



Against the Tide: The Fate of the New England Fisherman

Richard Adams Carey

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The world of the independent fisherman is a world of constant peril, of arcane folkways and expert knowledge, of calculated risk and self-reliance -- and of freedom won daily through backbreaking, solitary work. It's a way of life deep in the American grain. Richard Adams Carey spent a year with four New England fisherman, hauling traps, seeding clam beds, learning their work and why they do it. He tells of their luck, good and bad, on the water; of the winds and tides that toy with their boats and their lives; of the currents of history and the squalls of fisheries law and politics that continually threaten to swamp their livelihood. Reminiscent of the work of both John McPhee and Bill McKibben, *Against the Tide* is narrative journalism at its best, a masterly profile of four working men that on every page opens into something more: maritime history, marine ecology, and the poetic celebration of a special American place.

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