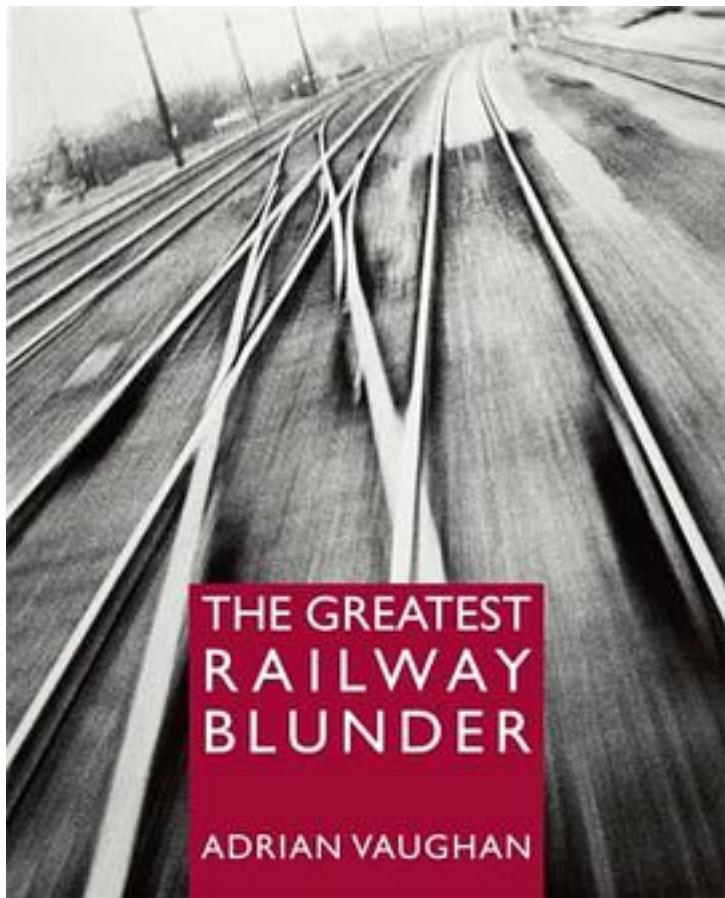


# The Greatest Railway Blunder



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Well known railway writer Adrian Vaughan, and author of the very successful title "Railway Blunders", now turns his attention to what he considers to be the greatest blunder the railway industry has ever perpetrated, the privatisation of the 1990s. A personal polemic, he first gives a history from the dawn of the railway age up to 1948

when the industry developed into a number of large, centralised, integrated self-supporting companies, but the efficiencies borne from a common gauge and common standards enabled the railways to withstand even the very worst pressures that two World Wars brought to the transport system. The author then goes on to analyse the process of privatisation and the effects it has had on the industry in the ensuing years. He looks in detail at the franchisees, the contracts, the costs, the successes and more prevalent failures, the comparison with railways abroad, and to the final chapter where he poses the question 'Has privatisation achieved anything that could not have been achieved by BR?' All readers can judge for themselves in this often controversial but always absorbing study.

作者介绍:

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