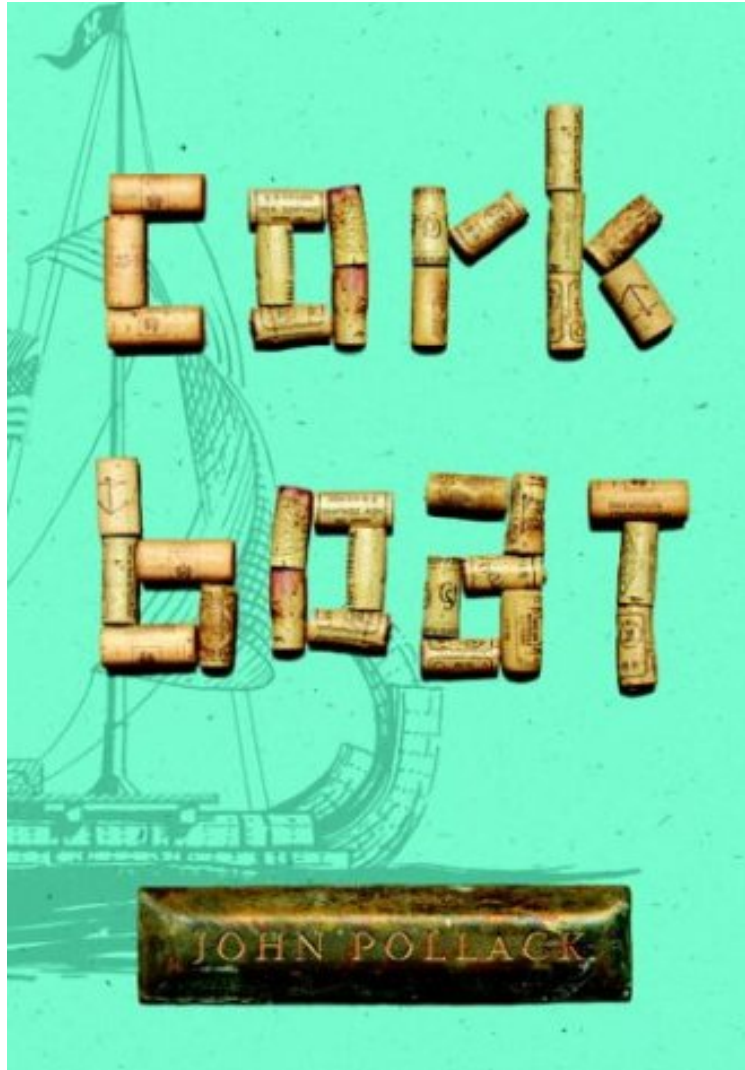


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## Cork Boat

Von John Pollack

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**Von John Pollack : Cork Boat** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Cork Boat:

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. die ungekrzte Version mit anderem Sprecher ist um Lngen besser!Von CustomerZuallererst: ich habe mir die ungekrzte Version angehrt. Der Sprecher dabei ist nicht der Autor selbst, sondern Jonathan Marosz.Ich habe mich erst nach einer ganzen Weile zum Kauf dieses Hrbuchs entschlossen. Der Grund war hauptschlich, da ich patriotischen Amerika-Hymnen in irgendeiner Form befrchtete. Immerhin arbeitete derAutor jahrelang im Weien Haus und war einer der 4 Redeschreiber von Prsident Clinton!Aber ich bin richtig froh, den Titel dann doch aus einer Laune heraus in meinen

