



## The Travels and Adventures of Serendipity: A Study in Sociological Semantics and the Sociology of Science (Paperback)

By Robert K. Merton, Elinor G. Barber

Princeton University Press, United States, 2006. Paperback. Condition: New. Language: English . Brand New Book. From the names of cruise lines and bookstores to an Australian ranch and a nudist camp outside of Atlanta, the word serendipity--that happy blend of wisdom and luck by which something is discovered not quite by accident--is today ubiquitous. This book traces the word's eventful history from its 1754 coinage into the twentieth century--chronicling along the way much of what we now call the natural and social sciences. The book charts where the term went, with whom it resided, and how it fared. We cross oceans and academic specialties and meet those people, both famous and now obscure, who have used and abused serendipity. We encounter a linguistic sage, walk down the illustrious halls of the Harvard Medical School, attend the (serendipitous) birth of penicillin, and meet someone who manages serendipity for the U.S. Navy. The story of serendipity is fascinating; that of *The Travels and Adventures of Serendipity*, equally so. Written in the 1950s by already-eminent sociologist Robert Merton and Elinor Barber, the book--though occasionally and most tantalizingly cited--was intentionally never published. This is all the more curious because it so remarkably anticipated...



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*This book is definitely not straightforward to get started on studying but extremely exciting to read. It is really simplistic but shocks in the 50 percent of the ebook. Once you begin to read the book, it is extremely difficult to leave it before concluding.*

-- Ally Reichel

*This publication is amazing. It is definitely basic but shocks in the fifty percent of your publication. You won't feel monotony at anytime of your own time (that's what catalogues are for concerning if you question me).*

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