



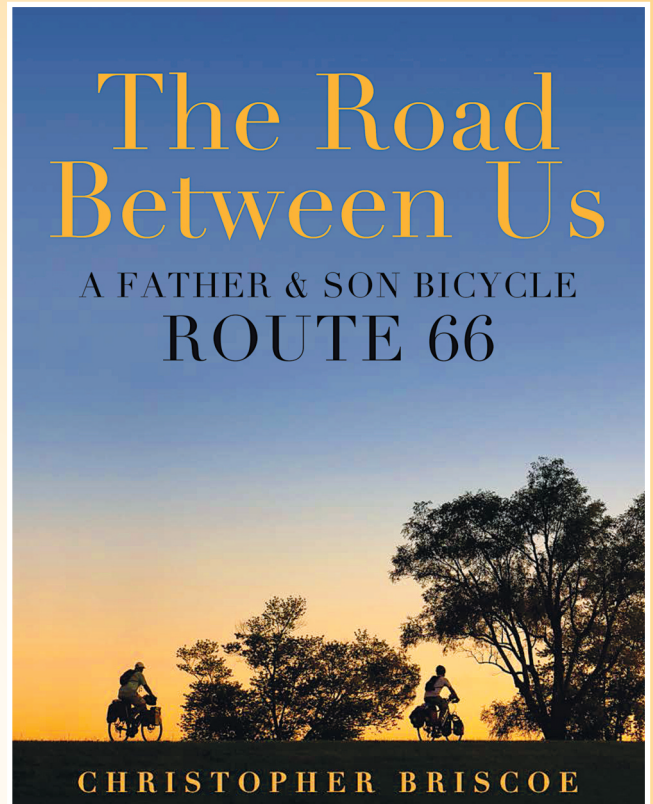
The Road Between Us

A FATHER & SON BICYCLE
ROUTE 66

—CHRISTOPHER BRISCOE—

WHEN CHRISTOPHER BRISCOE AND HIS SON, Quincy, rode their bikes along historic Route 66 from Santa Monica to Chicago, majestic beauty and quirky characters became regular features of their daily routine. It was 58 days and 2,700 miles of exhaustion and magic, through sometimes overwhelming heat or driving rain. Along the way, they discover that the road between them is the path that connects them. Their journey is captured in photographs that bring to life their adventures and heartfelt camaraderie.

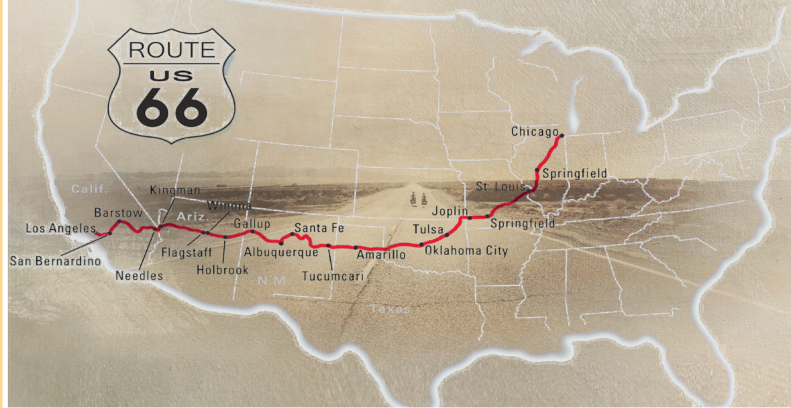
Between 1976 and 2000, Christopher Briscoe biked across the U.S. three times. Then, he discovered the charm of photography. Certain his biking days were behind him, Briscoe shared stories of his cross-country trips with his son. To his astonishment, and with some prompting from his son (and the discovery of an e-bike,) father and son embarked on a bicycling odyssey from Santa Monica to Chicago along the historic Route 66. Along the way, Briscoe melded his love of biking with his love of photography and created this enchanting travelogue.



Briscoe captures true Americana as it is embodied in individuals and the ubiquitous character they bring to the places they call home. Biking across the country afforded father and son the opportunity to see these unique wonders up close and to expand their knowledge and understanding of who we are as Americans. These aren't forgotten people and places, rather they are fine details often overlooked. This is what makes *The Road Between Us* more than a mere photo book or diary. Scenery and people are approached with a sense of respect and joy.

