



Troubled Water: Saints, Sinners, Truth and Lies about the Global Water Crisis

By Brooke Shelby Biggs, Brooke Shelby Biggs, Anita Roddick

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You drink it, wash in it, cook with it, bathe in it, swim in it, float on it, make your morning coffee with it. The Earth is 70 percent water, and so is the human body.

For many of us, water is so ubiquitous that it is easy to waste or take for granted. But we do so at our own peril. Humanity is putting greater demands on this precious, limited resource than ever before.

Around the world, one billion people lack access to clean water. Droughts, floods, and waterborne diseases kill tens, perhaps hundreds, of millions of people (mostly children) every year. And huge multinational corporations see a profit opportunity unparalleled even by oil or gold. From Bolivia to Britain, water supplies are being privatized and sold for profit, cutting millions off from the single most crucial human need.

Meanwhile, consumers in industrialized countries such as Italy, Britain, Australia, and the United States eagerly drink millions of liters of bottled water every day--some of which is less pure than the stuff flowing from their taps at home--at a cost of about one thousand times what tap water costs. In America, beef-flavored bottled water for dogs is sold; in Nigeria, you can buy a bottle of water guaranteed to make men more virile.

Why are the politics of water so skewed, and what's being done about it? This book explores the problems and the solutions, and provides resources for ordinary readers to get involved.

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Editorial Review

About the Author

Dame Anita Roddick is the founder of The Body Shop and a lifelong activist dedicated to community trade and human rights causes.

Brooke Shelby Biggs is a journalist, an activist, and the author of Brave Hearts, Rebel Spirits.

Users Review

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