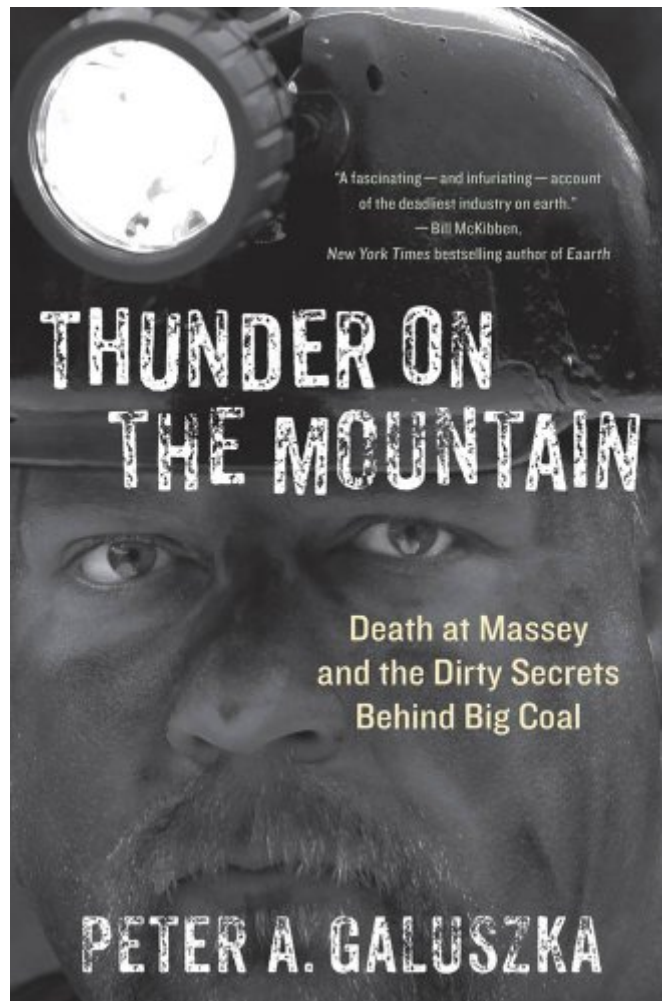


The book was found

Thunder On The Mountain: Death At Massey And The Dirty Secrets Behind Big Coal



Synopsis

"Scathing exposé of the coal industry."--The New York Times Book Review
On April 5, 2010, an explosion ripped through Massey Energy's Upper Big Branch Mine, killing twenty-nine coal miners. This tragedy was the deadliest mine disaster in the United States in forty years—a disaster that never should have happened. These deaths were rooted in the cynical corporate culture of Massey and its notorious former CEO Don Blankenship, and were part of an endless cycle of poverty, exploitation, and environmental abuse that has dominated the Appalachian coalfields since coal was first discovered there. And the cycle continues unabated as coal companies bury the most insidious dangers deep underground, all in search of higher profits, and hide the true costs from regulators, unions, and investors alike. But the disaster at Upper Big Branch goes beyond the coalfields of West Virginia. It casts a global shadow, calling into bitter question why coal miners in the United States are sacrificed to erect cities on the other side of the world, why the coal wars have been allowed to rage, polarizing the country, and how the world's voracious appetite for energy is satisfied at such horrendous cost. With *Thunder on the Mountain*, Peter A. Galuszka pieces together the true story of greed and negligence behind the tragedy at the Upper Big Branch Mine, and in doing so he has created a devastating portrait of an entire industry that exposes the coal-black motivations that led to the death of twenty-nine miners and fuel the ongoing war for the world's energy future.

Book Information

File Size: 2842 KB

Print Length: 304 pages

Publisher: St. Martin's Press (September 18, 2012)

Publication Date: September 18, 2012

Sold by: Macmillan

Language: English

ASIN: B0085UD6OO

Text-to-Speech: Enabled

X-Ray: Not Enabled

Word Wise: Enabled

Lending: Not Enabled

Enhanced Typesetting: Enabled

Best Sellers Rank: #355,680 Paid in Kindle Store (See Top 100 Paid in Kindle Store) #24

inÂ Kindle Store > Kindle eBooks > Engineering & Transportation > Engineering > Civil > Environmental > Mining #24 inÂ Kindle Store > Kindle eBooks > Nonfiction > Science > Earth Sciences > Prospecting & Mining #24 inÂ Kindle Store > Kindle eBooks > Engineering & Transportation > Engineering > Civil > Mining

Customer Reviews

Galuszka leverages his vast experience as a journalist focusing on energy and his firsthand knowledge of the region to create this bleak prognosis for how the coal industry will adapt to safety and environmental challenges. He uses the now infamous CEO of Massey Energy (a darling of momentum investors prior to the collapse in all coal stocks and subsequent buyout) as a proxy for the executives and a tragic 2010 event as the main context for his critical look at the power of the coal lobby. While one could dismiss the diatribe as that of a tree-hugger - the detailed look at the history of coal industry particularly in West Virginia and a chilling portrait of Blankenship (Massey CEO) provides ample justification for the author's dire commentary. The history of WV - as told from the mineral rights viewpoint - is a very informative read. One also understands how class warfare was essentially created to control the 'hill people' and the new settlers. That injustice has to compete with the narration on the complete disregard for safety and punitive treatment of those who dare question the tactics or operations of the industry - right from well-meaning managers to regulatory agencies to how even judges are completely bought out. It portrays a vivid image of systemic corruption that surprisingly is not getting as much attention as it should. The impact of mountaintop mining and the orchestrated pushbacks on regulation and the episode involving pushing a holdout miner to bankruptcy clearly portray the extent of the power of the coal lobby and the depth of corruption.

