

# Steady Trade: A Boyhood at Sea



## A Steady Trade: A Boyhood at Sea by Tristan Jones

★★★★☆ 4.5 out of 5

Language : English  
File size : 2242 KB  
Text-to-Speech : Enabled  
Screen Reader : Supported  
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled  
Word Wise : Enabled  
Print length : 268 pages  
Lending : Enabled

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In his memoir *Steady Trade: A Boyhood at Sea*, Philip Caputo tells the story of his coming-of-age as a young boy growing up in a family of sailors. Born in 1941, Caputo spent his childhood on the move, following his father's career in the Navy. As a result, he never felt like he had a true home or a sense of belonging. He was always the outsider, the new kid in school. As a boy, Caputo dreamed of becoming a sailor like his father, but as he got older, he began to realize that he didn't want to follow in his father's footsteps. He wanted to find his own path in life. Eventually, Caputo left the Navy to pursue a career in writing. In *Steady Trade*, Caputo reflects on his childhood and his relationship with his father. He explores the themes of identity, belonging, and self-discovery. The memoir is a moving and insightful account of a young man's journey to find his place in the world.

## **A Distant Shore**

Caputo's father was a career Navy man, and the family moved frequently during Caputo's childhood. As a result, Caputo never felt like he had a true home or a sense of belonging. He was always the outsider, the new kid in school. "I was always the new kid, the outsider, the one who didn't know the ropes," Caputo writes. "I was the one who was always getting picked on, the one who was always getting into trouble." Caputo's father was a strict disciplinarian, and Caputo often felt like he could never measure up to his father's expectations. "My father was a hard man," Caputo writes. "He was a man of few words, and he expected his children to obey him without question." Caputo's father's strict discipline made him feel like he could never be himself around his father. He felt like he had to constantly hide his true feelings and emotions.

As a result of his father's strict discipline, Caputo became withdrawn and shy. He was afraid to express himself, afraid to be himself. "I was afraid to

show my true feelings," Caputo writes. "I was afraid to be myself. I was afraid of what my father would think of me." Caputo's fear of his father kept him from developing close relationships with others. He was afraid to let anyone get too close to him, afraid that they would see the real him and reject him. As a result, Caputo felt isolated and alone. "I was always the outsider," Caputo writes. "I was the one who was always on the outside looking in."

## **A Safe Harbor**

Despite his difficult childhood, Caputo found solace in writing. He began writing poetry and short stories as a child, and he found that writing helped him to express his true feelings and emotions. "Writing was my way of escaping from the world," Caputo writes. "It was my way of expressing myself, of being myself." Caputo's writing also helped him to connect with others. He found that he could share his writing with others and they would understand him. Writing helped Caputo to feel less alone, less isolated.

Eventually, Caputo left the Navy to pursue a career in writing. He has published several novels and non-fiction books, including the memoir *Steady Trade*. Caputo's writing has been praised for its honesty, its insights into human nature, and its beautiful prose. Caputo has won numerous awards for his writing, including the National Book Award and the Pulitzer Prize.

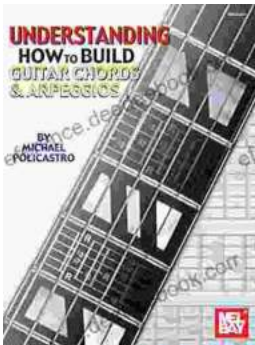
*Steady Trade* is a moving and insightful account of a young man's journey to find his place in the world. Caputo's memoir is a story of identity, belonging, and self-discovery. It is a story that will resonate with anyone who has ever felt like an outsider, anyone who has ever struggled to find their place in the world.



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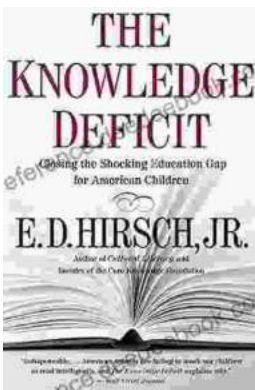
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