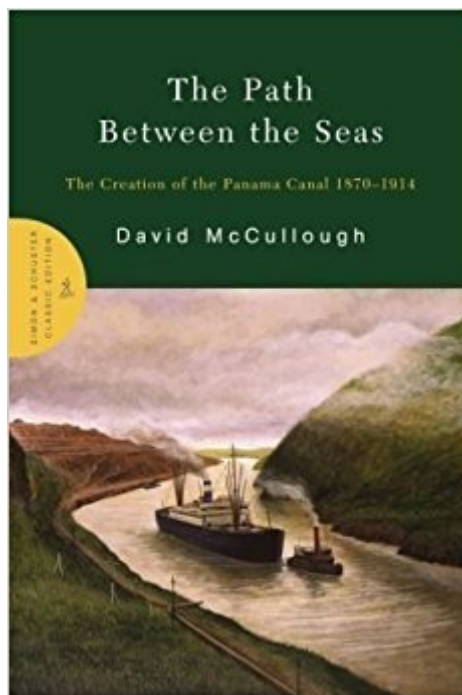




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# **The Path Between The Seas: The Creation Of The Panama Canal 1870-1914 By McCullough, David (2004) Hardcover**



## Synopsis

The Path Between the Seas: The Creation of the Panama Canal 1870-1914 by McCullough, David [2004]

## Book Information

Hardcover

Publisher: Simon & Schuster; 1st Edition edition (2004)

ASIN: B00YDJTMJE

Package Dimensions: 9.4 x 6.5 x 1.7 inches

Shipping Weight: 2.6 pounds

Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 stars 1,835 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #1,416,206 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #61 in [Books > History > Americas > Central America > Panama](#)

## Customer Reviews

The Path Between the Seas: The Creation of the Panama Canal 1870-1914 by McCullough, David [2004]

Very detailed history, well researched. Easy to read. You really get a feel for the personalities involved. Starts with President Jefferson who considered the idea of a canal between the oceans useful for American and continues on to the various surveys, explorations, treaties, and attempts. It really get's started with the French attempt to build the canal in the late 1800s and then with the American's engineering the "Coup" that created an independent Panama (from Columbia) and the start and finish of the American canal. If you like history you will enjoy this book.

David McCullough is such a fantastic historical writer and he, once again, does not fail with this book. I am sure very few people know how long it took to build the Panama Canal, what mighty obstacles had to be overcome and the amount of resources needed. But the real story is the people who were directly involved -- those whose initial planning proved undoable and those who figured out the right way, but all had such remarkable perseverance. But the success of its completion did not come without the tragedy of so many lives that were lost. Highly recommended for history buffs.

Written as only a Master story teller could deliver, all the facts, the political, the life and times, plus the World impact of a new path. How the USA came to be involved. The blood and treasure that

accomplished what at the time was consider impossible.As always David McCullough has created another written gift to appreciative readers.He is a National Treasure. Lets Hope Jimmie Peanut doesn't give him away too!

Bought this for my dad for his birthday. When he opened it he honestly kind of rolled his eyes. The book is HUGE and I think he thought he will never read it or be that interested (he doesn't really read that much, except the newspaper). He recently started it though and he really likes it! He keeps telling me all about the history of the canal. He also enjoys how it is written. I will have to get him more from this author.

Typical McCulough historical tract. A ton of in-depth information on the people behind the canal and the political and financial intrigue behind the project. This book is probably not for the average beach chair reader and it doesn't tell anything about current day Panama or the canal. That said it is a great book. I thought that his book "The Wright Brothers" was equally detailed but somewhat easier to read. Try them both if you are into history.

I can't imagine the amount of effort and work it took to put this book together. So, like the building of the canal took tremendous tenacity. The book would be five stars but I felt the author was too descriptive in the first half of the book and it made it a little more difficult to read. An amazing history and certainly worth reading.

This is the whole story. If history matters, if engineering is an interest, if politics matter, - this book has it all. It is a compelling story of an incredible feat of construction that is still working smoothly today. If you live in Panama it is a must read. If you want to live in Panama it should be a must read. Visits to the canal never get old believe me.

Despite being written over 30 years ago, this is still a very entertaining in depth history of the planning and construction of the Panama Canal from its earliest attempt by the French to its completion by the Americans. It ranks as perhaps the largest public works project in history with the Suez canal construction being dwarfed by the complexity and expense of the building of the Panama Canal. McCullough as with other books I've read by him covers the politics, the personalities as well as the mechanics of the construction. The reader becomes particularly aware of the unimaginable treatment of thousands of blacks from the Caribbean area who were treated

almost as slaves and put up with the abuse because there was no other means of making a living. McCullough is not shy about stating who he thinks were the heroes and who were the skunks over the many years of planning and construction. Many mistakes were made but there were some brilliant decisions as well. As with his other works, every statement is supported by original documentation and the bibliography allows anyone wanting to research this era plenty of excellent sources. If you like history, this would be an excellent read.

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