



# Drowning in Oil: BP & the Reckless Pursuit of Profit

*Loren C. Steffy*

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# Drowning in Oil: BP & the Reckless Pursuit of Profit

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**Drowning in Oil: BP & the Reckless Pursuit of Profit** Loren C. Steffy

**The definitive account of how BP's win-at-all-costs culture led to this era's greatest industrial catastrophe**

"A carefully and powerfully written story."

*Financial Times*

"When an author uses a loaded word like 'reckless' in a book's title, the burden of proof is high. . . . Steffy meets the burden by demonstrating that corporate behemoth BP (formerly British Petroleum) could have prevented the 11 deaths on April 20, 2010, aboard the Deepwater Horizon. . . . The deaths and the gigantic oil spill following the sinking of Deepwater Horizon will surely become a landmark of corporate ineptness and greed for the remainder of human history, thanks in part to Steffy's remarkable account."

*San Antonio Express-News*

"Steffy has produced a fascinating, gripping, revealing account. . . . The book details events aboard the Deepwater Horizon in April of 2010 to start, but it digs deeper into what is revealed as a culture of cost-cutting boiling over within BP. Steffy documents years of incidents and poor management decisions, detailing the rise of key characters like John Browne and Tony Hayward alongside riveting outlines of horrifying events in Texas City and at other BP locations. . . . The book reads like fiction at times, with the author's heavily-detailed accounts of explosions and conversations creating vivid, nearly fantastical images. The tragic history of BP is all-too-real, though, as the lost lives and environmental damage certainly attest to. . . . Steffy is a thorough, straightforward author. His concerns largely lie with the loss of life and the general culture of cost-cutting of BP, painting an apt and terrifying picture of rampant, steady, costly neglect."

*Seattle Post Intelligencer*

"Steffy provides valuable insight and crucial corporate context in explaining how so much oil ended up in the Gulf of Mexico."

*BusinessWeek*

"[Steffy's] investigations reveal a corporate culture of cost-cutting initiatives that put profits ahead of workers' lives and the environment, with repeated safety violations and an abysmal accident history. . . . Steffy details how, in the context of BP's record, the disaster was just part of a pattern of poor decision making in the relentless pursuit by BP to become the largest and most profitable oil company in the world."

*Booklist*

## About the Book

As night settled on April 20, 2010, a series of explosions rocked Deepwater Horizon, the immense semisubmersible drilling platform leased by British Petroleum, located 40 miles off the Louisiana coast. The ensuing inferno claimed 11 lives, and it would rage uncontained for two days, until its wreckage sank to a final resting place nearly a mile beneath the waves. On the ocean floor, the unit's wellhead erupted. Over the next ten weeks, as repeated attempts to cap the geyser failed, an estimated 200 million gallons of oil—the equivalent of 20 Exxon Valdez spills—spewed into the Gulf of Mexico, eventually lapping up on beaches as

far away as Florida.

*Drowning in Oil*, by award-winning *Houston Chronicle* business reporter and columnist Loren Steffy, considered by many to be the writer with the best access to the story, is an unprecedented and gripping narrative of this catastrophe and how BP's winner-take-all business culture made it all but inevitable.

Through never-before-published interviews with BP executives and employees, environmental experts, and oil industry insiders, Steffy takes us behind the scenes of 100 years of BP corporate history. Beginning with the conglomerate's early gambits in the Middle East to its recent ascent among energy titans, Steff unearths the roots of the Gulf oil spill in the unwritten bargain between oil producers and consumers, whose insatiable appetites drive the search for new supplies faster, farther, and deeper.

Beyond this, the Deepwater Horizon disaster took place after a history of cost cutting in pursuit of profits, particularly under the guidance of its two most recent ex-CEOs, John Browne and Anthony Hayward.

Exhaustively researched and documented, *Drowning in Oil* is the first in-depth examination of how a lack of corporate responsibility and government oversight led to the biggest offshore oil spill in U.S. history. It is an objective, no-punches-pulled account of the energy industry: its environmental impact and the intense competition among stakeholders in today's oil markets.

This book puts all the pieces together, offering a definitive account of BP's pursuit of outsized profits as the industrial world awakens to the grim realities of Peak Oil.

*"They fumbled around the darkened room and found an instruction manual. By flashlight, they read the starting procedures. They were doing everything right. After five or six futile tries, they gave up and headed back toward the bridge. Back on the bridge, alarms were shrieking and the captain knew they were running out of time. The subsea engineer had hit the emergency disconnect for the well, and although the control panel showed the rig should be free, it wasn't. The hydraulics were dead. Fire continued to shoot from the top of the derrick. The rig had no power, and without power, it had no pumps for the firefighting equipment, no way to shut off the flow of gas from the well, and no way to disconnect the rig from the flaming umbilical that had it tethered to the wellhead."* ?from ***Drowning in Oil***

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#### **Michael Jackson:**

This Drowning in Oil: BP & the Reckless Pursuit of Profit book is not really ordinary book, you have it then the world is in your hands. The benefit you receive by reading this book will be information inside this book incredible fresh, you will get facts which is getting deeper anyone read a lot of information you will get. This kind of Drowning in Oil: BP & the Reckless Pursuit of Profit without we realize teach the one who examining it become critical in pondering and analyzing. Don't always be worry Drowning in Oil: BP & the Reckless Pursuit of Profit can bring if you are and not make your case space or bookshelves' become full because you can have it inside your lovely laptop even phone. This Drowning in Oil: BP & the Reckless Pursuit of Profit having excellent arrangement in word in addition to layout, so you will not experience uninterested in reading.

#### **Nancy Farley:**

As people who live in the modest era should be change about what going on or info even knowledge to make these keep up with the era and that is always change and progress. Some of you maybe will update themselves by examining books. It is a good choice for you but the problems coming to you actually is you don't know what type you should start with. This Drowning in Oil: BP & the Reckless Pursuit of Profit is our recommendation to help you keep up with the world. Why, because this book serves what you want and wish in this era.

#### **Lois Maestas:**

Spent a free the perfect time to be fun activity to complete! A lot of people spent their spare time with their family, or their friends. Usually they carrying out activity like watching television, planning to beach, or picnic within the park. They actually doing ditto every week. Do you feel it? Will you something different to fill your current free time/ holiday? Can be reading a book could be option to fill your free time/ holiday. The first thing that you ask may be what kinds of reserve that you should read. If you want to try look for book, may be the publication untitled Drowning in Oil: BP & the Reckless Pursuit of Profit can be great book to read. May be it may be best activity to you.

#### **Justin Tapscott:**

Why? Because this Drowning in Oil: BP & the Reckless Pursuit of Profit is an unordinary book that the inside of the reserve waiting for you to snap the idea but latter it will zap you with the secret the item inside. Reading this book close to it was fantastic author who write the book in such remarkable way makes the content interior easier to understand, entertaining approach but still convey the meaning fully. So , it is good for you for not hesitating having this any longer or you going to regret it. This unique book will give you a lot of advantages than the other book include such as help improving your expertise and your critical thinking means. So , still want to hesitate having that book? If I ended up you I will go to the guide store hurriedly.

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