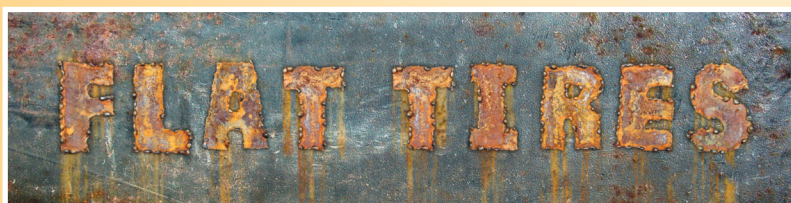
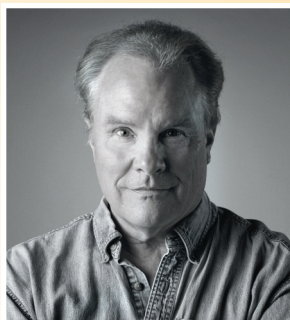
The Road Between Us is a story of inspiration—one that may prompt some to take the leap for whatever has been on their bucket list for far too long. But even if it doesn't, readers will walk away with a vivid sense of place told through an intimate portrait of two men, father and son, reveling in their togetherness, beaming light across the vastness of all that is America.





CHRISTOPHER BRISCOE brings his talents as author and photojournalist to the forefront in this remarkable book. There is an intimacy that takes us inside the hearts of those he meets. His photographs have been published around the world in *The London Times*, *People Magazine*, *Time Magazine*, and *Paris Match*. His work has also been featured on *Entertainment Tonight*, *Larry King Live*, and *Oprah*. Chris's work uncovers the common thread that binds us all—from a visit to Death Row, to Bourbon Street, and through the alleyways of Bangkok. His photos dig deep to unearth the vital story behind each face and landscape. He has photographed cultural icons

from the likes of President Mikhail Gorbachev to producer-director Steven Spielberg, actor Michael Douglas, and many others. Christopher lives in Ashland, Oregon.



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All photos © Christopher Briscoe



***A FATHER AND SON SHARE THE THRILL & CAMARADERIE
OF BICYCLING ROUTE 66***

***THE ROAD BETWEEN US
by Christopher Briscoe***

(Ashland, Oregon, October 22, 2018) Shifting Gears Publishers and PenPower Book Marketing Services is pleased to announce the release of Oregon storyteller and world-renowned photographer Christopher Briscoe's recent book, *The Road Between Us: A Father and Son Bicycle Route 66*.

When Ashland photographer Christopher Briscoe and his son Quincy rode their bikes from Santa Monica to Chicago in the heat of one recent summer, majestic beauty and quirky characters became regular features of their daily routine. It was 58 days and 2,700 miles of exhaustion and magic, through sometimes overwhelming heat or driving rain. Their journey is captured in captivating photographs that bring to life their adventures and heartfelt camaraderie in Briscoe's newest book.

More than a mere travel or photo diary, Briscoe is able to capture the wonder of discovery. Americana is often portrayed as novelty or nostalgia, typically in the form of some kind of kitsch object. Briscoe knows true Americana is embodied in individuals and the character they give to the place they've decided to call home — how they build a world around themselves to inhabit.

Biking across the county afforded Briscoe and his son the opportunity to see these unique niches up close, "Riding into parts of our country that till now Quincy and I have only read about expands our understanding of who we are as Americans." Yet these aren't forgotten people and places, rather they are fine details all too often overlooked: "We humans love to hear each others' stories." When you surrender to the journey, it moves with ease while still requiring deliberate effort: "Every bump, every dip, every pothole becomes part of a brief moment in the history of this road and belongs in the pages of this particular story of a father and his son who pedal their way from one end of Route 66 to the other." This is what makes *The Road Between Us* more than a mere photo book. Scenery and new faces are approached with a sense of respect and gladness while the journey wonderfully melds self-reliance and the together-

ness of paternal love: “The moment freezes like the snap of a photo. It’s perfect. Why? We’re present. We’re just here in the middle of nowhere, which, as I suddenly remember, can also be spelled ‘now here.’”

The Road Between Us is a story of inspiration — one that may prompt some to take the leap towards whatever has been on their bucket list for far too long. But even if it doesn’t, readers will walk away with a vivid sense of place told through an intimate portrait of two men, father and son, reveling in their togetherness.

About Christopher Briscoe:

Christopher Briscoe brings his talent as a storyteller and photojournalist to the forefront in his books. There is an intimacy in Briscoe’s work that takes us inside hearts that brim with passion. His photographs have appeared on Oprah, Larry King Live, and Entertainment Tonight, and have been printed in international publications including *The Times* (London), *USA Today*, *People*, *Time* magazine, and *Paris Match*. He has photographed cultural icons, including President Mikhail Gorbachev, producer-director Steven Spielberg, actor Michael Douglas, and others. Briscoe is driven to uncover the common threads that bind us all — from Bourbon Street to the slums of India. He digs deep to reveal the story behind each image. Renowned New York photographer Jay Maisel recently remarked, “Joy and warmth is evident in the work. Sit, enjoy. Chris is a growing presence. There will be more.” For more information on Chris, please visit his websites at <https://www.chrisbriscoe.com> or <https://www.ShiftingGearsPub.com>.

