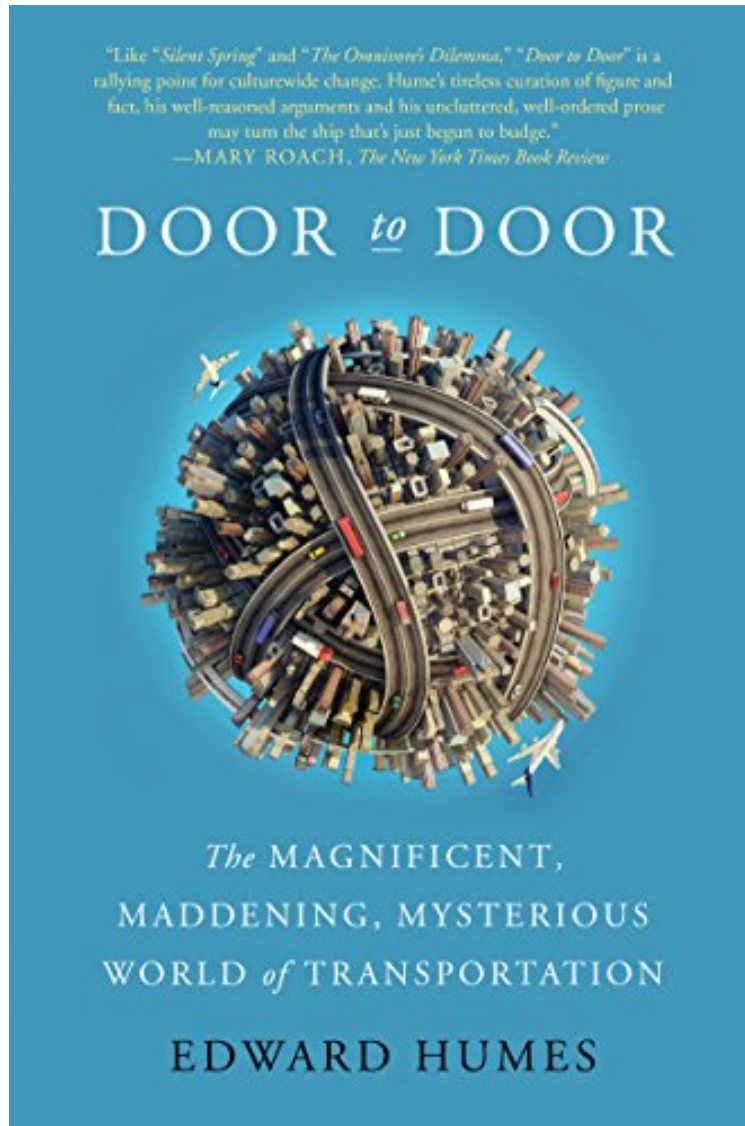


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# Door to Door: The Magnificent, Maddening, Mysterious World of Transportation

Edward Humes

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**Edward Humes : Door to Door: The Magnificent, Maddening, Mysterious World of Transportation** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Door to Door: The Magnificent, Maddening, Mysterious World of Transportation:

7 of 8 people found the following review helpful. "Door to Door" is a MUST READ!By Dorothy Davis"Door to Door" is an excellent book. I liked it so much I'm reading it again!Like James Joyce"Door to Door" is organized around one day — February

