



High Seas, High Risk: The Story of the Sudburys

Pat Wastell Norris

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Island Tug & Barge, once the largest employer in Victoria, BC, was a Pacific Ocean marine salvage company world famous for deep-sea rescues and long distance towing feats - and infamous for superior crews and a feisty little fleet, including the renowned *Sudbury* and *Sudbury II*. Most famous, however, was the unstopable, fiery owner, Harold Elworthy - "H.B." for "Hard-boiled" - a boy who started with nothing and became a maritime giant. Together these ships and men proved themselves as some of the best marine salvors in the world. *High Seas, High Risk* recounts the *Sudburys*' most notable and dramatic tows and rescues, told mostly through the memories and anecdotes of former crew members.

Island Tug & Barge made headlines around the seafaring world. The *Sudburys* made almost impossible rescues with ease - towing their charges through typhoons, pulling them off pinnacles of rock, fighting their fires and keeping them afloat with batteries of pumps. Beset by storms, lightning, and impossible conditions, the two tugs always made it home safely. Year after year the drama was repeated, until, one day, the headlines stopped. The *Sudbury* and the *Sudbury II* disappeared, Island Tug & Barge was gone.

High Seas, High Risk is a thrilling maritime adventure story that offers unique insight into the colourful towboat industry. Writing with the care and detail of a historian, and the passion of a maritime adventurer, Pat Wastell Norris has parlayed her childhood seafaring passion into every story and anecdote - an interest instilled by her father who carried her about his 60-foot tugboat before she could walk. This never-before told history of Island Tug & Barge is a must-read for mariners and yachtsmen of every ilk--the armchair adventurers, professionals and everyone in between.



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