Chesapeake 1880: Steamboats & Oyster Wars: The News Reader, Book 2
Life in the Chesapeake region for the family of Ethan Aaron Douglas, from steamboats to newspapers, struggles of immigrants and the changes brought by the industrial revolution. The simple life of watermen and challenges of weather, fire and disaster in the era of 1880 to 1910 brought to life for the reader from a life-long resident of the Tidewater region. Catch up on the latest events from around the Chesapeake as told by the News Readers on the steamboats of the Old Bay Line to the passengers.

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Customer Reviews
Great follow on to the 1st book in this series, with an obvious next book to follow. The history of steam boats and ships on the Chesapeake Bay and Potomac River from Baltimore, DC and Norfolk continues. The lives of the watermen of this era is given in good detail so that the reader understands how the oysters, fish and crabs go from the initial catch, through the buy boats to the restaurants and then their patrons. Catching crabs and oysters has little changed for individuals as many of my friends still reside in Southern Maryland and enjoy keeping their own tables and stomachs filled with these easily caught sea foods. Captain Douglas continues to build in fleet and other investments in rail roads and sea going ships while establishing a welfare system for seamen who are injured or killed in their work. The Captain is one of those rare individuals who understood that if you treat your employees fairly and generously, like a family, you will reap even greater rewards back. He is also one of the rare people of his generation to view the black man as
deserving the same treatment and rewards as his white employees. The book gives the reader a front row center seat of this part of our nation at this time via real people. The Douglas family spreads from fishing, buy boats, cargo and passenger transport on these great waterways and into rail roads and the newspapers of the time in the nation’s capitol. You will quickly be reading the news chosen by the "News Readers" of that time as it actually was written from the actual newspapers. I found this very interesting in the different sentence structure and words which were used at that time versus our modern usage.

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