



October 20, 2016

Deepwater Horizon



Deepwater Horizon is a retelling of the 2010 oil rig disaster off the coast of Louisiana in the Gulf of Mexico that claimed 11 lives and changed the emotional landscape of everyone who survived. Mark Wahlberg and Kurt Russell are great in their roles as Mike Williams and Jimmy Harrell. I don't know how historically accurate the movie is, but the film is compelling.

According to this story, short cuts were taken that resulted in an explosion that led to the greatest man-made oil disaster in U.S. history. Oil from the rig still remains on the ocean floor and the impact to wildlife and the ocean cannot be measured. Watching the crew struggle moment by moment just to get off the rig before the whole thing erupts into a steel fireball, I wondered if I would have been

so capable in that situation. The crew was clearly able to minimize the loss of life due to quick thinking and fast response from the coast guard rescue teams.

Peter Berg, Director, keeps the tension tight in this action packed film. The tragic events remind us that heroes are made in the moments when everything is on the line. *Deepwater Horizon* is also enhanced by John Malkovich as the BP crony who does not heed the warnings given because each day of delay costs the company money. This is



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yet another instance of dollar wise, billions foolish. And the toll taken in human suffering cannot be scooped up like so much surface-oil spillage.

The human component was brought home by Kate Hudson, who plays the wife of Mike Williams. As she waits patiently for her husband to return and learns about the disaster, you know that her life and future hang in a fiery balance. The detail and special effects were great. The acting was stellar, the impact profound.

Deepwater Horizon is a good date movie and a poignant reminder that life can be taken at any moment.

Disaster movies bring the existential into focus. They put us in the present and force us to appreciate what we have, every day we're alive. I give *Deepwater Horizon* four golden tickets.

