

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910452611803321
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Titolo	Tracks and shadows [[electronic resource]] : field biology as art / / Harry W. Greene
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Berkeley, : University of California Press, 2013
ISBN	0-520-29265-0 0-520-95673-7
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (297 p.)
Collana	A Stephen Bechtel Fund imprint in ecology and the environment Tracks and shadows
Disciplina	570.92 B
Soggetti	Biologists - United States Nature Electronic books.
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Description based upon print version of record.
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	Frontmatter -- Contents -- List of Illustrations -- Acknowledgments -- Part One. Descent with Modification -- Part Two. Conversing with Serpents -- Part Three. Pretty in Sunlight -- Notes -- Bibliography -- Index
Sommario/riassunto	"Intellectually rich, intensely personal, and beautifully written, Tracks and Shadows is both an absorbing autobiography of a celebrated field biologist and a celebration of beauty in nature. Harry W. Greene, award-winning author of Snakes: The Evolution of Mystery in Nature delves into the poetry of field biology, showing how nature eases our existential quandaries. More than a memoir, the book is about the wonder of snakes, the beauty of studying and understanding natural history, and the importance of sharing the love of nature with humanity. Greene begins with his youthful curiosity about the natural world and moves to his stints as a mortician's assistant, ambulance driver, and army medic. In detailing his academic career, he describes how his work led him to believe that nature's most profound lessons lurk in hard-won details. He discusses the nuts and bolts of field research and teaching, contrasts the emotional impact of hot dry

habitats with hot wet ones, imparts the basics of snake biology, and introduces the great explorers Charles Darwin and Alfred Russel Wallace. He reflects on friendship and happiness, tackles notions like anthropomorphism and wilderness, and argues that organisms remain the core of biology, science plays key roles in conservation, and natural history offers an enlightened form of contentment."--
