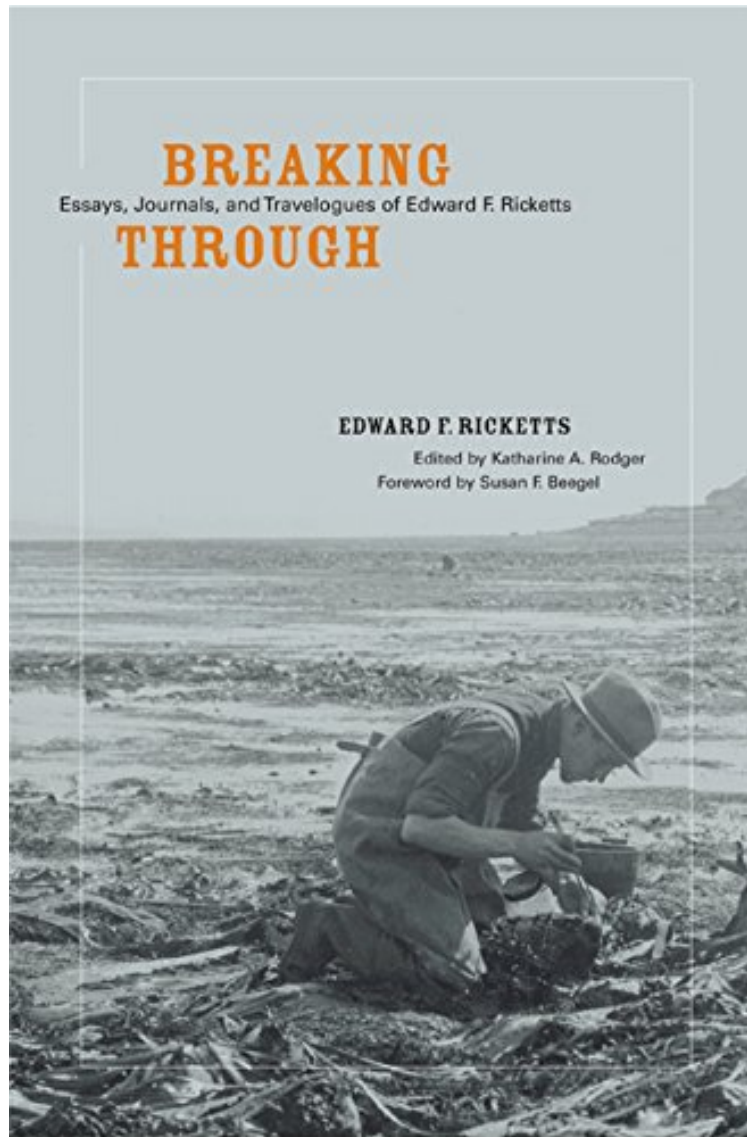


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Breaking Through: Essays, Journals, and Travelogues of Edward F. Ricketts

Edward F. Ricketts

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Edward F. Ricketts : Breaking Through: Essays, Journals, and Travelogues of Edward F. Ricketts before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Breaking Through: Essays, Journals, and Travelogues of Edward F. Ricketts:

20 of 20 people found the following review helpful. The "Real Doc" of Cannery Row By Larry R. Johnson As anyone

