Rye Barcott
Social Entrepreneur & Veteran

Rye Barcott is author of *It Happened on the Way to War*, a memoir that Bono called "a wild ride," and *Reader’s Digest* named one of the four best nonfiction titles of 2011. The book is about his experience co-founding Carolina for Kibera as a non-governmental organization that uses a model of participatory development in Nairobi, Kenya, while serving simultaneously as a US Marine in Iraq, Bosnia, and the Horn of Africa. A *Time Magazine* “Hero of Global Health,” Carolina for Kibera helps scale new ideas and technology by investing directly into young leaders in one of the largest and most volatile slums in the world.

Through his narrative, accompanied by striking images, Barcott shows how small groups of committed people from very different ethnic, religious, and educational backgrounds can make profound impact. Eschewing old notions of top-down, command-and-control management, he presents lessons about how to form diverse, nimble teams to tackle our greatest challenges. He speaks to managing stress and accomplishing missions in combat, community development, and corporations.

These presentations weave together stories of empowerment, personal discovery, and risk taking. The driving theme, however, is universal: leaders emerge in the service of others. Barcott brings to life examples of participatory leadership from the frontlines. His presentations inspire and inform anyone interested in making a difference in the world.

A TED Fellow and World Economic Forum Young Global Leader, Rye Barcott works at Duke Energy on sustainability initiatives and disruptive innovation as an adviser to the Chairman and CEO. President Obama named him to the J. William Fulbright Foreign Scholarship Board as a representative of the veteran community.