

Until The Last Spike: The Journal of Sean Sullivan, Transcontinental Railroad

The Transcontinental Railroad was one of the most ambitious engineering projects in American history. Completed in 1869, it connected the eastern and western United States by rail, transforming the nation's transportation system and economy. *Until the Last Spike* is the fictionalized journal of Sean Sullivan, a young Irish immigrant who worked on the railroad's construction. Through Sullivan's eyes, we witness the challenges and triumphs of this epic undertaking.

The Journey West

Sullivan's journey begins in New York City in 1865. He is a skilled laborer with a strong work ethic, but he is also restless and eager for adventure. When he hears about the Transcontinental Railroad, he decides to sign up as a worker. Sullivan travels by ship to San Francisco, where he joins a crew of Chinese laborers who are building the western section of the railroad. The work is hard and dangerous, but Sullivan is determined to prove himself. He quickly becomes one of the best workers on the crew, and he is soon promoted to foreman.



Until the Last Spike, the Journal of Sean Sullivan, a Transcontinental Railroad Worker, Nebraska and Points West, 1867 (My Name Is America) by William Durbin

★★★★☆ 4.6 out of 5

Language : English
File size : 3388 KB
Text-to-Speech : Enabled
Screen Reader : Supported
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled

Word Wise : Enabled
Print length : 195 pages
Lending : Enabled



The Challenges of Construction

The construction of the Transcontinental Railroad was a daunting task. The workers had to contend with extreme weather conditions, rugged terrain, and hostile Native American tribes. They also had to overcome the logistical challenges of transporting materials and supplies to remote work sites. Sullivan's journal provides a vivid account of the challenges that the workers faced.

One of the biggest challenges was the Sierra Nevada Mountains. The workers had to blast their way through solid rock in order to lay track over the mountains. The work was slow and dangerous, and many workers were injured or killed. Sullivan himself was nearly killed by a rock slide, but he was saved by his fellow workers.

The Triumph of Completion

Despite the challenges, the workers persevered. In 1869, the Union Pacific Railroad and the Central Pacific Railroad met at Promontory Summit, Utah. The two lines were joined by a golden spike, completing the Transcontinental Railroad. Sullivan was there to witness the historic event, and he was filled with pride and accomplishment.

The completion of the Transcontinental Railroad was a major turning point in American history. It connected the East and West Coasts, making it

possible for people and goods to travel between the two regions more quickly and easily. The railroad also helped to boost the economy and open up new land for settlement. Sullivan's journal is an invaluable record of this historic event and the challenges that the workers faced.

Sean Sullivan's Legacy

Sean Sullivan was one of the thousands of workers who helped to build the Transcontinental Railroad. He was a skilled laborer, a hard worker, and a brave man. His journal provides a unique glimpse into the challenges and triumphs of this epic undertaking. Sullivan's legacy is one of hard work, determination, and perseverance.

The Transcontinental Railroad is a testament to the ingenuity and perseverance of the American people. It is a symbol of the nation's westward expansion and its commitment to progress. Sean Sullivan's journal is a valuable reminder of the sacrifices that were made to build this great railroad.

Until the Last Spike is a fascinating and inspiring story about the construction of the Transcontinental Railroad. Through the eyes of Sean Sullivan, we witness the challenges and triumphs of this epic undertaking. Sullivan's journal is a valuable historical document and a testament to the hard work and determination of the American people.



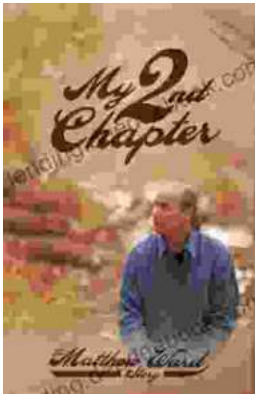
Until the Last Spike, the Journal of Sean Sullivan, a Transcontinental Railroad Worker, Nebraska and Points West, 1867 (My Name Is America) by William Durbin

★★★★☆ 4.6 out of 5

Language : English

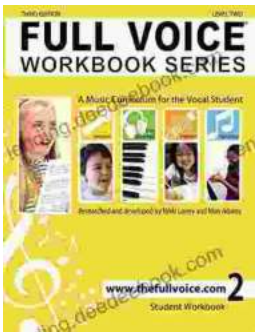
File size : 3388 KB

Text-to-Speech : Enabled
Screen Reader : Supported
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled
Word Wise : Enabled
Print length : 195 pages
Lending : Enabled



My Second Chapter: The Inspiring Story of Matthew Ward

In the tapestry of life, where threads of adversity often intertwine with the vibrant hues of triumph, there are stories that have the power to ignite our spirits and...



Full Voice Workbook Level Two: A Comprehensive Guide to Advanced Vocal Technique

The Full Voice Workbook Level Two is a comprehensive resource designed to help singers develop advanced vocal techniques and expand their vocal range. As a sequel to the...