

Oil and Water

Steve Duin, Shannon Wheeler

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Steve Duin, Shannon Wheeler : Oil and Water before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Oil and Water:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. A graphical expedition to the Gulf Coast after the Deepwater Horizon accident By Stefan Brunner Oil and Water is different than any cartoon I ever read. Perhaps, because it is not so much a cartoon, than more the graphical capture of a journey. Steve Duin and Shannon Wheeler were traveling with a diverse group of people from Oregon to the impacted Gulf Coast after the Deepwater Horizon accident in 2010. Shannon captures the impressions of the group on their quest to learn about and experience the impact on the region in person. What I like about Shannon Wheeler is that he tells the things as they are. He is not politisizing or attempting to argue for the one or other political direction. He is just stating the facts and lets the reader come to his/her own conclusions. My impression is that his goal is to present the puzzle pieces, uncover them and bring them to the surface, to let the jury decide. The book is written in multiple chapters or episodes capturing emotions, experiences, and insights learned when visting different places on the Gulf Coast and speaking with locals. We all heard or saw on TV

the impact of the accident, but this book brings it home closer for a very personal perspective. I like that he includes the group dynamics of the travelers to bring out the diverse characters and what they feel. It gives the book a feeling of a reality TV show, just not scripted, but real. Is it a typical Shannon Wheeler? Well, it is not TMCM. But it uses parts of the same style, although the topic is more serious and less to laugh about. Though, that does not mean that there is no humor in the novel. Steve Duin and Shannon Wheeler succeeded with this novel, or expedition, giving you close insight in a way you could otherwise only experience while actually being there. This book is a must for anybody interested in the Deepwater Horizon disaster and the impact on the people and their region. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. A rare view of the largest oil spill in U.S. History! By Mike Rosen Wow! What a unique approach to capturing the complexities of the short- and long-term impacts to the people, environment and economy of this monumental environmental disaster. Engaging in words and imagery. And an important piece of literature that should help keep the spotlight on this issue even now as the impacts continue to unfold in insidious and not so obvious ways.

A devastating look at the worst environmental disaster in U.S. history. When ten Oregonians travel to the Gulf Coast in August 2010 to plumb the devastation wrought by the Deepwater Horizon spill, they discover that Oil and Water is just the first of the insoluble contradictions. Between the tarred sands of Grand Isle and the fouled waters of the Louisiana bayou, they come to find out that Gulf Coast residents are economically dependent upon the very industry that is wreaking havoc on their environment. In the shadow of the greatest ecological disaster of our time, they are forced to reassess their roles as witness, critic and environmental steward. In this 120-page graphic novel written by Steve Duin, a columnist for The Oregonian, and illustrated by New Yorker cartoonist Shannon Wheeler readers will tour the shark-pocked beach at Grand Isle with the local head of Homeland Security; step aboard the crabbing boat of a 20-year-old Mississippian who works 16-hour days and spends his nights dreaming of M.I.T.; enter the Hot Zone where volunteers work desperately to save brown pelicans drenched in British petroleum; and hear shrimpers, Vietnamese and good ol boys alike, describe what happens to their livelihood when 200 million gallons of oil flood the scene. The readers perspective on what hope and what mission remains along a ravaged coastline, and one awash in both seafood and oil, will be changed as irrevocably as that of these ten Oregonians. Color and black-and-white pages throughout

From Booklist Four months after the 2010 Deepwater Horizon oil spill, a small group of Oregonians traveled to the Gulf Coast to assess the damage. In this graphic-novel recounting of their expedition, we follow the well-intentioned but naive activists as they meet scientists, crabbers, bird rehabilitators, the local head of Homeland Security (found shark fishing on a beach), and other locals whose lives were roiled by the disaster. Details of the devastation are conveyed mostly through interviews with those personally affected and dry text pages. As for the human element, vignettes portraying the residents and their experiences are more compelling than the (apparently fictionalized) sequences featuring the clueless outsiders. Wheelers simple drawings convey the information but do little to enhance the emotional component of the story. Nonetheless, the work effectively sets forth the essential dilemma: the regions economy remains dependent on the very industry that ravaged the coast; and the hush money paid by BP in the wake of the disaster ensures that most residents continue to see oil as the solution to their woes rather than the problem. -- Gordon Flagg As the book gets deeper south and deeper into the complexities and relationships of oil to the Gulf and its people, the stories get murky and collide, mimicking an ebb-and-flow that at first is much like oil and water, then gradually homogenizes. The Portlanders come to grips with their own misconceptions, and the characters that were once miles away from their lives become embedded into their own. - Alex Woodward, Gambit Oil and Water by Steve Duin and Shannon Wheeler proves the graphic novels strength as a powerful medium for telling captivating stories and rallying for social justice. With vivid illustrations, likable characters and witty dialogue, the book shares the aftermath of the worst man-made environmental disaster in U.S. history... Educational, entertaining and brutally honest, Oil and Water tells the story of the catastrophic Deepwater Horizon spill like youve never heard it before. - Emily Buchholtz, Wend The oily, black smoke billowing off the Deepwater Horizon seeps its way into many of the panels and hangs above the characters lives with heavy metaphor. The authors show admirable self-awareness in portraying their semifictional companions (and by implication, themselves) as naive voyeurs whose presence mostly irritates their subjects. - Ruth Brown, Willamette Week Whether from the perspectives of Oregonians trying to understand or allowing Gulf residents to tell their own stories, the book puts a human face on this event and makes it clear that while the beaches were cleaned quickly, the effects will be felt for years to come. - Alex Dueben, Comic Book Resources About the Author Steve Duin, twice named the nations best local columnist by the Society of Professional Journalists, is the co-author of Comics: Between the Panels. Shannon Wheeler is the Eisner Award-winning creator of Too Much Coffee Man. Bill McKibben is the author of Eearth: Making a Life on a Tough New Planet, among other titles; he is the founder of 350.org, which in 2010 organized what CNN called the most widespread day of political action in the planet's history.