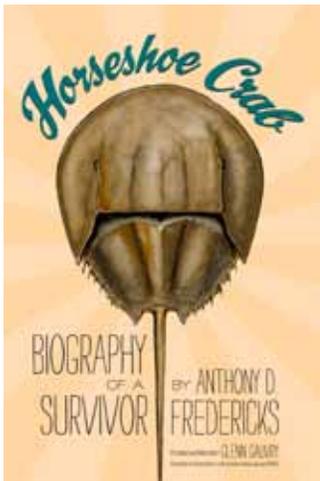


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## New Book *Horseshoe Crab* Brings an Amazing Creature to Life Author Anthony D. Fredericks on a sea creature with surprising resonance

WASHINGTON, DC (JANUARY 2012)— Horseshoe crabs have ten eyes, five pairs of walking legs, a heart half the length of their bodies, and blood that may one day save your life. They have been on this planet for 445 million years—since long before the dinosaurs arrived. They have been used as fertilizer and as bait, their eggs are a critical food for migratory birds, and their blood is a major component in tests for medical contamination.

In his new book *Horseshoe Crab: Biography of a Survivor*, acclaimed science writer Anthony D. Fredericks takes readers from the Delaware Bay to the Florida Panhandle on a journey through the natural history and science behind one of nature's oldest and oddest survivors. He explores horseshoe crabs' unique biology and sex life, explains their importance to medical science and to migratory shorebirds, and introduces readers to the people who are working to study and protect them.

*Horseshoe Crab* includes a foreword by Glenn Gauvry, founder of the horseshoe crab preservation organization ERDG, who says, "Through humor and a casual, inviting, layman style of writing, [Fredericks] has taken the tedium out of scientific information without removing the science. I believe that as you read this book, you will become drawn into an incredible journey of survival spanning hundreds of millions of years, and along the way you will meet extraordinary individuals whose knowledge and commitment to the understanding and conservation of this often misunderstood creature is truly inspiring, leaving you with a profound depth of knowledge of a most remarkable survivor. I have no doubt that you will also be left with much to think about, for it will be very difficult to ever look at a horseshoe crab again in quite the same way."

Peter Laufer, author of *The Dangerous World of Butterflies*, said, "Consider an escape from the cacophony of the 24-hour news cycle and spend some time instead with one of Earth's oldest creatures. In *Horseshoe Crab*, Anthony Fredericks takes readers on a quest to understand an important animal easy to overlook. His *Biography of a Survivor* is a reminder that a skillful storyteller can find a good tale anywhere, and it is a warning that we ignore the perils humankind creates for other animals at our own selfish risk."

*About the Author:* Anthony D. Fredericks has written more than 125 books, including children's books, teacher resource titles, and trade books such as *How Long Things Live*, *Walking with Dinosaurs*, *Desert Dinosaurs*, and *Ace Your Teacher Interview*. He is a professor of education at York College of Pennsylvania.

*About Ruka Press:* Ruka Press, an independent publisher of nonfiction trade books based in Washington, DC, was founded in early 2010. Ruka Press publishes books with a strong environmental component for a general audience. The company's previous releases are *Among the Ancients: Adventures in the Eastern Old-Growth Forests* by Joan Maloof and *Cerulean Blues: A Personal Search for a Vanishing Songbird* by Katie Fallon. To learn more visit [www.rukapress.com](http://www.rukapress.com) and follow the company on Twitter: @rukapress.