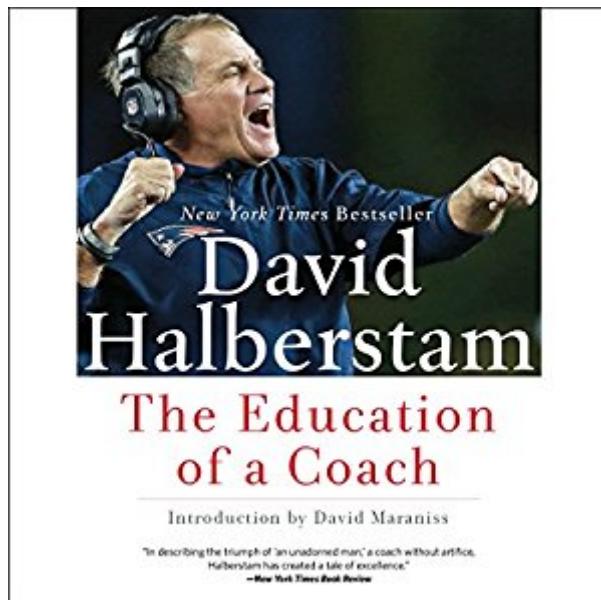


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# The Education Of A Coach



## **Synopsis**

More than six years after his death, David Halberstam remains one of this country's most respected journalists and revered authorities on American life and history in the years since WWII. A Pulitzer Prize winner for his groundbreaking reporting on the Vietnam War, Halberstam wrote more than 20 books, almost all of them best sellers. His work has stood the test of time and has become the standard by which all journalists measure themselves. Bill Belichick's 31 years in the NFL have been marked by amazing success - most recently with the New England Patriots. In this groundbreaking book, *The Education of a Coach*, David Halberstam explores the nuances of both the game and the man behind it. He uncovers what makes Bill Belichick tick both on and off the field.

## **Book Information**

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## **Customer Reviews**

I love reading David Halberstam - unfortunately this is not one of his better efforts. The first half of the book discussing the subjects earlier in the subjects life was excellent and fact filled. Once we get to the coaches move to Cleveland and his first head coaching experience the text gets more general. I am not returning the book or giving it away, but I will be looking for another text from a different author for more insight.

The author does a really good job explaining to the readers how Bill Belichick became so successful and where did he get his teachings from. According to the book Belichick got most of his teachings

from his dad Steve Belichick who was a college recruit. Steve explained to Bill that it is very important to break down other teams to help his team win. He broke down opponents by breaking down every play they ran and find their weaknesses so they can attack their weak spots. This is one of many other helpful pointers that Steve taught Bill to become the coach he dreamed of being. The book also talks about his incredible journey from listening to his dad to become one of the greatest coaches of all time. Bill started at a prep school in Andover and then went to Wesleyan College to finish his college life. Although he wasn't head coach at any of these schools, they were building blocks to help achieve his dream. After college, he got an internship with the Baltimore Colts where he would learn from the coaches and take note of what they do. After he became defensive coordinator for Bill Parcells. Belichick succeeded as defensive coordinator and many people believe he was one of the best defensive coordinators ever. This created another stepping stone for Belichick because after he was offered a job to coach for the Cleveland Browns. This job was not a great as he thought it would be. He coached the Browns from 1991-1995 which he was not successful during those years. He was soon fired and became defensive coordinator again. Finally Belichick was signed to the Patriots and maybe could have been of the best decisions the Patriots organization ever made. He currently is still the coach of the Patriots and has won four Superbowls. I would recommend this book to anyone who loves Bill Belichick and to anyone who wants to be a professional coach when they are older. This book is very inspiring and brought many facts that I had no idea about. The author did a wonderful job and was one of the best books I have ever read.

Halberstam's great talents as listener, researcher, story teller and writer make this book both enjoyable and a real learning experience. Belichick is one of the greatest coaches of all time and this helps explain why.

Interesting read for football fans, and a must if you're a Patriots fan. The book deeply dives into what turned Bill Belichick's into one of the greatest coaches. The book included some interesting anecdotes around Belichick's origin (started breaking down game tape at the age of 9!), and his fight through the coaching ranks to the pinnacle of the profession. While there are some general takeaways for someone looking to distill general coaching and leadership lessons, there are not enough for me to recommend this to a non-football fan.

When David Halberstam stops writing about sports--God delay the day--he will go down as one of the great English-language sportswriters of all time. Rarely does a writer on serious topics, and he

writes on sport as a most serious enterprise, excel in such varied genres as political history ('The Best and the Brightest') and sport. This first deployment of the author's considerable skills on American football is the literary equivalent of a successful Hail Mary pass. Offered late in the game with but perhaps one chance to win the battle, a high-risk throw is tossed into the air with the hope that somebody down there might make the unlikely victorious grab. The reader does. Bill Belichick, the now-legendary head coach of the New England Patriots teams that dominated the NFL at the midpoint of the new century's first decade, comes under Halberstam's gaze. This cerebral, obsessively disciplined anti-celebrity with his passion for building a team on good value from the ground up is not at first glance a compelling subject for a professional biography. Yet Halberstam's gift is for discerning just how a key persona decided to move against the grain of a profession's received wisdom without necessarily calling attention to his methodological heresy. Quietly building up 'Belichick University' while traversing the serial failures that are the calling card of professional coaching and coaches, Coach Belichick built a different kind of team and did the Thing that can almost not be imagined: he changed the NFL. As he tells the story, quickly convincing his reader that it is a fascinating tale that merits his readers attention even as civil wars, terrorist alarm, and global warming conspire to argue that sport is an irrelevance, Halberstam scatters observations and knowing turns of phrase that leaders of any profession are likely to find invaluable. Even if you thought the Patriots were a missile defense system, read this book.

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