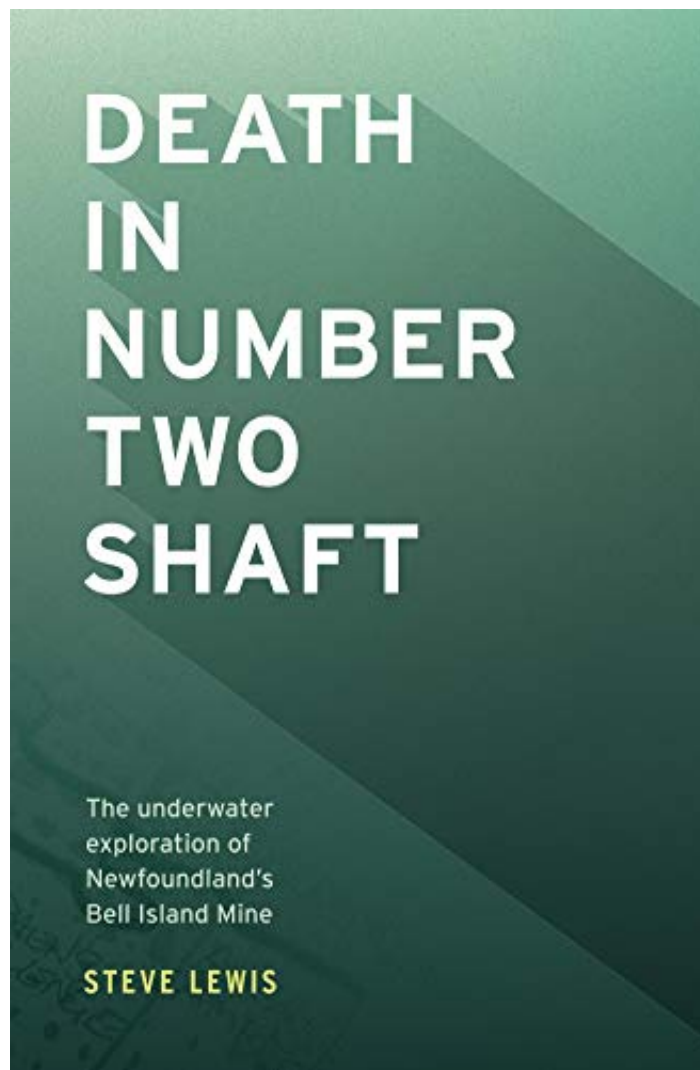


Death in Number Two Shaft: The Exploration of Bell Island Mine

by

Savanna Cook



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Synopsis

In 2007, one of a team of expert cave divers died in strange circumstances while exploring Bell Island's flooded Iron-ore Mine in Newfoundland, Canada. Joe Steffen's death was a terrible shock for his team-mates and an unexpected and unwelcome tragedy for his friends and family. Although the expedition continued until its scheduled conclusion, and successfully placed two kilometres of permanent guideline in the mine's network of passageways and galleries, Steffen's death closed the mine to further exploration and the possibility of guided dives for almost a decade. In his new book, best-selling author Steve Lewis tells the story of Steffen's death and its aftermath, from his perspective as expedition leader and Steffen's roommate during their time together in Newfoundland. He writes honestly about the profound effect his friend's death had on him, how it wove itself into his life — both underwater and above — until finally, somewhere on the road to Spain's Santiago de Compostela, how he rid himself of the heartache and guilt associated with it. He says: "I needed to write this book because it turns out the story of Bell Island is more important than four shipwrecks, several square kilometres of flooded mine, and a dead friend. What started out as one local man's quest to put Bell Island on every diver's bucket list, became much more complex than anyone — certainly any of the people involved in that quest — would have guessed."

What people say about this book

Dave McKinnon, KangaruPeru, "A story worth reading, with some different, but interesting, perspectives. Some perspectives about diving and life in general, I had not previously thought about. Thanks Steve Lewis for sharing your thoughts and this story. Enjoyed it and learned a few things in the process"

Flavio, "A story to read.. A great book , written by a fellow diver. It carries a great amount of sadness and inner thoughts. Highly recommended."

Ebook Tops Reader, "The thinking behind extreme diving. Steve shares his thoughts and feelings in a way that allows the reader to share their experience with him. I was conversing with Steve and sharing my thoughts as well. What a conversation we had."

Jeremy Jordan, "You don't have to be a cave diver to love this book!. Fantastic read for divers and non divers alike. Not only does it take you into a world few people get to experience, it also takes you into the mind of a cave diver. I felt it really spoke as to why some diver take the risks they do to explore in these types of environments."

Steve Tippetts, "Not what you think. But worth the read!. Well written. A good threading of back story and side story around a sad event."

A reader, "It moved me to tears.. This is a deeply intimate journey of trauma, loss, years of living beneath a cloud of pain not fully understood, and eventually emerging to rejoin with the life that remains available after it all. Rarely have I read something so personal and so honest. Divers will relate to this book most readily, but anyone who has suffered traumatic heartbreak will recognize the pain and the process the author describes."

Jennifer Steffen, "Love. This was a very well written book! I laughed, I cried. I adore the author, Steve Lewis, and am proud to call him 'Friend'. He, and many others aided my family and I through this tragic and very dark time. I wish now that I knew more of his suffering. I would have done my best to help. Much Love, Steve! I am honoured to have a better understanding of YOUR story. Thank you! Jennifer Steffen"

Rostislav, "Engaging and easy to read, full of stories about life. The book is simple and as everything in life, simplicity makes it balanced and enjoyable. I am a scuba diver and bought it because I wanted to know more about Newfoundland as the dives there are on my bucket list. I've learnt much more. I've learnt about cave diving, about the life in London some years ago, about the life in Canada, about the pilgrimage to Santiago de Compostela and many other things from life which I would remember when needed. The story travel in time and space and

shows the moments of the life of the author who has a lot to share.”

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