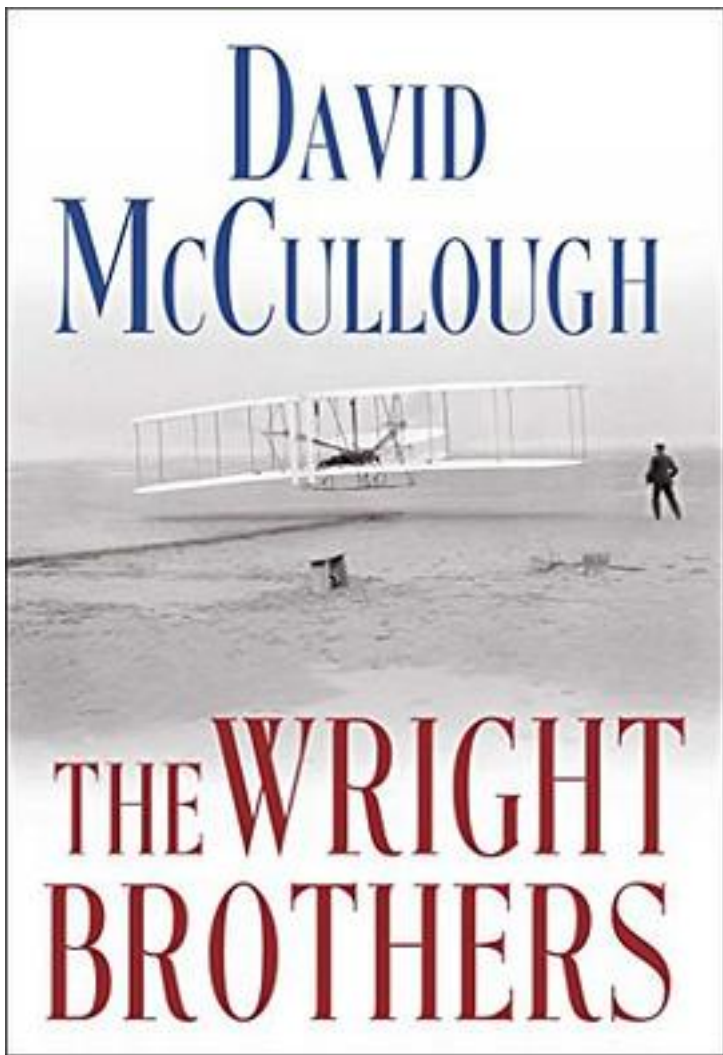


The Wright Brothers



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出版者:Trafalgar Square

出版时间:2003-10

装帧:HRD

isbn:9780316861441

The conquest of the air at Kitty Hawk, North Carolina, on 17 December 1903 was one of the supreme achievements of the 20th century. Two unknown American bicycle mechanics, Wilbur and Orville Wright, launched that day the first successful powered aeroplane, changing the world for ever. On the centennial of the historic first flights, biographer Ian Mackersey offers this study of the lives of these eccentric geniuses. Their brilliance unlocked the secrets of mechanical flight to realize one of man's oldest dreams. Mackersey brings to life a family swept up in the fame, jealousies and law suits that exploded around them - the domineering figure of their father, Bishop Milton Wright, whose church wars raged distractingly alongside the process of invention, and their feisty, adoring sister, Katharine, whose marriage led Orville never to speak to her again. Mackersey's narrative also explains accessibly, the aerodynamic breakthrough that had defeated inventive minds for centuries.

作者介绍:

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