



## At the Bottom of Shakespeare's Ocean (Hardback)

By Steve Mentz

Bloomsbury Publishing PLC, United Kingdom, 2009. Hardback. Book Condition: New. 200 x 130 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book \*\*\*\*\* Print on Demand \*\*\*\*\*.This is a fascinating study revealing Shakespeare's career-long engagement with the sea and his frequent use of maritime imagery. We need a poetic history of the ocean, and Shakespeare can help us find one. There's more real salt in the plays than we first expect. Shakespeare's dramatic ocean spans the God-sea of the ancient world and the immense blue vistas that early modern mariners navigated. Throughout his career, from the opening shipwrecks of *The Comedy of Errors* through *The Tempest*, Shakespeare's plays figure the ocean as shocking physical reality and mind-twisting symbol of change and instability. To fathom Shakespeare's ocean - to go down to its bottom - this book's chapters focus on different things that humans do with and in and near the sea: fathoming, keeping watch, swimming, beachcombing, fishing, and drowning. Mentz also sets Shakespeare's sea-poetry against modern literary seascapes, including the vast Pacific of *Moby-Dick*, the rocky coast of Charles Olson's *Maximus Poems*, and the lyrical waters of the postcolonial Caribbean ....



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