who ever became fascinated with "Doc" from John Steinbeck's Cannery Row knows, we have far too few real glimpses into who Ed Ricketts really was. Steinbeck never claimed to have given us the whole view of the man who was his best friend, mentor and "other self" in Cannery Row, nor in any other novel of his in which Ricketts manifests as Chinese housekeeper, ex preacher or country doctor during a labor strike. The closest we have come is *The Log From The Sea of Cortez*, but even here until one does some research do we begin to discover just how much of that wonderful book's voice is really Ed Ricketts. What can be found by reading Rickett's own words and comparing them to Steinbeck's word mastery is that in a book like the *Sea of Cortez*, Rickett's needed Steinbeck's writing skills and Steinbeck needed Ed's mentoring. Being able to read Ed Rickett's thoughts on Life and living is truly a treat for fans of "Doc." Yes, we do find a man who loves beer, women and parties in almost imortal proportions, but we also find a man of endless understanding and curiosity in science, art, poetry, music and, most of all, the tide pools found both off and on shore. We also find a man who, as Steinbeck describes in *Cannery*, has a deep sorrow from searching for something. Ed called it "breaking through" and he found it in certain works of art but always says.. "he almost made it through, but not quite and you can hear the sadness now." Of course he was talking about himself as much as the composer or writer he was referring to. People like Ed Ricketts are far too rare, as is the ability to study him in his own words. If you are drawn to Ricketts through literary or scientific reasons, this is a true resource to add to your library. If you are unfamiliar with Ricketts beyond *Cannery Row*, read this book and you will become almost haunted by this man. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Of course his writings can be somewhat torturous to read (Steinbeck usually put them into more easily understood and more beautiful words) By Dr. Bill Bushing Ed has always fascinated me both as a marine biologist and as one interested in his philosophy of life. Of course his writings can be somewhat torturous to read (Steinbeck usually put them into more easily understood and more beautiful words) 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Fascinating Window Into Marine Life By Anita Babita One can't go wrong with an Ed Ricketts book. Just knowing of him and his pioneering efforts toward establishing marine biology/conservation and the correlation with a balanced earth puts the reader miles ahead.

Trailblazing marine biologist, visionary conservationist, deep ecology philosopher, Edward F. Ricketts (1897-1948) has reached legendary status in the California mythos. A true polymath and a thinker ahead of his time, Ricketts was a scientist who worked in passionate collaboration with many of his friends—artists, writers, and influential intellectual figures—including, perhaps most famously, John Steinbeck, who once said that Ricketts's mind had no horizons. This unprecedented collection, featuring previously unpublished pieces as well as others available for the first time in their original form, reflects the wide scope of Ricketts's scientific, philosophical, and literary interests during the years he lived and worked on *Cannery Row* in Monterey, California. These writings, which together illuminate the evolution of Ricketts's unique, holistic approach to science, include Verbatim transcription of notes on the Gulf of California trip, the basic manuscript for Steinbeck's and Ricketts's *Log from the Sea of Cortez*; the essays *The Philosophy of Breaking Through* and *A Spiritual Morphology of Poetry*; several shorter pieces on topics including collecting invertebrates and the impact of modernization on Mexican village life; and more. An engaging critical biography and a number of rare photographs offer a new and richly detailed view of Ricketts's life.

"To have begun to know Ed Ricketts even a little - whether as the satyr-god of Cannery Row, pioneering ecologist and marine biologist, magical Steinbeck character, co-author of a classic 'voyage of discovery,' or legendary friend and mentor of the great - is to want to know more." - From the foreword by Susan F. Beegel, editor of *The Hemingway*

"This biography and collection is invaluable for those seeking to understand all about Ed Ricketts, not as Steinbeck's "Doc," but as the complex, visionary thinker and scientist that he was." - William F. Gilly, Hopkins Marine Station of Stanford University

"From the Inside Flap" "To have begun to know Ed Ricketts even a little—whether as the satyr-god of Cannery Row, pioneering ecologist and marine biologist, magical Steinbeck character, co-author of a classic 'voyage of discovery,' or legendary friend and mentor of the great—is to want to know more." From the foreword by Susan F. Beegel, editor of *The Hemingway*

"This biography and collection is invaluable for those seeking to understand all about Ed Ricketts, not as Steinbeck's "Doc," but as the complex, visionary thinker and scientist that he was. Rodger gives us Ricketts's seminal writings, some for the first time in print, that reveal his lifelong struggle to come to grips with the complexities of marine ecology at all levels. Today's researchers would do well to try and grasp his prescient, holistic ideas about the universal connections linking organisms, species, communities, and their environment." William F. Gilly, Hopkins Marine Station of Stanford University