

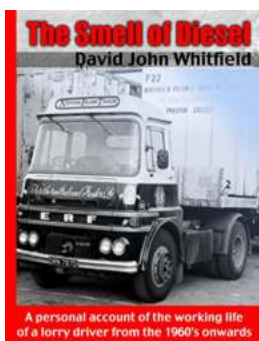
My Life on the Open Road: A Lorry Driver's Journey Through Time

Driving down the highway, the wind in my hair and the open road ahead – that's where I found my freedom. As a lorry driver, every day was an adventure, filled with new sights, sounds, and challenges to conquer. From the bustling streets of London to the quiet countryside lanes, my life on the road was an experience like no other. In this personal account, I want to take you on a journey through time, sharing the highs and lows of my working life as a lorry driver from the 1960s onwards.

The Swinging Sixties: A Transformative Era

The 1960s marked a significant turning point in the history of transportation. The of modern motorways and the rise of the consumer culture brought about a surge in demand for faster and more efficient deliveries. As a young lorry driver starting my career in this era, I witnessed firsthand how these changes revolutionized the industry.

With my hands gripping the steering wheel of a powerful lorry, I navigated the winding roads of the British countryside. The engine roared, shaking the very foundations of traditional transportation. The open road became a symbol of freedom and opportunity, and I was fortunate enough to experience it at its apex.



THE SMELL OF DIESEL: A PERSONAL ACCOUNT OF THE WORKING LIFE OF A LORRY DRIVER FROM THE 1960S ONWARDS

by Carolina Rose (Kindle Edition)

★★★★☆ 4.5 out of 5

Language : English

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| File size | : 4004 KB |
| Text-to-Speech | : Enabled |
| Screen Reader | : Supported |
| Enhanced typesetting | : Enabled |
| Word Wise | : Enabled |
| Print length | : 152 pages |
| Lending | : Enabled |



Tales from the Tarmac: Stories of Triumph and Tragedy

Every day held its own set of challenges and victories. From successfully maneuvering through congested city streets during rush hour to navigating treacherous weather conditions, no two days were ever the same.

One particularly memorable incident took place in the late 1970s when I was transporting a fragile load of delicate glassware from London to Edinburgh. As a dense fog swept across the motorway, visibility became close to zero. With my heart pounding, I relied on my instincts and years of experience to safely guide my lorry through the murkiness. It was a nerve-wracking journey, but I managed to deliver the fragile cargo intact, much to the relief of my client.

However, not all journeys ended with a happy ending. In the early 1980s, I found myself in the midst of a major fuel crisis that crippled the transportation industry. With long queues at petrol stations and limited fuel available, planning routes and deliveries became an intricate puzzle. The uncertainty of whether I would even have enough fuel to complete the trips added an extra layer of stress to my already demanding job.

Changing Times: Technological Advances and Evolving Practices

As the years went by, technology made its presence felt in the field of transportation. Gone were the days of handwritten logbooks and physical maps. Instead, computers and GPS systems became essential tools for lorry drivers like myself to navigate the extensive road networks.

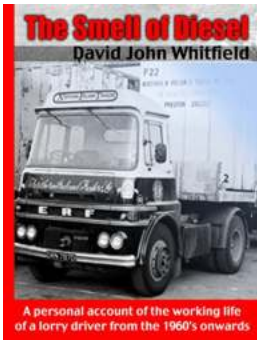
While these advancements made certain aspects of the job easier, they also brought about new challenges. Increased reliance on technology meant that drivers needed to constantly adapt and learn new skills to keep up with evolving practices. I vividly remember the frustration of trying to figure out a malfunctioning GPS system in the middle of nowhere, miles away from any human assistance. But with determination and a little trial-and-error, I always managed to find my way back on track.

The Legacy of a Life Well-Traveled

Looking back on my decades-long career as a lorry driver, I can't help but feel a sense of pride and accomplishment. I have witnessed firsthand the incredible changes that have shaped the transportation industry over the years. From the increased automation of vehicles to the growing emphasis on sustainability, the world I once knew has transformed in ways I never could have imagined.

But amid all these changes, one thing remains constant – the allure of the open road. It's a profession that allows you to connect with people from all walks of life, to witness the breathtaking beauty of different landscapes, and to experience the thrill of conquering unknown territories.

So, as the sun sets on my career as a lorry driver, I pass the torch to the new generation. May they embark on their own remarkable journeys, carrying the rich legacy of those who came before them.



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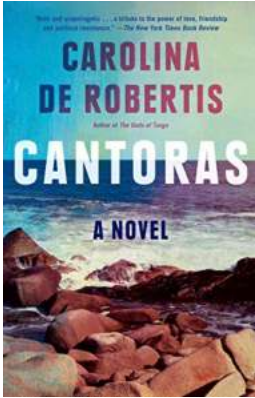
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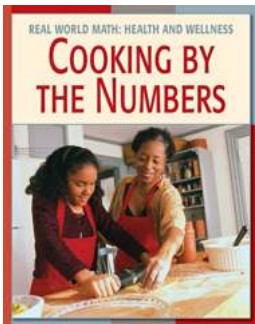


A personal account of my working life from when I left school at aged 15 in 1961. My interest whilst still at school were lorries, ships and farming. It was therefore on a dairy farm that I started my 50 years of work. After the farm I became a drivers mate and when I passed my driving test I began to drive small lorries. The driving progressed and on reaching 21 I became a dock shunter for Ulster Ferry Transport on the docks in Preston, this led to becoming a lorry driver for Northern Ireland Trailers also in Preston. After the narrative of the docks the account tells of life as a long distance lorry driver from around 1970. A good portion of the story tells of my employment at the Scottish company WH Malcolm at the Preston depot. The story touches briefly on my personal life, the injuries I sustained at work and the couple of smaller driving jobs before my retirement in 2011.



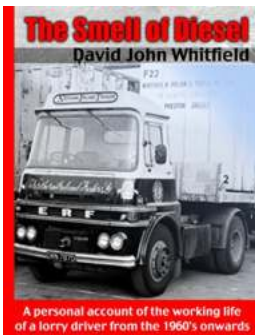
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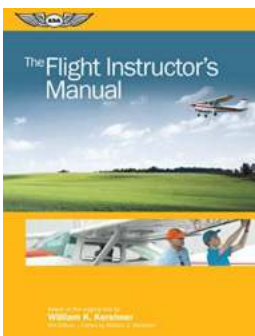
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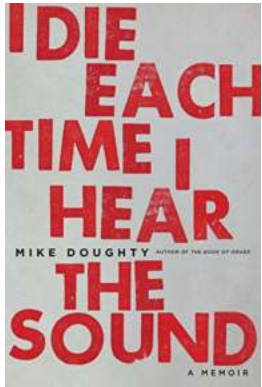
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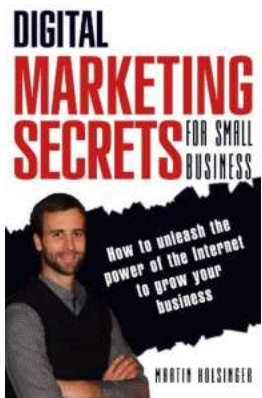
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