13, 2015 (which also happens to be the author's Anniversary). It's not "Bloomsday" but "Humesday" As he goes through his day Humes explores the complicated, vital subject of transportation — how we and our goods get from place to place. Among other things we learn about container ships and super busy ports, trucks, trains, planes, cars, highways, aluminum cans, iPhones, pizza, coffee beans, our crumbling infrastructure, the overload of our systems, the enormous problem of deaths on our roads, counter-intuitive traffic fixes that work, past, present, future — driverless cars, 3-D Printers — and lots of surprising statistics. The subtitle is apt. It IS a "Magnificent, Maddening, Mysterious World." Especially compelling are the stories of the strong-willed people who try to make the system work. To name just a few: Geraldine Knatz, the marine biologist who transformed the Port of Los Angeles; Noel Massie, President of UPS in the Southern half of California, who keeps deliveries on time; Janette Sadik-Khan who innovated New York City streets. The book bursts with facts. Many are alarming — not just the deplorable state of our infrastructure — but that there are 4 Traffic Deaths Every Hour (over 35,500 people are killed a year). The loss of life is the equivalent of 4 airplanes crashing every week! Where is the public outrage about this CARNage? Its causes are known — chief among them Drunk Drivers, Speeding, and Distracted Drivers. There are already devices, and the technology to create them, that could prevent a driver from speeding, using a cell phone, driving while drunk. There are forward-looking collision avoidance systems used for a decade on airplanes. Why aren't they on our cars? Where is the public Demand for them? Where? I agree with the conclusion of the New York Times review by Mary Roach. "Door to Door" is the "Silent Spring" or "The Omnivore's Dilemma" for the world of transportation, a world that needs major overhaul. Humes tells us how to do it. His definitive book "is a rallying point for culturewide change." It is a MUST READ! 10 of 10 people found the following review helpful. but so much more important is the effect on the environment of all the fuel spent on bringing us all the products we so love. ThBy Lorn MacDougal This book is essential reading for Americans and very interesting to anyone wanting to know what goes into the movement of goods. We should know how much distance and therefore energy are involved in delivering the merchandise to our doors and stores. Our infrastructure, including ports, is crumbling which threatens the convenience of online shopping and delivery, but so much more important is the effect on the environment of all the fuel spent on bringing us all the products we so love. This is a highly researched book. Our personal, private transportation killed 40,000 people 2015 in the US, up from 35,000 in 2014, mostly due to human error: fatigue, distraction and substance abuse. Humes makes a strong case for the driverless car which, it is thought, will become a safer system. Everyone has many questions about that, especially for the transition years, but surely we are all bored and frustrated spending so much of our lives in these enclosed machines bumper to bumper if we have nothing else to do but drive. Just let me check that text and then bam, it's too late. Speed kills especially if the eyes are off the road. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. We take it so for granted and you really will be amazed at how it all happens By James W. Conrad It far exceeded my expectations! This is a must read for everyone! It tells how we get all our products to our door! We take it so for granted and you really will be amazed at how it all happens!

The Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist and author of *Garbology* explores the hidden and costly wonders of our buy-it-now, get-it-today world of transportation, revealing the surprising truths, mounting challenges, and logistical magic behind every trip we take and every click we make. Transportation dominates our daily existence. Thousands, even millions, of miles are embedded in everything we do and touch. We live in a door-to-door universe that works so well most Americans are scarcely aware of it. The grand ballet in which we move ourselves and our stuff is equivalent to building the Great Pyramid, the Hoover Dam, and the Empire State Building all in a day. Every day. And yet, in the one highly visible part of the transportation world — the part we drive — we suffer grinding commutes, a violent death every fifteen minutes, a dire injury every twelve seconds, and crumbling infrastructure. Now, the way we move ourselves and our stuff is on the brink of great change, as a new mobility revolution upends the car culture that, for better and worse, built modern America. This unfolding revolution will disrupt lives and global trade, transforming our commutes, our vehicles, our cities, our jobs, and every aspect of culture, commerce, and the environment. We are, quite literally, at a fork in the road, though whether it will lead us to Carmageddon or Carmaheaven has yet to be determined. Using interviews, data and deep exploration of the hidden world of ports, traffic control centers, and the research labs defining our transportation future, acclaimed journalist Edward Humes breaks down the complex movements of humans, goods, and machines as never before, from increasingly car-less citizens to the distance UPS goes to deliver a leopard-printed phone case. Tracking one day in the life of his family in Southern California, Humes uses their commutes, traffic jams, grocery stops, and online shopping excursions as a springboard to explore the paradoxes and challenges inherent in our system. He ultimately makes clear that transportation is one of the few big things we can change — our personal choices do have a profound impact, and that fork in the road is coming up fast. *Door to Door* is a fascinating detective story, investigating the worldwide cast of supporting characters and

technologies that have enabled us to move from here to there—past, present, and future.