originally released in hardcover as *Out on a Limb*) is more than a story about bears. It’s the story of a scientist once kept from a traditional science career by his dyslexia, only to find that thinking and seeing differently was his greatest gift and his best tool to interpret the nonhuman world.



**Benjamin Kilham** has been researching and living with black bears for nearly twenty years. He has become an expert in black bear behavior, as well as in rehabilitating orphaned and injured bears and reintroducing them to the wild. He is invited to lecture all over the United States and internationally. His previous book is *Among the Bears: Raising Orphan Cubs in the Wild*. Kilham and his work with black bears have been featured in five internationally televised documentaries, including *National Geographic* and *Discovery Channel* features, and he has appeared on *The Today Show*, *Good Morning America*, *The David Letterman Show*, and various other programs, as well as NPR, and a host of nationally broadcast radio shows.

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