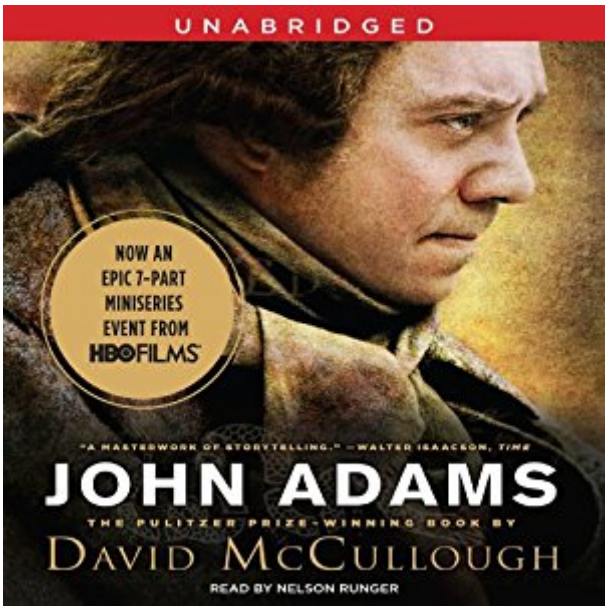
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John Adams



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Synopsis

In this powerful, epic biography, David McCullough unfolds the adventurous life journey of John Adams, the brilliant, fiercely independent, often irascible, always honest Yankee patriot who spared nothing in his zeal for the American Revolution; who rose to become the second president of the United States and saved the country from blundering into an unnecessary war; who was learned beyond all but a few and regarded by some as "out of his senses"; and whose marriage to the wise and valiant Abigail Adams is one of the most moving love stories in American history. This is history on a grand scale -- a book about politics and war and social issues, but also about human nature, love, religious faith, virtue, ambition, friendship, and betrayal, and the far-reaching consequences of noble ideas. Above all, John Adams is an enthralling, often surprising story of one of the most important and fascinating Americans who ever lived. --This text refers to the Audio CD edition.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I don’t know how to describe this book. I am an avid reader but have not read a lot of history because I never seemed to finish the books. I couldn’t stop reading this one. Have you ever been so engaged that you walk and read and the same time? That you carry the book with you everywhere you go in the hopes you will have a spare minute to crack it open and absorb a few pages? Well this book did that for me. I did not think I would find John Adams compelling but the book won a Pulitzer and I had heard the hype so I thought "why not?". This book is very well written. It covers the scope

of John Adams' life in it's entirety - with honesty and sensitivity. I was inspired by the genius cluster that founded our nation, the danger and uncertainty they went through with complete fortitude. This book is so relevant today because it helps us understand the thought and consideration Adams and other men went through when considering the construction of our government and their understanding of human nature that provided them the insight to create laws that to this day afford us the freedoms we enjoy. The topics of women's rights, slavery, military strength, the economy, immigration are all touched on as they had the forethought to understand what was coming. I wish there were more people serving in public office today like those original founders and especially John Adams.

This book is nothing short of perfection. I read a lot of biographies and I can easily say this one of the top ten best. John Adams is sadly not as highly regarded as George Washington and Thomas Jefferson which is a shame because he was essential to the founding of this country. McCullough shows Adams's life so vividly and thoroughly and perfectly captures his thoughts, his correspondence with his life, and the descions he made in shaping this country. I highly recommend this book to anyone who doesn't know anything about John Adams and even to ardent history buffs I would recommend it to, it's simply an extremely well written book. I love this book because of the light it shines on a founding father who's life is not as well known and McCullough's writing and bringing it to life with so much vividness.

The wealth of material that John Adams left behind is astounding. Official papers of Presidents are still preserved but few people in the 20th and 21st centuries leave the profusion of personal documents that men and women of the 18th and early 19th century did. They recorded many unvarnished feelings and opinions in letters and diaries seemingly without regarding the consequences. I can applaud their courage but David McCullough crafted from that treasure trove another of his wonderful books.John Adams is longer than most of the author's other works and appropriately so. Both the vast raw material available and the length of the second President's life begged a thorough treatment.I have loved McCullough's books since my adolescence 50 years ago. Back then I thought I hated history because I had not yet met the engaging teachers of that subject who turned on the light for me. This author's work drew me in even before I saw that light. It will surprise me if I ever need to rate one of his books less than 5 stars.

David McCullough has a way of bringing to light the human, cultural and historical contexts that

ingredients prominently in the life of John Adams. He admittedly and understandably makes extensive use of the correspondence between John and Abigail Adams and also the letters exchanged with other family members, friends and colleagues. McCullough has a great admiration for John Adams and probably has an historian's sense of obligation to set the record straight and ensure that Adams role in the struggle for independence is duly recognised.My only qualms with McCullough writing is that, at times, he goes into too much detail. Perhaps that is the one major fault of any thorough historian.His book, nevertheless, is a must for anyone with even a slight interest in the early history of the United States.

Gives me a new appreciation for Adams' part in our current system of checks-and-balances that seems to be working well to protect us at the moment. I learned a great deal about Adams friendship with Thomas Jefferson. I gained another viewpoint about Benjamin Franklin's time in France.

Somehow Washington and Jefferson have become the prototypical Founding Fathers. This book makes one realize that our wonderful country would not be what it has become if John Adams hadn't been there to do a lot of steering and shaping. And his representation of us in France, Holland and England earned us respect that carried us through difficult times at the beginning. His argument for naval preparedness, counter to Jefferson's desire for an army, served us very well. All in all, I feel the time invested in reading "John Adams" has broadened and deepened my understanding of our history. I strongly recommend it.

I'm sad to finish this book. I loved getting to know John Adams, his family, and Thomas Jefferson. We look at our forefathers in awe, but they were just normal, very intelligent, sometimes opinionated and argumentative men.

I enjoyed this book from start to finish! Not only is it a wonderful, thorough account of the life of John Adams, it illuminates the lives of many of the founding fathers (especially Thomas Jefferson) and other major participants in the American revolution and the formation of The United States. There is great detail about Adams' touching relationship with his wife Abigail and their children and grandchildren. As a Massachusetts resident who lives just a stone's throw from the battleground where the revolution's first shots were fired it was exciting to learn more about events that took place practically in my backyard. It has inspired me to go out and see these historic places with new

eyes and greater understanding. I enthusiastically recommend this book!

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