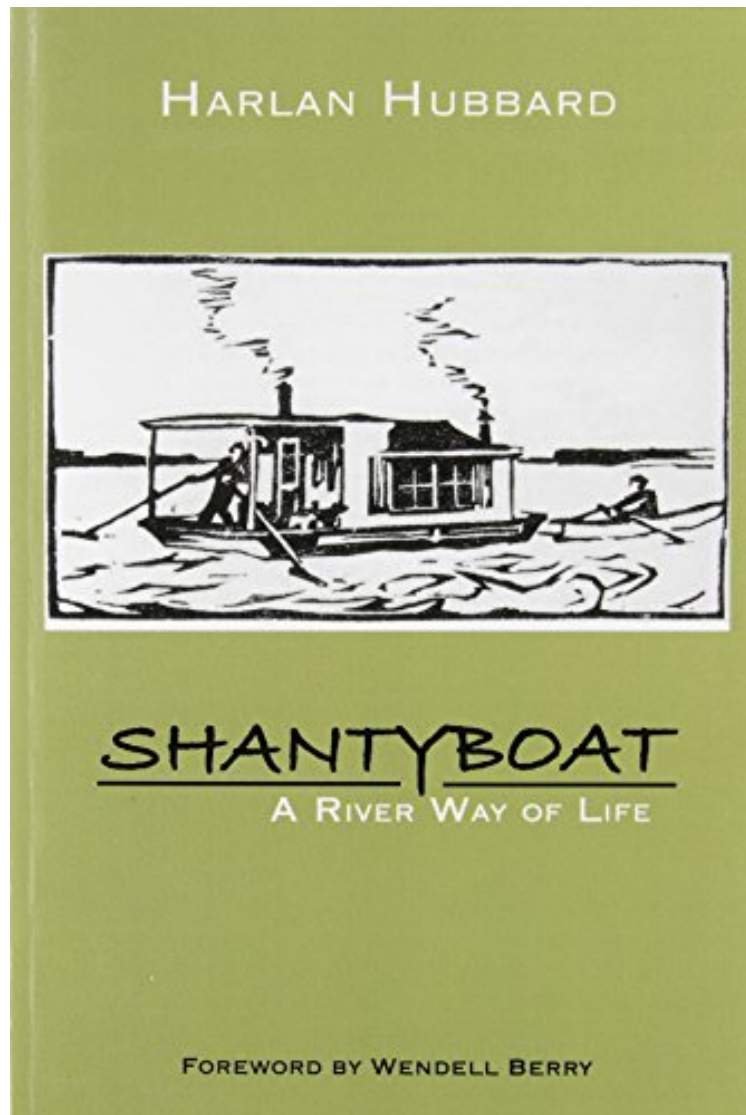


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## Shantyboat: A River Way of Life

Harlan Hubbard

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**Harlan Hubbard : Shantyboat: A River Way of Life** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Shantyboat: A River Way of Life:

3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Quite an adventureBy Woodsie"Shantyboat" is a charming read about a slow trip down the Ohio and Mississippi Rivers. More then a Huck Finn tale, it became a lifestyle for Anne and Harlen Hubbard. They lived a simple life with time for visiting, growing gardens, music and art. Step out of today's hectic world and float the great rivers of America.3 of 4 people found the following review helpful. it's okayBy R. StoneI was expecting more than that a detailed account about every stop on the river. His wife might as well be non

existent for as much as she is included or talked about. You have no idea what she's like or what she is thinking. it's an okay book and their trip is interesting but you don't really learn much about either one of them or what they are thinking. It's more of a description of the river and the places they stop. The other thing is they only drift on the river a couple months a years. It takes them so many years to do the trip because most of the time is actually on land farming their garden and fishing. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. A Must Read By riverlady Beautifully written book about rejecting contemporary life and finding true value in exploring life on the river, and living life according to its rhythms. Harlan and Anna Hubbard knit their lives into the fabric of the river, and rode it down to New Orleans. Everyone should read this book.

Shantyboat is the story of a leisurely journey down the Ohio and Mississippi rivers to New Orleans. For most people such a journey is the stuff that dreams are made of, but for Harlan and Anna Hubbard it became a cherished reality. In the fall of 1944 they built a houseboat, small but neatly accommodated to their needs, on the bank of the Ohio near Cincinnati, and in it after a pause of two years they set out to drift down the river. In their small craft, the Hubbards became one with the flow of the river and its changing weathers. An artist by profession, Harlan Hubbard records with graceful ease the many facets of their life on the river—the panorama of fields and woods, summer gardening, foraging expeditions for nuts and berries, dangers from storms and treacherous currents, the quiet solitude of the mists of early morning. Their life is sustained by the provender of bank and stream, useful things made and found, and mutual aid and wisdom from people met along the journey. It is a life marked by simplicity and independence, strenuous at times, but joyous, with leisure for painting and music, for observation and contemplation.

"The boat conveys its household into the wilderness. From its windows . . . the world is newly seen and understood. But also newly understood are the meanings of being married, of living together, of having neighbors, of the skills and arts by which people house, feed, and please themselves, and care for one another." Wendell Berry, from the Foreword "Harlan Hubbard is one of the best writers about 'alternative' life in America. His graceful prose is a model for writers in the same way his and Anna's lives are models for all people who seek to live in nature with grace and economy." Gurney Norman "An undervalued classic of American letters. It belongs on a bookshelf sandwiched between Twain's *Life on the Mississippi* and Thoreau's *Walden*." Ohio Magazine "Some books, such as Thoreau's *Walden*, or Nearing's *Living The Good Life*, have become a permanent part of my home library. Every so often I reread them, my life's intervening experience lending new insight to the author's words. *Shantyboat* is such a book, and as I return my dog-eared copy to the bookcase, I know that someday I will read it yet again and it will once more offer a fresh perspective of my own life." Wooden Boat About the Author Harlan and Anna Hubbard lived at Payne Hollow, Trimble County, Kentucky, where they spent the first summer of the journey described in *Shantyboat*.