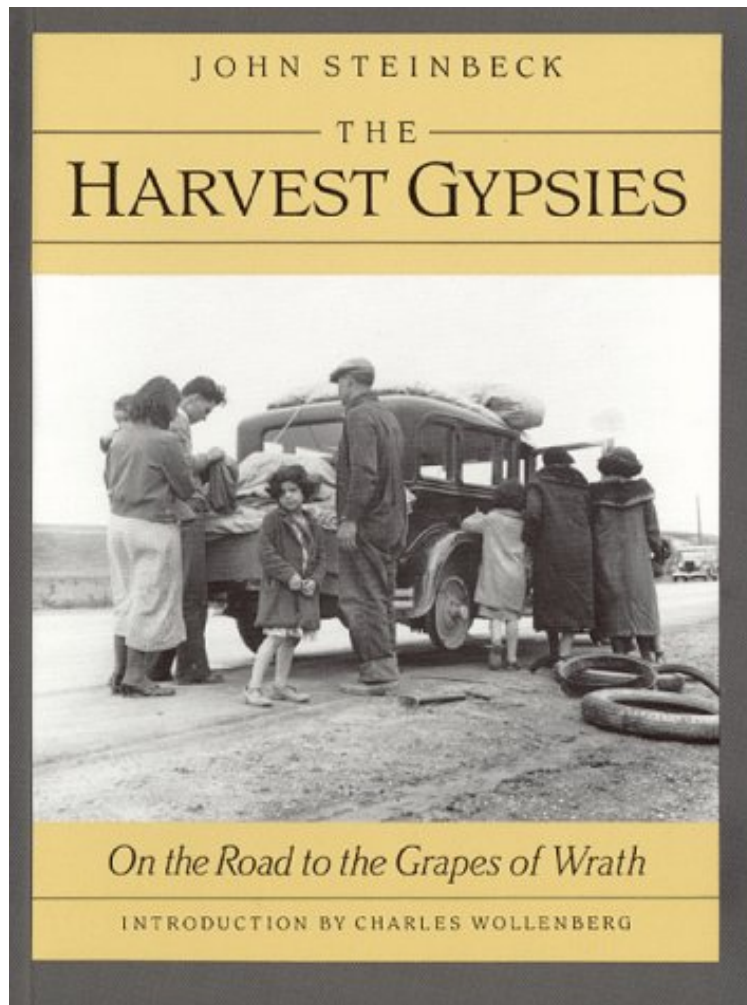


(Get free) The Harvest Gypsies: On the Road to the Grapes of Wrath

The Harvest Gypsies: On the Road to the Grapes of Wrath

John Steinbeck

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John Steinbeck : The Harvest Gypsies: On the Road to the Grapes of Wrath before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Harvest Gypsies: On the Road to the Grapes of Wrath:

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Steinbeck's news paper articles were published research for his Grape Of Wrath. By Bruce M. Kerner News paper articles by Steinbeck from his touring of migrant worker's camps doing research for The Grapes Of Wrath. Prime example of compelling, activist, journalism. Moving and well written. A nice piece of history told first hand. A portrait of the Workers Camps and the anglo agricultural workers in the central valley in the middle of our Great Depression. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Well worth a read. By Michael D. Markovitch A must if you have ever read The Grapes of Wrath. Steinbeck does a great job describing life for agricultural workers in 1930's California. 3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Steinbeck clearly makes it understandable how harsh life was for ... By melodious Steinbeck clearly makes it

understandable how harsh life was for the Okie migrant workers in California. There are lessons from this book that all American students, high school and college, should take into consideration when treating fellow Americans.

Recently listed in the Top 100 List of the Century's Best American Journalism Gathered in this important volume are seven newspaper articles on migrant farm workers that John Steinbeck wrote for "The San Francisco News" in 1936, three years before *The Grapes of Wrath*. With the inquisitiveness of an investigative reporter and the emotional power of a novelist in his prime, Steinbeck toured the squatters' camps and Hoovervilles of California. Here he found once strong, independent farmersthe backbone of rural Americaso reduced in dignity, beaten in spirit, sick, sullen, and defeated that they had been "cast down to a kind of subhumanity." He contrasts their misery with the hope offered by government resettlement camps, where self-help committees, child nurseries, quilting and sewing projects, and decent sanitation were restoring dignity and indeed saving lives. *The Harvest Gypsies* gives us an eyewitness account of the horrendous Dust Bowl migration, a major event in California history, and provides the factual foundation for Steinbeck's masterpiece, *The Grapes of Wrath*. Included are twenty-two photographs by Dorothea Lange and others, many of which accompanied Steinbeck's original articles.

From Publishers WeeklyIn 1936, a San Francisco newspaper commissioned Steinbeck to write a week-long series of articles about California's underclass of white migrant farm workers, who became the models and the inspiration for *The Grapes of Wrath*. Reprinted here, Steinbeck's observations of migrant families and of their exploitation by wealthy agriculturists have not lost their potency. And as Wollenberg, a history professor at Vista College, Berkeley, Calif., points out, the plight of the newly destitute and newly homeless has particular relevance today. Steinbeck's journalism shares the enduring quality of his famous novel (but critics of Steinbeck will beware; his heavy-handed style is only slightly less obtrusive here). Especially interesting are the final articles, which analyze the history of California's migrant populations and propose federal programs to alleviate their distress. Steinbeck's outrage leads to an emotional indictment of then-current farm management as "a system of terrorism that would be unusual in the Fascist nations of the world." Certain to engage students of both American literature and labor history. Photos not seen by PW. Copyright 1988 Reed Business Information, Inc. "Steinbeck's journalism shares the enduring quality of his famous novel."--Publishers Weekly"Steinbeck's potent blend of empathy and moral outrage was perfectly matched by the photographs of Dorothea Lange, who had caught the whole saga with her camera--the tents, the jalopies, the bindlestiffs, the pathos and courage of uprooted mothers and children." --San Francisco of Books"Contains some of Steinbeck's best journalism." --The Nation"Written in the best tradition of advocacy journalismSteinbeck moves among the migrants, pen in one hand, fruit pail in the other, alternately picking and penning his way to literary glory." --The Village VoiceAbout the AuthorJohn Steinbeck was born in Salinas, CA, in 1902. Steinbeck realized that the migration caused by the Dust Bowl was drastically changing the labor forces of California from the foreign "cheap labor" to a higher standard of living for the farm workers. He felt for these migrant workers, and with the help of a friend, Tom Collins, unsuccessfully tried to get federal aid and sympathy, as shown in the articles of *The Harvest Gypsies*. Steinbeck continued in his crusade, publishing *The Grapes of Wrath*, for which he won the Nobel Prize for Literature in 1962. Steinbeck died in 1968 in New York City. Charles Wollenberg is a noted historian and author of *Marinship at War: Shipbuilding and Social Change in Wartime Sausalito* and *Golden Gate Metropolis: Perspectives in Bay Area History*.