For a brief introduction to *The Road Between Us*, please visit <https://theaudienceawards.com/films/the-road-between-us-147013>.

Title: *The Road Between Us: A Father & Son Bicycle Route 66*
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The Road Between Us is published by Shifting Gears Publishing and is available for purchase on Amazon.

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Bio of Christopher Briscoe

<http://www.chrisbriscoe.com> & www.ShiftingGearsPub.com



With an intimacy that takes us inside hearts that brim with passion, **Christopher Briscoe** brings his talent as a storyteller and photojournalist to the forefront in his books. He has that rarest gift of all — the ability to capture our spirit and soul through the lens of his camera, and in his storytelling. With a true artist's eye, he produces images that can make you giggle with delight at a child's antics, ponder the lines etched in the face of an elderly, or marvel at the emotions revealed through a single photograph.

His recent books include *The Road Between Us: A Father & Son Bicycle Route 66*, *Connections: Everyone Has A Story to Tell*, and *Shifting Gears*.

Based in Ashland, Oregon, Briscoe paints the world through the palette of photography and storytelling. Since establishing his studio in 1985, his work has been featured from Los Angeles to New York and from London to Tokyo. His photographs are featured in major publications across America, including *USA Today*, *Travel & Leisure*, *Money Magazine*, *Woman's Day*, *People Magazine*, *Los Angeles Times*, and *Time Magazine*.

A few of the famous faces he has immortalized include former President Ronald Reagan, President Mikhail Gorbachev, producer-director Steven Spielberg, actor Michael Douglas, Count Basie, Dave Brubeck, B.B. King, General Colin Powell, comedian Dennis Miller, Bo Derek, writer Marianne Williamson, Rob Lowe, and Ray Charles. Equally important are the exquisite faces of people from all walks of life that are included in Christopher's truly inspiring portfolio and books. His photographs have also appeared on Oprah, Larry King Live, and Entertainment Tonight.

Briscoe is driven to uncover the common threads that bind us all in both his photographs and his books. From Bourbon Street to the slums of India and from Santa Monica, California to Chicago, Illinois, he digs deep to reveal the story behind each image.

Renowned New York photographer Jay Maisel recently remarked, "Joy and warmth is evident in the work. Sit, enjoy. Chris is a growing presence. There will be more."

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Brief Bio of Christopher Briscoe



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PRAISE FOR

The Road Between Us: A Father & Son Bicycle Route 66

by Christopher Briscoe

“Congratulations on completing this epic journey with the embodiment of your closest self—your son. I have been cheering you on every mile of the journey. Bravo my friend! Go out with your boy and tip a tall cool one! You’ve earned the accolades.”

— Chuck Bridges

“Back home in England after touring Route 66: stood in my kitchen baking with tears in my eyes, feeling so proud to know you both and loving the relationship you two have.”

—Dotty King

“Totally engrossing; I picked up this book and found myself unexpectedly along for the ride. Humorous, yes – it left me grinning; it is a sweet and positive story, a welcome reminder of what is wonderful about our fellow humans. The adventure of the open road kept me turning pages to find out what was around the corner. But the vulnerable moments and open, honest self-examination elevate this into a classic coming of age story. Not a boy making first steps into manhood, but a young person finding purpose and character as a human being, one hard-earned mile after another.”

— Jeanne Stallman

“Through Briscoe’s book you can discover America as seen from the bicycle saddle. I was hooked just reading the introduction. Briscoe, a photographer par excellence, shows here that he has more than one creative gift to share with the world. His humanism and curiosity shines through and through.”

— Martin M

“I could not put this book down! It’s a great adventure and classic story. This book motivated me to pump up the old bike tires and hit the road for an adventure of my own. Easy to read and very enjoyable!”

— Richard Tunzat



Q&As for
The Road Between Us:
A Father & Son Bicycle Route 66
by Christopher Briscoe

1. Why did you write *The Road Between Us*?

ANSWER: My first bicycle trip across America was in 1976. I did it again in 1980 and once more in 2000. Those experiences helped shape my life. When my son, Quincy, was out of high school, he pedaled from St. Augustine, Florida to San Diego, mostly alone. The following year he and a buddy rode their bicycles from Alaska to Mexico. When he suggested we ride the length of Route 66 together, his subtext was clear: “before it’s too late.” Although I was certain I was too old, too fat and too tired, I knew I could not pass up the invitation to do it again, but most importantly, this time with my wonderful son. Writing this book merged all the bike trips into one final chapter. It let me preserve every mile we bumped over, every laugh we shared, every challenge we conquered and every character we met so that readers might realize that it is never too late to have an adventure with your child — one that you will share forever. I also enjoyed writing about random characters along the way and then pushing their stories forward with my photographs.

2. What did you learn about “small town America” that you didn’t know before the Route 66 bicycle trip with your son, Quincy?

