One World Trade Center: Biography Of The Building

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Synopsis

The behind-the-scenes story of the most extraordinary building in the world, from the bestselling author of Skyscrapers! In this groundbreaking history, bestselling author Judith Dupré chronicles the most astonishing architectural project in memory: One World Trade Center. The new World Trade Center represents one of the most complex collaborations in human history. Nearly every state in the nation, a dozen countries around the world, and more than 25,000 workers helped raise the tower, which consumed ninety million pounds of steel, one million square feet of glass, and enough concrete to pave a sidewalk from New York to Chicago. With more than seventy interviews with the people most intimately involved, and unprecedented access to the building site, suppliers, and archives, Dupré unfurls the definitive story of fourteen years of conflict and controversy—and its triumphant resolution. This fascinating, oversize book delivers new insight into the 1,776-foot-tall engineering marvel, from design and excavation through the final placement of its spire. It offers:

- Access to the minds of world-class architects, engineers, ironworkers, and other tradespeople
- Panoramas of New York from One World Observatory—1,268 feet above the earth
- Dramatic cutaways that show the building’s advanced structural technologies
- A time-lapse montage showing the evolution of the sixteen-acre site
- Chronologies tracking design, construction, and financial milestones, with rare historic photographs
- It also features extensive tour of the entire Trade Center, including in-depth chapters on Two, Three, Four, and Seven World Trade Center; the National September 11 Memorial & Museum; Liberty Park; St. Nicholas National Shrine; and the soaring Transportation Hub. One World Trade Center is the only book authorized by the Port Authority of New York & New Jersey, and the one book necessary to understand the new World Trade Center in its totality. This is a must-have celebration of American resilience and ingenuity for all who are invested in the rebuilding of Ground Zero. You may be surprised by what you find inside—and you will undoubtedly be inspired.

Book Information

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I would give this book 10 stars if I could! WOW! From cover to cover, this book is spectacular. Everything about it is stellar. The writing is wonderful, with humor, pathos and precision. Dupre covers every aspect, from the difficult decisions in the original design (how to please all the various stakeholders and their individual desires) through all the milestones - visits by dignitaries, re-opening the transit center, benchmarks in construction, the final placement of the salvaged piece of wreckage from the original tower - to extensive and remarkable security features. All this interspersed with the most AWESOME-beyond-belief photographs. Some of the things that I liked best:... The timeline of construction, pages and pages of photos showing everything, the shoring up of the slurry wall (don’t know what that is? read this book!), workers dangling a thousand feet up in the air, Queen Elizabeth leaving a wreath, the spire coming down the Hudson River on barges, workers signing the final piece of steel... it’s all amazing and fascinating.... The detailed explanations of the special features of One World Trade, including my personal favorite, the "chiller." (I’ll explain that one - it’s the set of humongous pipes that go through the wall of the "bathtub" and exchange water from the Hudson River - 30,000 gallons/minute!). Plus the features that make this building a pioneer in secure construction.... The attention paid to the WORKERS who made this building. Near the end, is a page of logos from the various unions whose workers devoted years of their lives to make this the incredible place that is is. The book is a beautiful testament their spirit and devotion. All Americans should own this book!

Recently I visited the new Freedom tower and was really inspired by the looks and views way up there. Being so I could not wait this new book to arrive, ordering it way ahead of it’s release. This fine book came today and yes, it’s really an asset in your book collection. Of course I could not read it all that fast, but going through the pages it’s promising and inviting to go on and on. Beautiful pictures, in-depth information and backgrounds. For all of you out there who can feel the magic of this place and want more to know: get this book. You definitely will enjoy it.

"One World Trade Center: Biography of the Building" (2016 publication, 306 pages) is a coffee-table
sized book by author Judith Dupre as to the history of the building and its surrounding spaces that would replace the fallen towers following 9/11. As we know now all these years later, it was quite the difficult process to come to a consensus as to what the new tower(s) should look like. We celebrated the 15th anniversary of 9/11 just yesterday, so the timing of reading this book couldn't have been better. But before we get to that, the book offers a myriad of stunning pictures of One World Trade Center. You may agree or disagree as to whether you like the looks of the building, but one thing that cannot be disputed is that it has a distinctive look. One of the more interesting aspects for me is the comparison between the tallest skyscrapers in the world. I was surprised to read that One World Trade Center is the tallest skyscraper in the western hemisphere. Of course, had it not been for the (controversial?) decision to include the building’s mast in measuring its height, it would not be the tallest building. The author spends time examining that decision (“The Council [on Tall Buildings and Urban Habitat] has a rule about what counts towards the final measurement: spires, considered an integral part of the building, do. Antennas don’t.”). I’d be lying if I said I read all of the author’s text in this book. I got the book primarily out of curiosity when I saw it at my local library recently, and I went through the book mostly staring at all those unbelievable pictures. The book does also devote attention to the buildings surrounding One World Trade Center, but I am probably not the only whose fascination carries mostly with One World Trade Center, truly a marvel. “One World Trade Center” is HIGHLY RECOMMENDED!

Wonderful book with great descriptions of the building and the philosophy motivating the designers and the builders! Highly recommended! Mark G. Griffin

One World Trade Center is compelling biography on so many levels. Beyond the discussion of the challenges and complications surrounding this significant project, Dupré also provides behind-the-scenes glimpses into the astounding collaboration that made the construction of One World Trade Center possible. An inspiring and insightful perspective blended with a visually stunning compilation of photographs and illustrations. Without fail, I gain a new appreciation for World Trade Center every time I glance downtown. Thank you.

Dupré’s architecture books (Skyscrapers, Bridges, Churches, Monuments) are always impressive, both in form and content. They are big and thoughtful--and most importantly--readable. ONE WORLD TRADE CENTER is no exception. In fact, it is possibly the best and most enlightening of her works. It is not only a history of the world’s most important skyscraper but a
celebration. It is bursting with unknowable and fascinating facts and descriptions. With the exception of museum artifacts, it is thankfully devoid of 9/11 imagery, and is a heroic and joyful book. Hat’s off to Judith and her design team, for a clever, but not overly-so, presentation. I highly recommend this book for art and architecture aficionados, history buffs, American collectors, Manhattan-ophiles and people who like to read and look at pictures.

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