

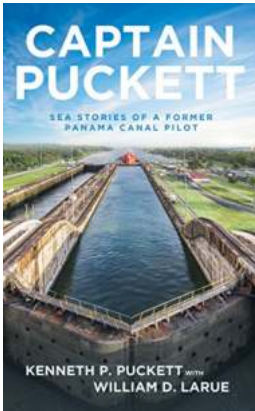
Discover the Untold Sea Stories of a Former Panama Canal Pilot



Being a Panama Canal Pilot is no ordinary job. It requires immense skill, experience, and nerves of steel. These brave pilots steer massive ships through the treacherous waters of the Panama Canal, ensuring the safe passage of goods and people from one ocean to another.

Today, we invite you to delve into the thrilling and captivating sea stories of a former Panama Canal Pilot. Get ready to be transported into a world of adventure, suspense, and extraordinary feats of navigation.

Captain Puckett: Sea stories of a former Panama Canal pilot by William D. LaRue (Kindle Edition)



★★★★☆ 4.4 out of 5
Language : English
File size : 7070 KB
Text-to-Speech : Enabled
Screen Reader : Supported
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled
Word Wise : Enabled
Print length : 233 pages
Lending : Enabled



The Birth of a Legend

Our story begins with Captain Robert Stevens, a renowned Panama Canal Pilot who dedicated 30 years of his life to mastering the art of navigating through the locks and channels of the canal. A legend among sailors, his tales have become the stuff of maritime folklore.

One of his most famous stories recalls the time he guided a massive container ship through a thunderstorm that threatened to capsize it. With lightning crashing around them and waves crashing against the vessel, Captain Stevens demonstrated unparalleled skill and composure, ultimately saving the ship and its crew.

Tales of High Stakes and Narrow Margins

As you explore the early chapters of Captain Stevens' career, you will be intrigued by stories of high-stakes navigation through narrow channels. Picture yourself at the helm of a gigantic cargo ship with only inches to spare on either side, as the captain expertly maneuvers it through the winding path of the canal.

But it's not just the tight margins that make these tales so gripping. The presence of lurking dangers, such as strong currents and rock formations, adds an extra element of suspense. Will Captain Stevens, with his years of experience, be able to guide the ship safely to its destination?

Encounters with Wildlife

While the Panama Canal may be known for its impressive engineering, it is also home to a rich variety of wildlife. In his sea stories, Captain Stevens often shares encounters with majestic dolphins, exotic birds, and even elusive crocodiles.

One unforgettable tale revolves around a particularly curious group of dolphins that swam alongside the ship for miles. Their playful antics provided a much-needed break from the intense navigation, creating a special bond between the crew and these fascinating creatures.

Daring Rescue Missions

The life of a Panama Canal Pilot is filled with unexpected challenges. From time to time, they are called upon to perform daring rescue missions, saving sailors stranded on sinking ships or injured during rough weather.

One such gripping story details Captain Stevens' heroic efforts to rescue a crew of fishermen whose boat had capsized in a sudden storm. Battling against powerful winds and raging waves, he single-handedly managed to pluck each fisherman from the treacherous waters, ensuring their safe return to land.

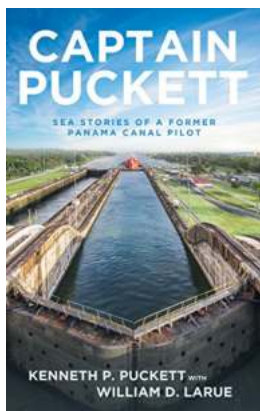
Legacy of Courage and Skill

As you conclude your journey through the sea stories of Captain Robert Stevens, you will realize the immense courage, skill, and dedication it takes to be a

Panama Canal Pilot. These masters of navigation are true heroes of the seas, deserving of our utmost respect.

The legacy of Captain Stevens lives on in every pilot who has followed in his footsteps. They continue to navigate the treacherous waters of the Panama Canal, upholding the tradition of ensuring safe and efficient passage for ships from all corners of the globe.

So, sit back, relax, and prepare to be captivated by the thrilling sea stories of a former Panama Canal Pilot. Join Captain Stevens on his breathtaking adventures through rain, shine, and everything in between, and let the tales of the sea wash over you.



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The history and operations of the Panama Canal during the 1980s and 1990s come to life in this vibrant personal memoir by retired canal pilot Kenneth P. Puckett. In this book, Captain Puckett shares "sea stories" and other personal memories that have made him a popular teacher and lecturer. For nearly 16 years, until he retired in 1996, he helped to guide ships through the historic

Panama Canal on more than 1,400 transits. On these pages he navigates through tales of his rocky childhood in northern Kentucky; his military adventures in both the U.S. Navy and U.S. Army, where he served two tours of Vietnam; and what it was like in Panama in the 1980s as the Central American country fell into chaos under the dictatorship of Manuel Noriega. Enjoy the breezy storytelling of Captain Puckett as he shares what it was like being a maritime pilot on the canal during its turbulent years of transition to ownership by Panama after nearly a century under U.S. control. But don't think Captain Puckett didn't have fun along the way. He blends into this autobiography many of his unforgettable sea stories, such as the time he encountered a "pooping monkey" on a ship's bridge, and the time he once pranked a ship's captain into thinking he had plowed his vessel through a banana farm.



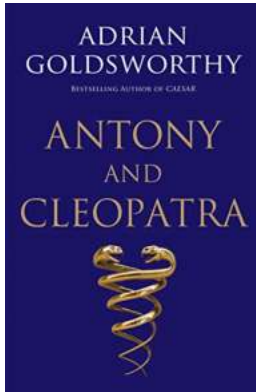
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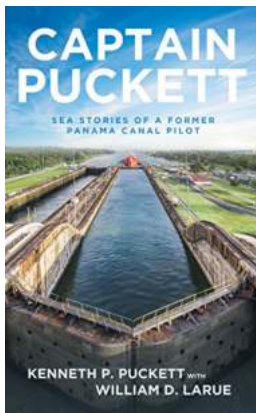
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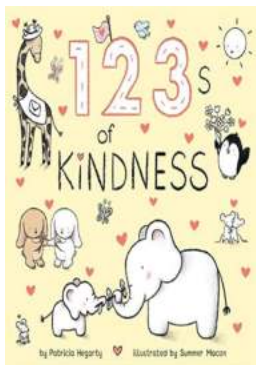
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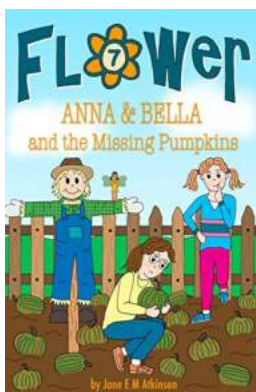
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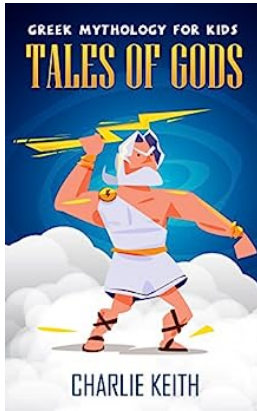
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