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To Forgive Design

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'To Forgive Design' follows the same theme of the author's 1992 book 'To Engineer is Human', but expands the content to encompass other notable failures in design, construction and management of various projects up to the present day.

To Forgive Design: Understanding

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From the patterns developed by the relationship between failures and the striving for economical design, the author draws conclusions regarding the dangers that can emerge from complexity and the subsequent passage of old designs on to new generations of designers who have forgotten old lessons.

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Henry Petroski, the distinguished American engineer, has made half a career out of explaining the failure

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of structures in which,
in the widening gyres
of theory or ignorance,
the centre will not...

To Forgive Design, Understanding Failure, By Henry ...

Engineers are always
striving for success,
but failure is seldom
far from their minds. In
the case of Canadian
engineers, this focus
on potentially
catastrophic flaws in a
design is rooted in a

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failure that occurred over a century ago. In 1907 a bridge of enormous proportions collapsed while still under construction in Quebec.

To Forgive Design: Understanding Failure on JSTOR

In his new book, *To Forgive Design: Understanding Failure*, Petroski goes beyond the realm of the technical and

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mechanical complexities of projects explored in his 1992 book *To Engineer is Human* and addresses the human factor that contributes to failure.

Academy Bookshelf – To Forgive Design: Understanding Failure

One of Henry Petroski's previous books (25 years ago) is "To

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Understanding Failure: "Engineer is Human". His latest is To Forgive Design: Understanding Failure. He's a civil engineering & history professor at Duke University, and he makes the most of the overlap between his two fields.

Book Review - To Forgive Design: Understanding Failure ...

For those who enjoy reading about girders

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Understanding
and trusses, To Forgive
Design is, yes,
riveting... [Petroski]
Petroski
amply shows the
wisdom of the proverb
that failure is a good
teacher. Even a
collapsed bridge leads
somewhere.” —Matt
Ridley, Wall Street
Journal “Americans are
encouraged to believe
that failure is not an
option,...

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Understanding Failure: Petroski, Henry ...

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Understanding Failure
explores a multitude of
topics that apply
historic experience to
contemporary design
in the unique style
common to his
writings. Petroski's
creative insights are
legendary and
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Henry Petroski When
planes crash, bridges
collapse, and
automobile gas tanks
explode, we are quick
to blame poor design.

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Understanding Failure | Henry Petroski ...

The authorities closed access to the bridge and tens of thousands of people, caught in pedestrian gridlock, made their way back to land, a process that for some took hours. The story is one of...

'To Forgive Design,' by Henry Petroski - The New York Times

When planes crash,
bridges collapse, and

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automobile gas tanks explode, we are quick to blame poor design. But Petroski, known for his masterly explanations of engineering successes and failures, says we must look beyond design to the interdependency of people and machines within complex socioeconomic systems undreamt of by designers.

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**To Forgive Design —
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To Forgive Design:
Understanding Failure.
... In To Forgive Design
he surveys some of the
most infamous failures
of our time, from the
2007 Minneapolis
bridge collapse and the
toppling of a massive
Shanghai apartment
building in 2009 to
Boston's prolonged Big
Dig and the 2010 Gulf

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oil spill. These
avoidable disasters
reveal the ...

To Forgive Design: Understanding Failure

“ To Forgive Design
remains a largely
accessible, important
contribution to the
growing library of
failure. ” —Colin
Dickey, The Los
Angeles Review of
Books “ When a plane
crashes or a bridge

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collapses, faulty engineering is the usual suspect. But in seeking the roots of failure, we should look beyond design, says engineer Henry Petroski.

To Forgive Design — Henry Petroski | Harvard University Press

designing for failure mitigation. The flourishing of social studies of engineer-ing

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Understanding Failure
Petroski

and disaster suggests that design does not need forgiveness so much as expanded vantages of understanding.

Petroski is aware of this evolution, citing Perrow and Vaughan for details about Apollo 13 and the Space Shuttle, and it

on behalf of

— Henry Petroski, To Forgive Design: Understanding Failure

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“Past successes may be inspirational and encouraging, but they are not by themselves reliable indicators of or guides to future success. The most efficacious changes in any system are informed not by successes but by failures.

To Forgive Design Quotes by Henry Petroski

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