Warenkorb gepackt zu haben. Die Hymnen blieben aus und die Politik wurde 'vermenschlicht' und teilweise kritisiert. Das Buch fesselte mich - ich hrte es zu den unterschiedlichsten Gelegenheiten und mir wurde nie langweilig. J. Pollack versteht es erstaunlich gut, politische Ereignisse und seine persnliche Geschichte des Bootsbaus zu verbinden. Wir erfahren von Rckschlgen, Hoffnungen, mhseligen Arbeitsstunden, organisatorischen Leistungen, menschlicher Zusammenarbeit und Solidaritt und erleben den letztendlichen Triumph mit.Zugegeben, er hat auch viel Erfahrung im Schreiben und von diesem Talent profitieren wir bei diesem Hrgenu. Ich habe in die gekrzte Fassung hineingehrt und kann die ungekrzte wesentlich mehr empfehlen - der Sprecher ist einfach besser, auch wenn die andere Version vom Autor selbst gelesen wird. Ich fand es auch groartig, da ich mir das gebaute Boot, das so genau vor dem inneren Auge entsteht, dann tatschlich auf der Homepage ansehen konnte, zusammen mit weiteren Fotos.Ein Zitat aus dem Hrbuch, da ich so unheimlich passend fr die perfekten Momente des Lebens fand: 'The music ... It struck a cord in me, both of loss and of hope. I found I was unable to let go of the evening just yet. It had been too perfect. One in which I felt briefly transcendent. Just like that night ... and I realized, that life could be absolutely perfect, if only for a few moments at a time.'Fazit: Sehr empfehlenswert! (aber wie schon gesagt, nur die ungekrzte Version) - daher fr die gekrzte Version 4 Sterne; die ungekrzte hat woanders von mir alle Sternchen bekommen.

Kurzbeschreibung165,321 corks1 boatMost people have childhood dreams; few ever pursue them. At the age of 34, John Pollack quit a prestigious speechwriting job on Capitol Hill to pursue an idea he had harbored since the age of six: to build a boat out of wine corks and take it on an epic journey.In Cork Boat, Pollack tells the charming and uplifting story of this unlikely adventure. Overcoming one obstacle after another, he convinces skeptical bartenders to save corks, corrals a brilliant but disorganized partner, and cajoles more than a hundred volunteers to help build the boat, many until their fingers bleed. Hired as a speechwriter for President Clinton midway through construction, Pollack soon has the White House saving corks, too. Ultimately, he and his crew set sail down the Douro River in Portugal, where the boat becomes a national sensation. Written with unusual grace and disarming humor, Cork Boat is a buoyant tale of camaraderie, determination, and the power of imagination.From the Trade Paperback edition.From Publishers WeeklyAfter a three-year stint as a freelance foreign correspondent in Spain, Pollack returned to the U.S. to win the 1995 O. Henry World Championship Pun-Offs and work as a speechwriter for House Democratic Whip David Bonior. Disillusioned by Capitol Hill hypocrisy, hyperbole and political rhetoric, he yearned for a "creative sabbatical." "Deep down, I knew I had to get out before the rising bile of my cynicism poisoned the last of my idealism." The "antithesis of everything Washington," he decided, would be to build a boat from wine corks, a dream project since his childhood. Teaming with architect Garth Goldstein and collecting corks during visits to D.C. restaurants, Pollack also received some hefty donations: 15,000 corks from California's Cork Supply USA and an equal number of rubber bands from Arkansas's Alliance Rubber. Despite such inroads, Pollack's boat building endeavors went on the back burner when he was invited to join Bill Clinton's speechwriting team. He shares a brief glimpse of White House life, then gets back to boat-building. After several months (and with the help of dozens of volunteers), the boat was finally assembled with 165,321 corks and 15,000 rubber bands. Sailing on a cresting wave of media attention, Pollack landed a sponsorship from Cork Supply and navigated his 22-foot boat down the Douro River in Portugal (the birthplace of cork); the concluding chapters detail that operation's loony logistics. Although a cork boat drawing (not seen by PW) is included, it's not always easy to visualize the boat's construction from the text description. Nevertheless, Pollack offers an amusing tale, with entertaining anecdotes constantly bobbing to the surface.Copyright Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved.From School Library JournalAdult/High School-Pollack tells how he realized his lifelong dream of building a boat from wine-bottle corks. The project involved calling on restaurants (an agonizingly slow process that he grew to loathe); boat design (and redesign) with his architect partner; asking for 60,000 free corks from a supplier; construction (with numerous setbacks) in a Washington, DC, garage by dozens of volunteers who came and went; and the stressful completion of the vessel just barely in time to meet his third self-imposed deadline. The boat was shipped to Portugal (the home of cork) for a trip down the dam-filled Douro from the Spanish border to the Atlantic, with his codesigner and a few family members and friends along to help row. The journey took much longer than planned. This wonderfully inspiring story, told in an amusing and suspenseful way, shows how hard work and perseverance can make improbable dreams happen. Pollack gives credit to his project partner, who remains a friend even though they had serious differences along the way. His tone is so can-do and engaged with life that it cannot fail to affect readers positively.- Judy McAloon, Potomac Library, Prince William County, VA Copyright Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved.