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Catastrophe in the Making: The Engineering of Katrina and the Disasters of Tomorrow

By Gary Phillips

Audible Studios on Brilliance, United States, 2016. CD-Audio. Book Condition: New. Unabridged. 171 x 133 mm. Language: English . Brand New. When houses are flattened, towns submerged, and people stranded without electricity or even food, we attribute the suffering to natural disasters or acts of God. But what if they're neither? What if we, as a society, are bringing these catastrophes on ourselves? That's the provocative theory of *Catastrophe in the Making*, the first audiobook to recognize Hurricane Katrina not as a perfect storm, but a tragedy of our own making - and one that could become commonplace. The authors, one a longtime New Orleans resident, argue that breached levees and sloppy emergency response are just the most obvious examples of government failure. The true problem is more deeply rooted and insidious, and stretches far beyond the Gulf Coast. Based on the false promise of widespread prosperity, communities across the U.S. have embraced all brands of economic development at all costs. In Louisiana, that meant development interests turning wetlands into shipping lanes. By replacing a natural buffer against storm surges with a 75-mile long, obsolete canal that cost hundreds of millions of dollars, they guided the hurricane into...



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