



# Beachcombing at Miramar: The Quest for an Authentic Life

*Richard Bode*

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## Beachcombing at Miramar: The Quest for an Authentic Life Richard Bode

Bode went to a California beach to discover the truth about his life. Contemplating the sea & the shore, tuning in to the rhythms of the tides, he observed, he experienced, he remembers. This book has the power, like the sea, to reshape our lives.

## Beachcombing at Miramar: The Quest for an Authentic Life Details

Date : Published July 1st 1997 by Grand Central Publishing (first published 1996)

ISBN : 9780446672764

Author : Richard Bode

Format : Paperback 208 pages

Genre : Nonfiction, Autobiography, Memoir, Philosophy, Short Stories

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Richard Bode**

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## From Reader Review Beachcombing at Miramar: The Quest for an Authentic Life for online ebook

### Vicky Stanifer says

I love this book. I just finished reading it for the second time. It reminds me of some of my favorite beaches, isolated places I love to be. The book is calming and hopeful. - - I don't agree with everything the author says, but that doesn't matter.

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### Earthwatchaddict says

A friend of mine is on a quest for meaning in his life and doing a lot of reading. In talking about books he might want to read, I remembered Richard Bode's First You Have To Row A Little Boat. In looking for it, I discovered this gem. It is a book that can be a very quick read but benefits from consciously slowing down and savoring it.

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### Jennifer Randall says

A very zen approach to contemplating one's navel, but outdoors on the beach. The patience it took to read this book, while Bode went through painstaking detail of everything that he happened upon on the shore - was ample. I was hoping it might be a soothing escape, but it instead felt more like redundant exercises of pick-a-new-adjective roulette. He described himself so much as an artist, yet he never shared his artistry with us. How much better the book may have been with photos or paintings from his discoveries. Luckily, the result was that I was brought to a higher level taking this journey with the author from the bits of morsels I gained insight from. I appreciate that after a lifetime of pleasing everyone else, he wanted to stop and smell the roses, though I can't help but notice how passive his overall outlook seemed. I applaud the author for finally taking a stand. Close to the end, a punch is packed, and I am grateful for the swift awareness and deliberate points on truly living that he invites us to consider.

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### Stuart says

Enjoyed reading this book, after first reading Richard Bode's first book, "First you row a little boat."

Beachcombing at Miramar is a more philosophical book about middle-age issues and doing what you enjoy.

I found Richard Bode's books almost by mistake, having never heard of either before, but enjoyed both immensely.

I'd recommend either to those who live by the sea, or love living on the water.

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## Joseph says

Makes for a contemplative vacation read or perhaps when one is pondering a transition or life change (e.g., going from school to work, changing jobs). The musings by the author make for a good framework in prioritizing one's life, but it is at times overly simplistic (e.g., just breathe, ignore the negative, don't worry) and a little focused just on the self rather than including how to reconcile one's life with others.

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## Noah Letner says

I love this book! I savored it, trying to make it last as long as I could, but my wife insisted I read it quicker because she wants to read it. I got it from the library, but I will own this book, it will be on my shelf among my favorites of all time to be read, again and again. Simply marvelous!

If you are getting older and searching for something you perhaps are not even aware of, read this. If you love Thoreau, read this

update: read it again. Still one of the best books I've ever read.

UPDATE: I read it again as I do every year. This book is great for the middle-aged man. And I'll read it next year, too.

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## Karen says

Ok, leaving it all behind and living my days out walking on the beach is a dream for me so I loved this book. Bode leaves a job from which he was deriving no personal satisfaction and a lackluster marriage to become a beachcomber. He gets a beach house at Miramar Beach, California, and uses his time walking the beach and ruminating about sand dollars, jellyfish, and the mist and tide in his self-described journey to the center of himself. The days and nights of irregular and random beachcombing allow him to reflect on who he is, who he wants to be, and what it means to be human. This striving for an authentic life makes this book sensitive and worthwhile reading. It's one of those books that you stop reading a segment and just reflect on your own life.

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## Melissa says

There are excellent points to reflect on in this book. I feel many will find it more personal than most in this genre.

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## Bartholomew Timm says

A good read, insightful and thought-provoking, but not nearly as good as *First You Have To Row A Little Boat*. Written post-divorce, there are depressing and self-pitying moments which run counter to his "quest" for an authentic life. Still, it was worth reading.

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## David says

If I were a writer, this is what I would write ... and how I would write it.

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## Genean says

This remains one of my husbands favorite books. He would have me read to him one chapter while settling into bed & would more frequently than not, be pushing up the zzzzed's before I was through. If ever your in a tangle & wish to loosen the wrap then this is an excellent book with which to shake loose. Somehow it touches our secrecy aspirations and allows us to let loose and recreate ourselves with the tidal flow. Richard Bode's other book 'First You Have To Row A Little Boat' is another book of this type and also well worth a read.

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## Kimmb says

A wonderful read about one man's journey who left a hectic life for a simple one to find peace and beauty. I had read this book several times and each time I find another bit of treasure to savor. It is a quick read but take time to cherish Mr. Bode's words, they are wonderfully descriptive. I highly recommend this book. It is a keeper that you will go back to again and again.

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## Timothy Schneider says

I first read this book several years ago, but I picked it up again, well, mostly because I am a displaced waterman. And since I am currently entrenched in this high and dry place, I have to experience the water vicariously much of the time. However, what drew me to the author Richard Bode in the first place was the life lessons he shared in his classic book "First You Have to Row a Little Boat". So while it was the water that drew me back to this book, I found his musings on a life well lived, and how we have insulated ourselves from nature through the modern entrapments of speed and commitments to be an important reminder. I also appreciate how he teases out the connection between this rushed and excessive lifestyle and the violence that is pervasive in our culture/world. I can see how some might find this all a bit sentimental ("navel gazing"), but for me it resonated, and I think of Miramar as a West Coast Walden. And once again I found this short little book to be a delightful read.

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## Steffany Cartellone says

I read this while hiking through the Grand Canyon. Spent 3 nights down in the Canyon and then hauled my ass out and finished reading on the drive back to Iowa. The pages are highlighted, underlined and torn. I think I've read this book 4 or 5 times. I love it and love his words. I read it at a time I needed it. As the saying goes, "Sometimes we don't pick books; sometimes they pick us." This is one of them for me.

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## Rita Ciresi says

I really liked this book, which concerns how the author left his former go-go-go life (and his family) to pursue a solitary life on the beach. Although as some have pointed out, the book has shades of Jonathan Livingston Seagull about it, and the question of how the author is supporting himself while opting out of the rat race bring to mind the bogus aspects of Thoreau's Walden, so many of the sentiments expressed in here seem valid. I thought about this book for several days after I finished it. I would definitely recommend it.

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