"How the enormous contrasts of Central Appalachia--great riches against abject poverty--came about is rooted in brutal exploitation so intense that it is an anomaly in the history of the United States. Few other parts of the country have endured more than a century and a half of such stark contrasts." -- p. 58 While the vast majority of the American people profess to be concerned about environmental matters the simple fact of the matter is that the preponderance of evidence would indicate that we are much more concerned about lifestyle choices. In his 2006 book "Big Coal: The Dirty Secret Behind America's Energy Future" author Jeff Goodell opined that "'Big Coal's' goal is to keep us comfortable not curious." As we approach 2013 the American people remain blissfully unaware of just how much coal it takes to provide the energy each of us consumes so cavalierly on

a daily basis. Furthermore, most of us have no idea of the hidden costs of burning so much coal. The people of Appalachia have been paying the price for decades. On April 5, 2010 29 coal miners were killed at the Upper Big Branch Mine in Montcoal, WV. It was a disaster that did not have to happen. Author Peter A. Galuszka has chronicled the events surrounding this tragic incident in his new book "Thunder on the Mountain: Death at Massey and the Dirty Secrets Behind Big Coal". This is an all too familiar story of greed, willful neglect and corporate arrogance that is sure to make your blood boil. But there is a lot more to the story than the unfortunate events of April 5, 2010. In "Thunder on the Mountain" Peter A. Galuszka tells the sordid story of Massey Energy, the owner of the Upper Big Branch Mine and its notorious CEO Don Blankenship.

The timing of the publication in November of the paperback edition of Peter A. Galuszka's "Thunder on the Mountain: Death at Massey and the Dirty Secrets Behind Big Coal" (West Virginia University Press, 300 pages, photos, notes, index, foreword by Denise Giardina, \$19.99) couldn't have been better. Galuszka's examination of the explosion at Massey Energy's Upper Big Branch Mine in Raleigh County, WV on April 5, 2010, was published in hardback by St. Martin's Press in 2012. A few days after the paperback edition of this must-read book hit the shelves on Thursday, Nov. 13, 2014 Donald L. Blankenship, 64, Massey's CEO at the time of the accident, was indicted by a federal grand jury in Charleston, WV on charges that he orchestrated the routine violation of key federal mine safety rules at Upper Big Branch Mine, when 29 miners lost their lives. The Charleston Gazette story stated that: "The four-count indictment, filed in U.S. District Court, also alleges that Blankenship led a conspiracy to cover up mine safety violations and hinder federal enforcement efforts by providing advance warning of government inspections." Upper Big Branch (UBB) was the worst coal mining accident in 40 years and triggered events that led to Blankenship's departure from Massey with a golden parachute settlement totaling \$86 million and the company's acquisition in 2011 by Bristol, VA-based Alpha Natural Resources.

[Download to continue reading...](#)

Thunder on the Mountain: Death at Massey and the Dirty Secrets Behind Big Coal My Side of the Mountain Trilogy (My Side of the Mountain / On the Far Side of the Mountain / Frightful's Mountain) Coal Trains: The History of Railroading and Coal in the United States How to Talk Dirty : Dirty Talk Examples, Secrets for Women and Men, Straight, Gay and Bi, Spice Up Your Sex Life and Have Mindblowing Sex: Great Sex Book, Series 1 J. D. Robb CD Collection 2: Rapture in Death, Ceremony in Death, Vengeance in Death (In Death Series) Tiger Writing: Art, Culture, and the

Interdependent Self (The William E. Massey Sr. Lectures in the History of American Civilization) The Mountain Man 5 Journey of the Mountain Man (Smoke Jensen the Mountain Man) Thunder Rolling Down the Mountain: The Story of Chief Joseph and the Nez Perce (American Graphic) The Dirty Version: On Stage, in the Studio, and in the Streets with Ol' Dirty Bastard Grammar Girl's Quick and Dirty Tips for Better Writing (Quick & Dirty Tips) Sex Positions & Dirty Talk Examples: Two Books in One: The Best Sex Positions Ever, How to Talk Dirty, and Kama Sutra Dirty Greek: Everyday Slang from "What's Up?" to "F*%# Off!" (Dirty Everyday Slang) Dirty Billionaire: The Dirty Billionaire Trilogy, Book 1 200 Dirty Talk Examples: How to Dirty Talk Your Way to the Most Graphic, Mind-Blowing Sex of Your Life Dirty Together: The Dirty Billionaire Trilogy, Book 3 Left Behind Series Prequel Set (The Rising, Anarchist is Born Before they were Left Behind/ The Regime, Evil Advances Before they were Left Behind/ The Rapture, In the Twinkling of an Eye Countdown to the Earth's Last Days) Minecraft Secrets: Master Handbook Edition: Top 100 Ultimate Minecraft Secrets You May Have Never Seen Before (Unofficial Minecraft Secrets Guide for Kids) (Ultimate Minecraft Secrets Handbook) The Coke Machine: The Dirty Truth Behind the World's Favorite Soft Drink The Infiltrator: My Secret Life Inside the Dirty Banks Behind Pablo Escobar's Medellin Cartel Big Nate Triple Play Box Set: Big Nate: In a Class by Himself, Big Nate Strikes Again, Big Nate on a Roll

[Dmca](#)