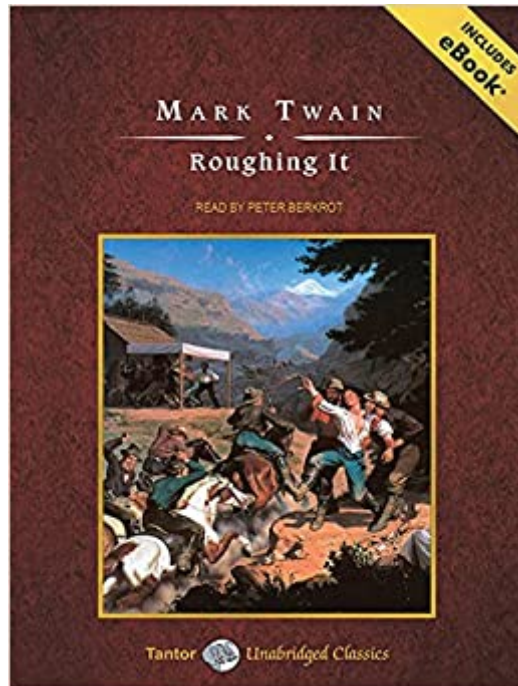




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Roughing It (Tantor Unabridged Classics)



Synopsis

Originally published over one hundred years ago, *Roughing It* is Mark Twain's second major work, after the success of his 1869 travel book, *Innocents Abroad*. This humorous travel book, based on Twain's stagecoach journey through the American West and his adventures in the Pacific islands, is full of colorful caricatures of outlandish locals and detailed sketches of frontier life. *Roughing It* describes how the narrator, a polite greenhorn from the East, is initiated into the rough-and-tumble society of the frontier. He works his way through Nevada, California, and the Pacific islands as a prospector, journalist, and lecturer, and along the way he meets a number of colorful characters. Wonderfully entertaining, Twain successfully finds humor in spite of his mishaps while also giving the listener insight into that time and place of American history.

Book Information

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> Authors, A-Z > (T) > Twain, Mark #3294 in [Books > Books on CD > Biographies & Memoirs](#)
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Customer Reviews

There is no nicer surprise for a reader than to discover that an acknowledged classic really does deliver the goods. Mark Twain's *Roughing It* is just such a book. The adventure tale is a delight from start to finish and is just as engrossing today as it was 125 years ago when it first appeared.

Roughing It tells the true-ish escapades of Twain in the American West. Although he clearly "speaks with forked tongue," *Roughing It* is informative as well as humorous. From stagecoach travel to the etiquette of prospecting, the modern reader gains considerable insight into that much-fictionalized time and place. Do you know about sagebrush, for example? Sage-brush is very fair fuel, but as a vegetable it is a distinguished failure. Nothing can abide the taste of it but the jackass and his

illegitimate child, the mule. But their testimony to its nutritiousness is worth nothing, for they will eat pine knots, or anthracite coal, or brass filings, or lead pipe, or old bottles, or anything that comes handy, and then go off looking as grateful as if they had had oysters for dinner. Roughing It is informally structured around the narrator's attempts to strike it rich. He meets a motley, colorful crew in the process; many mishaps occur, and it shouldn't surprise you that Twain does not emerge a man of means. But he withstands it all in such a relentless good humor that his misfortune inspires laughter. Roughing It is wonderful entertainment and reminds you how funny the world can be--even its grimmer districts--when you're traveling with the right writer. --This text refers to the Paperback edition.

In this 1872, Twain reminisces about his five years of roaming around the country from 1861 to 1866. This edition contains the complete original text plus the original illustrations. Though pricey, this volume should be considered for collections specializing in Twain. Copyright 1994 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to the Paperback edition.

As usuall, Twain's writing is so entertaining that it makes this very long book worth reading. But you do have to be a fan .

This is a book of odds and ends that Mark Twain put together. His description of crossing the country from Missouri to Nevada in a stagecoach is the first I have read, and he also described the riders of the short-lived Pony Express. He tries out different writing styles varying from the rough language of the Nevada Silver mines to the more sophisticated speech of the San Franciscans in California.

Laugh out loud funny in places and lyrical descriptions of the American Frontier by someone who lived it in others. Makes me want to take a three week jaunt to the Nevada Territory and see where I end up. A fantastic read.

Best treated as a book of short stories poking fun as just about every state on the West Coast, including Hawaii. I found it tough to just power through the whole thing. It was more fun for me to read each corresponding chapter/section based on the state I was in.

The only Mark Twain I ever read was Huck Finn and Ton Sawyer, there was humor there but it was

subtle and vague to a 9 year old boy. Along comes "Roughing It" very funny! Now I get Mark Twain the American Humorist! Very good! The Kindle Edition however SUCKS and there are NO illustrations and with every new chapter you get a page that looks like you started over to the beginning in the book, very confusing.

I have read this book several times, it is about America and the West.....Dave

this is a great book. funny, informative, wide-ranging.

Fascinating and well written book

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