ANSWER: The most rewarding parts of all of my trips across America have been spending time in the small towns: being invited to camp in the barns of farmers, invited home by a chief of

police or a superintendent of schools. I've pedaled through many towns where the younger generation yearned to move away in search of a more stimulating life. Being on Route 66 gave me an added layer, and reading John Steinbeck's stories of what he called "The Mother Road" in his book, *The Grapes of Wrath*. All of those migrants yearned for a better life. The towns along way grew and thrived — until their outdated highway was replaced by the interstate, just a few miles away. During our trip, Quincy and I took naps on the steps of deserted cafés that were once busy both day and night. We passed many closed and boarded-up motels but were often surprised when we also saw a lot that looked relatively modern, now chained up, as if recently abandoned. As one resident told me, "When the local bank closes and the hardware store moves away, you know your town is almost dead."

3. With respect to the quote "It was the best of times, it was the worst of times," what were your best and worst times on the Route 66 trip?

ANSWER: My best times are almost any days I spend with my son. It has always been that way. Nearly every day on the adventure, I lamented that we were one day closer to the end of our trip. As far as I was concerned, I didn't care if we ever got to Chicago. Meeting characters along the way was another favorite part — one that is well represented in my book — like cowboy Archie West just outside of Santa Fe, New Mexico. We saw him repairing his ranch fence, looking a lot like the actor, Sam Elliott.

We pulled right up, leaned our bicycles against a fencepost and made friends. We heard stories about how his dad had homesteaded the land in the 30's and how Archie had been raising cattle his entire life. We knew we had just met one of the last cattlemen standing, enjoying a history lesson from someone who had experienced it all firsthand. Everyone has a story to tell and traveling across America by bicycle introduces you to some of the best.

My most difficult time was during a hot day in Oklahoma where the humidity was *off the charts!* I felt as though I was breathing through a wet washcloth. I remember stopping my bike,

leaning on the handlebars and weeping uncontrollably. I was having a breakdown due to dehydration. My son saved me.

4. It would seem that interactions with people along the way would be brief, but many of your stories about them go pretty deep. How did you manage that?

ANSWER: Everyone has a story to tell. I tried to find unique people along the way and looked at them as though they were characters in a movie.

5. Speaking of movies, is it true that there is a short film about your bicycle trip that is showing in various parts of the world?

ANSWER: Indeed. When the trip was over, I gave a presentation in Oregon and was approached by a film producer. Six months later, my son and I were in the same movie theater where I used to take him to see movies when he was growing up, but this time we were watching a film about us. Very humbling.

6. Did you have a writing routine along the way?

ANSWER: Rather than wait until the trip was over, I pushed myself to try and write every morning, usually during breakfast. It's too easy to forget the many details along the way. You must write them down.

7. How did technology help you with that?

ANSWER: On a bicycle, weight is always a consideration. I took my iPad and wrote on that. Being a professional photographer, I was surprised to discover I could also edit my photos on the iPad, too. SnapSeed, a free photo app, provided everything I needed to tweak my images. I didn't miss Photoshop at all.

8. Speaking of technology, tell us about your experience with the electric-assist bike.

ANSWER: When Quincy tried to talk me into taking the trip with him, I did not want to be the old guy exhausted at the bottom of each hill. I tested out an electric-assist bicycle made by Felt. When I got on, it was soon apparent that there wasn't a button to push that made it go — but rather a

small motor that provided what felt like a nice tailwind and a couple of extra gears. It was a new technology that came along just at the right time. At the end of every day, my son and I were equally exhausted. It narrowed the fitness gap between the macho 24 year-old kid and his dad — the AARP guy.

9. What is the takeaway, the message, you hope is conveyed in *The Road Between Us*?

ANSWER: The most consistent comment we heard along the way, mostly from folks following our trip on-line and from people we met along the way were: “I wish I could do something like that with my child.” Others also remarked: “I wish I HAD done something like that with my dad.” For some, it’s too late; but, for many others, this is an opportunity I hope more parents will embrace. You don’t have to pedal the length of Route 66 to have an adventure. Consider anything that even hints at adventure. Then take lots of photos and for heaven’s sake, get them off of your phone and onto the wall and/or upload them to a bookmaker like Blurb.com. Pass the story on and make it a part of your family history forever.

10. Where can we purchase your book?

ANSWER: The easiest way to find my book is on Amazon. Just type in Christopher Briscoe, *The Road Between Us*. You can also check out <http://www.ShiftingGearsPub.com> where you can also see more of my books that are currently available.

11. What’s your next adventure?

ANSWER: My son and I just bought a 35’ sailboat. We have both been sailing most of our lives. This June we’re sailing from Santa Barbara to Hawaii. Once we get there, we just might keep going.