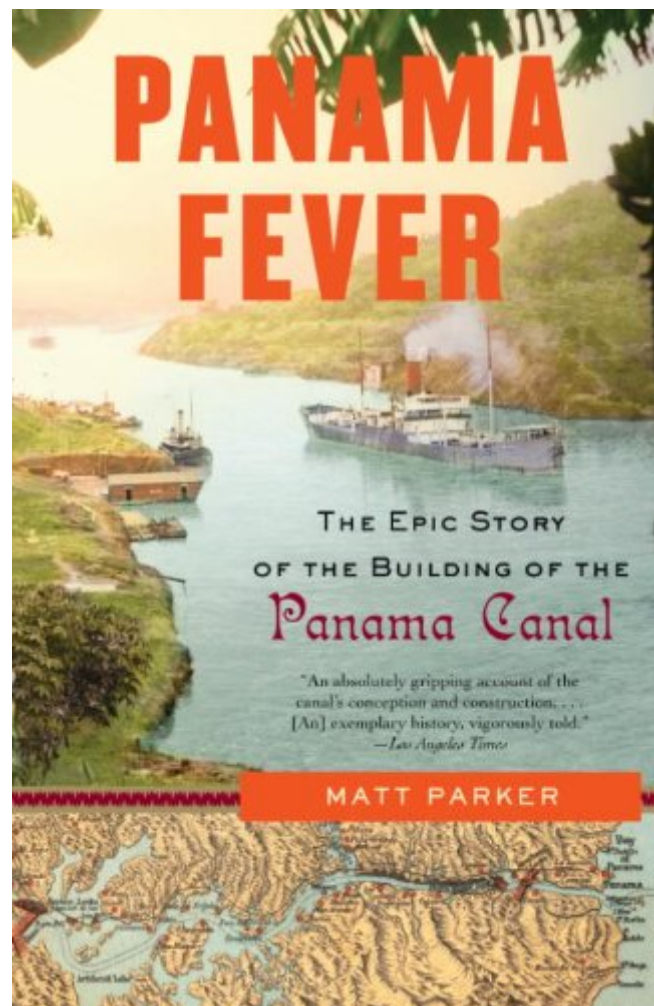


The book was found

Panama Fever: The Epic Story Of The Building Of The Panama Canal



Synopsis

The Panama Canal was the costliest undertaking in history; its completion in 1914 marked the beginning of the "American Century." Panama Fever draws on contemporary accounts, bringing the experience of those who built the canal vividly to life. Politicians engaged in high-stakes diplomacy in order to influence its construction. Meanwhile, engineers and workers from around the world rushed to take advantage of high wages and the chance to be a part of history. Filled with remarkable characters, Panama Fever is an epic history that shows how a small, fiercely contested strip of land made the world a smaller place and launched the era of American global dominance. From the Trade Paperback edition.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

When I read that the book was about the building of the Panama Canal I was most interested. As I have an engineering and technical background, I was looking forward to seeing how the technical challenges of the canal were dealt with 100 to 150 years ago. Unfortunately this was not the central focus of the book and in fact this area was poorly done. "One picture is worth a thousand words" or

so goes the saying. While the author provides many old maps, a few sketches of dredging equipment, and some lovely old photos, the engineering portion of the canal work is mostly described rather than more appropriately supported with descriptive illustrations. We all have heard stories or seen movies/TV programs about the yellow fever and other tropical diseases that blunted the French effort and how Teddy Roosevelt's politics enabled America to barge in and take over and this is very well explained, but less so the physical work in building the canal and its associated infrastructure.

Gave this as a gift to my Dad and he loves it.

The story of the canal is political, with lots of power play battles behind the scenes. In addition to describing the engineering works, people in key roles in the construction and workforce issues, perhaps half of the book relates to politics. Developments such as the US involvement in the independence of Panama are key to the canal and the book offers an interesting insight into how the Americans came to dominate and how their attitude developed in to what it is today. It is an epic story of an epic event in many different ways and Parker has woven it all together very well.

Detailed comprehensive look at the French and American efforts to build the canal. The focus on the geographic challenges and the ever present danger of illness was fascinating. The author vividly describes the harsh conditions for the international workforce.

This book showed up recommended on shortly before we were scheduled to take a cruise to the Panama Canal and back and I picked it up for my Kindle. I didn't read it until several months after our trip but found it to be extremely interesting especially since we had been to the area and actually seen the canal and the surrounding area. I recommend this highly.

I bought this prior to a trip to the Panama Canal the information contained therein is very good and informative

The story of the building of the Panama Canal is a must read for those who enjoy heroic tales of overcoming obstacles and achieving great things against the odds. It is also a story of the impact of public health on both the project and the country. The narrative is compelling and the story monumental.

Historicly balance and accurate. I wish it came in hardback!

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