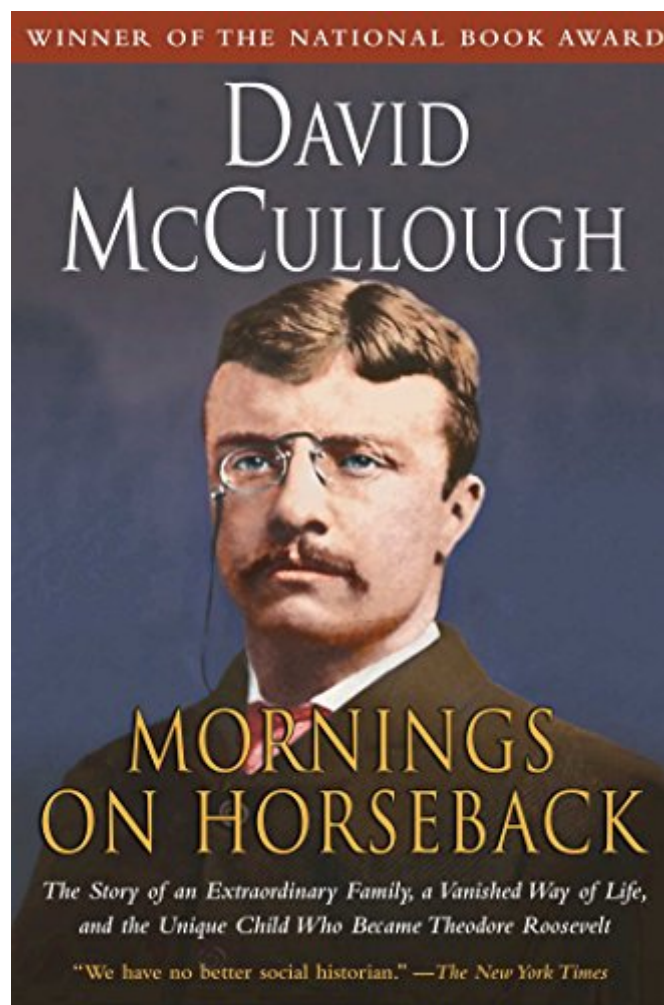


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Mornings On Horseback: The Story Of An Extraordinary Family, A Vanished Way Of Life And The Unique Child Who Became Theodore Roosevelt





Synopsis

The National Book Award-winning biography that tells the story of how young Teddy Roosevelt transformed himself from a sickly boy into the vigorous man who would become a war hero and ultimately president of the United States, told by master historian David McCullough. *Mornings on Horseback* is the brilliant biography of the young Theodore Roosevelt. Hailed as "a masterpiece" (John A. Gable, *Newsday*), it is the winner of the Los Angeles Times 1981 Book Prize for Biography and the National Book Award for Biography. Written by David McCullough, the author of *Truman*, this is the story of a remarkable little boy, seriously handicapped by recurrent and almost fatal asthma attacks, and his struggle to manhood: an amazing metamorphosis seen in the context of the very uncommon household in which he was raised. The father is the first Theodore Roosevelt, a figure of unbounded energy, enormously attractive and selfless, a god in the eyes of his small, frail namesake. The mother, Mittie Bulloch Roosevelt, is a Southerner and a celebrated beauty, but also considerably more, which the book makes clear as never before. There are sisters Anna and Corinne, brother Elliott (who becomes the father of Eleanor Roosevelt), and the lovely, tragic Alice Lee, TR's first love. All are brought to life to make "a beautifully told story, filled with fresh detail" (The New York Times Book Review). A book to be read on many levels, it is at once an enthralling story, a brilliant social history and a work of important scholarship which does away with several old myths and breaks entirely new ground. It is a book about life intensely lived, about family love and loyalty, about grief and courage, about "blessed mornings on horseback beneath the wide blue skies of the Badlands."

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Customer Reviews

Great book. I listened to it more or less in one sitting on a cross country drive. I've noticed criticizing TR is kind of in vogue among conservatives lately after people have compared Barak Obama to him. After listening to this I don't really think that's fair just as I don't think the comparison is legitimate. This is the story of an American Family that in many ways is the ideal we should all strive to be. From the book you get a sense that the Roosevelts of that era really took the well-being of their fellow man to heart in a way that transcends party politics or partizan ideology. The narrative abounds with humor, joy, victory, defeat, despair and tragedy. A wonderful study illuminating the fact that great men don't happen by accident. Highly Recommended it.

It was a good book but but I preferred "The Rise of Theodore Roosevelt" and it's sequel "Theodore Rex". After the first two this got so repetitious. If you aren't going to read the first two I would certainly read this. He was a fascinating man.

I found the book tedious, and in the end didn't have a particularly good feel for the Teddy Roosevelt that ultimately became President of the US. The book never came to life, making me want to know more about the man, or his family. I love this genre of historical non-fiction, so it was not the subject, but the style. Too much fact recitation, and not enough anecdotal personal story-telling to bring the characters to life. By contrast, I am now reading Doris Kearns Goodwin's book on Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt during WWII time, and it comes to life immediately and has been engaging throughout, both regarding the protagonists, who they are, and their historical context.

David McCullough is the premier master of American biography and history. This aspect of

Theodore Roosevelt's life might be overlooked but McCullough makes it a spellbinding story about such a great man and how he became great. No novel could be so fascinating. Just wish we had more from this very great author.

I have a TR fascination. This is my favorite TR books, even moreso than the E. Morris Part I that covers the same time frame in his life, which is also very good. There is just something about McCullough's writing.

David McCullough's books have taught me more about our American history than I could have ever learned through dull history books. His books read almost like a novel. After I finished MORNINGS ON HORSEBACK, this President Roosevelt was no longer just one of our former Presidents, but a remarkable man with an indomitable spirit. Where are leaders like him today?

Any thing by David McCullough is a favorite in this house. This is an exceptional story.

Fair Text by David McCullough, it really focuses more on the family Roosevelt's instead of Teddy himself which was a major let down. Secondly my copy was old with the ugly original cover which is nothing like it is now. Also my paper back copy just looks terrible on my book shelf don't be like me spend a-little more and get the updated Hard Back edition. It is a fair text by definitely not in line with David McCullough's best "John Adams" "Wright Brothers" "1776" Honestly I was a major fan of 1776 it was okay but nothing super great or exciting John Adams was vastly better ~

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