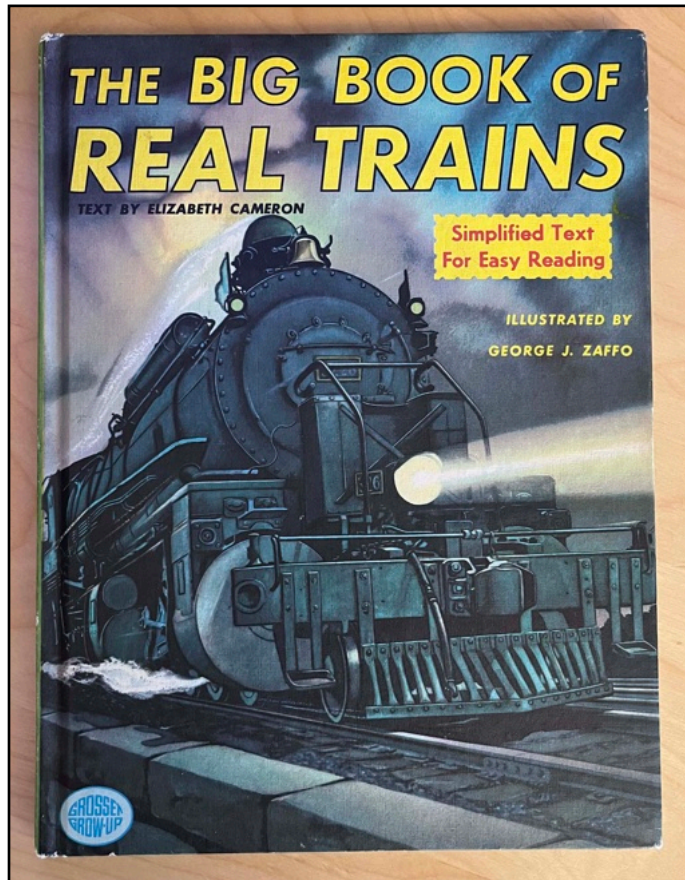


6. BEN SULLIVAN'S BIG BOOK OF REAL TRAINS



The most influential railroad book that I can recall is *The Big Book of Real Trains*, by Elizabeth Cameron with illustrations by George Zaffo. While this book was originally printed in 1949, the 1978 printing (made when I was just three years old) was the one that I had growing up. The pages roughly alternate between full-color painted renderings and lovely, intricate black and white line drawings. This book was different than most other children's railroad books that I had; this one had lots of detail and a beautiful, gritty feel to the beautiful artwork. This book took a more prototypical lean in its description of the railroad. There's even a whole section on hand/lantern signals and the makeup of passenger trains. To this day, when I see the cover I am instantly transported back to my childhood where my love of trains began.

Ben Sullivan

