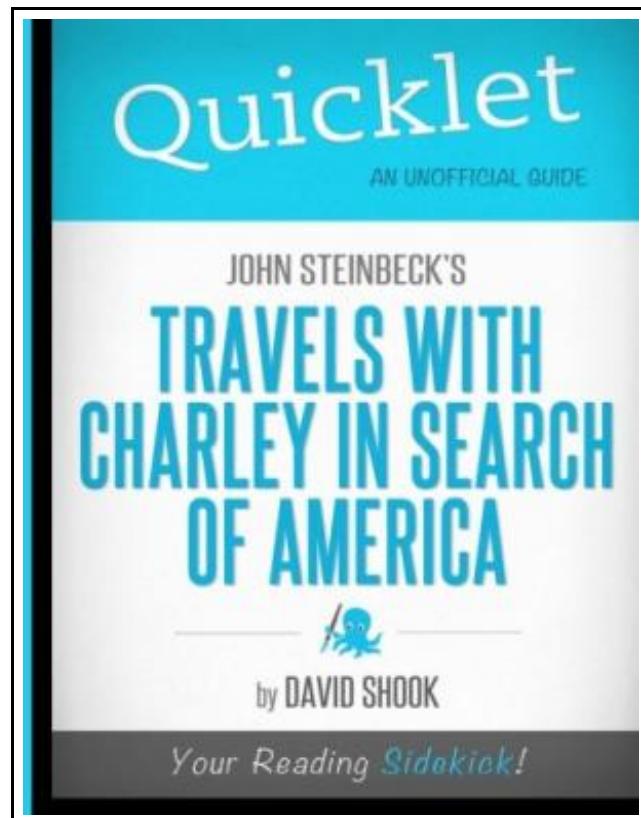


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Hyperink, United States, 2012. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 279 x 216 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book ***** Print on Demand *****. Quicklets: Your Reading Sidekick! Our Hyperink Quicklets include an overall summary, chapter commentary, key characters, literary themes, fun trivia, and recommended related readings. **ABOUT THE BOOK** I came to John Steinbeck's work through his novella *The Pearl*, a diminutive but dark allegory about a Native American pearl diver whose discovery of an enormous pearl hurls him and his family into a world of greed and its disastrous consequences. From *The Pearl*, I found *Cannery Row*, my favorite Steinbeck novel. From its first sentence, Steinbeck's descriptions vibrate with the same energy and poetry that his eclectic cast of outcasts embody as they throw unauthorized parties and philosophize with Doc, based on Steinbeck's real-life friend Ed Ricketts, on 1920s Monterey Bay, the American sardine capital at that time. *Cannery Row* in Monterey in California is a poem, a stink, a grating noise, a quality of light, a tone, a habit, a nostalgia, a dream. I turned next to Steinbeck's nonfiction, attracted to *Travels with Charley: In Search of America* because of my own experiences on Routes 10 and 40, mostly heading west towards California, or back to Oklahoma or Texas to wait until I could go again. Like Steinbeck with his standard poodle Charley, I drove with my steadfast companion, Okie Doke, a considerably smaller pooch. **MEET THE AUTHOR** David Shook studied endangered languages in Oklahoma and poetry at Oxford. He's published essays about dancing with the President of Burundi and being detained in Equatorial Guinea, and his poetry, translations, and book reviews regularly appear in magazines like *Ambit*, *Poetry*, and *World Literature Today*. His most recent translations include Mario Bellatin's novella *Shiki Nagaoka: A Nose for Fiction*, Roberto...

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