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To Engineer is Human (1985) by Henry Petrowski is a well written

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~~Petroski~~ study of how structural engineering advances. Petrovksi is a professor of Civil Engineering who specialises in looking at the difference between success and failure in design.

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In To Engineer is Human, an erudite exposition of engineering failures, Henry Petroski explores the reasons designs and structures fail. He incorporates examples of everyday objects and basic designs as well as large complex design failures. He cites several literary passages in the book that illuminate or obfuscate human failure and help illustrate his ideas.

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1. To engineer is human: The role of failure in successful design. 1994, Barnes & Noble Books. Unknown Binding in English. zzzz. Not in Library. 3. To engineer is human: the role of failure in successful design. 1985, Macmillan.

~~To engineer is human (1992 edition) | Open Library~~

To Engineer is Human is a masterfully written book by Henry Petroski in which he describes a wide variety of engineering failures. Petroski ' s wordsmithing talent brings to life stories of structural disasters that captured headlines and created angst.

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During the course of the book he argues that engineering is part art

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Petroski and part science, and that as a discipline engineers focus on building safe, affordable, and reliable things (from paper clips to airliners) to meet a set of requirements. He goes on to elaborate that, being human, engineers make errors and sometimes spectacular failures ensue.

~~To Engineer Is Human: The Role of Failure in Successful ...~~

Henry Petroski is an American engineer specializing in failure analysis. A professor both of civil engineering and history at Duke University, he is also a prolific author. Petroski has written over a dozen books – beginning with *To Engineer is Human: The Role of Failure in Successful Design* and including a number of titles detailing the industrial design history of common, everyday objects, such as pencils, paper clips, toothpicks, and silverware. His first

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To Engineer Is Human: The Role of Failure in Successful Design
Author(s): Henry Petroski Publisher: Vintage Books Copyright
Date: 1992 ISBN: 978-0679734161 Hard/Softcover: Softcover, 272
pages Author Summary This book has its origins in the basic
question: What is engineering?

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To engineer is human by Henry Petroski, 1992, Vintage Books edition, in English - 1st Vintage Books ed.

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Human is a work that looks at our deepest notions of progress and perfection, tracing the fine connection between the quantifiable realm of science and the chaotic realities of everyday life. "Alert, inquisitive, unspecialized, wholly human...refreshingly eclectic."
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“ Though ours is an age of high technology, the essence of what engineering is and what engineers do is not common knowledge. Even the most elementary of principles upon which great bridges, jumbo jets, or super computers are built are alien concepts to many. This is so in part because engineering as...

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“ Though ours is an age of high technology, the essence of what engineering is and what engineers do is not common knowledge. Even the most elementary of principles upon which great bridges, jumbo jets, or super computers are built are alien concepts to many. This is so in part because engineering as a human endeavor is not yet integrated into our culture and intellectual tradition. And while educators are currently wrestling with the problem of introducing technology into conventional academic curricula, thus better preparing today ' s students for life in a world increasingly technological, there is as yet no consensus as to how technological literacy can best be achieved. " I believe, and I argue in this essay, that the ideas of engineering are in fact in our bones and part of our human nature and experience. Furthermore, I believe that an understanding and an appreciation of engineers and engineering

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can be gotten without an engineering or technical education. Thus I hope that the technologically uninitiated will come to read what I have written as an introduction to technology. Indeed, this book is my answer to the questions 'What is engineering?' and 'What do engineers do?'" - Henry Petroski, To Engineer is Human

Examines the process of the development of an engineering design and discusses the causes of the unsuccessful designs of engineering structures

Argues that failures in structural engineering are not necessarily due to the physical design of the structures, but instead a misunderstanding of how cultural and socioeconomic constraints would affect the structures.

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Analyzes the common pencil, citing it as an example of engineering excellence, looks at its origins and the history of its production, and provides reasons for its survival into the computer age

Case histories of engineering success and failure are presented to enrich understanding of the design process.

Examines many of the failed designs and inventions that led to greater improvements citing as examples the 1940 collapse of the Tacoma Narrows Bridge and the space shuttle disasters.

Here are two dozen tales in the grand adventure of engineering from the Henry Petroski, who has been called America ' s poet

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Petroski laureate of technology. Pushing the Limits celebrates some of the largest things we have created – bridges, dams, buildings--and provides a startling new vision of engineering ' s past, its present, and its future. Along the way it highlights our greatest successes, like London ' s Tower Bridge; our most ambitious projects, like China ' s Three Gorges Dam; our most embarrassing moments, like the wobbly Millennium Bridge in London; and our greatest failures, like the collapse of the twin towers on September 11. Throughout, Petroski provides fascinating and provocative insights into the world of technology with his trademark erudition and enthusiasm for the subject.

From the acclaimed author of *The Pencil* and *To Engineer Is Human*, *The Essential Engineer* is an eye-opening exploration of

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Petroski the ways in which science and engineering must work together to address our world ' s most pressing issues, from dealing with climate change and the prevention of natural disasters to the development of efficient automobiles and the search for renewable energy sources. While the scientist may identify problems, it falls to the engineer to solve them. It is the inherent practicality of engineering, which takes into account structural, economic, environmental, and other factors that science often does not consider, that makes engineering vital to answering our most urgent concerns. Henry Petroski takes us inside the research, development, and debates surrounding the most critical challenges of our time, exploring the feasibility of biofuels, the progress of battery-operated cars, and the question of nuclear power. He gives us an in-depth investigation of the various options for renewable energy—among them solar, wind,

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tidal, and ethanol—explaining the benefits and risks of each. Will windmills soon populate our landscape the way they did in previous centuries? Will synthetic trees, said to be more efficient at absorbing harmful carbon dioxide than real trees, soon dot our prairies? Will we construct a “sunshade” in outer space to protect ourselves from dangerous rays? In many cases, the technology already exists. What’s needed is not so much invention as engineering. Just as the great achievements of centuries past—the steamship, the airplane, the moon landing—once seemed beyond reach, the solutions to the twenty-first century’s problems await only a similar coordination of science and engineering. Eloquent and well-reasoned, *The Essential Engineer* identifies and illuminates these problems—and, above all, sets out a course for putting ideas into action.

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Humans have always sought to change their environment--building houses, monuments, temples, and roads. In the process, they have remade the fabric of the world into newly functional objects that are also works of art to be admired. Samuel Florman explores how engineers think and feel about their profession in *The Existential Pleasures of Engineering*. Florman celebrates engineering not only crucial and fundamental but also vital and alive; he views it as a response to some of our deepest impulses, an endeavour rich in spiritual and sensual rewards. Opposing the "anti-technology" stance, Florman gives readers a practical, creative, and even amusing philosophy of engineering. We are all dependent on engineers and the benefits they can provide. Florman delivers a creative and practical philosophy of engineering that will boost his profession. Stimulating and illuminating, he opens our eyes to the

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Putnick inner need to build and invent. An eloquent, witty and perceptive celebration of our deepest creative impulses, *The Existential Pleasures of Engineering* is an informative account of the modern-day engineer's experience of his/her profession.

Takes readers on a journey through the history of architectural and structural disasters, from the Parthenon to the Tower of Pisa to the Tacoma Narrows Bridge

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