

ADDICTED TO OIL: EXPLORING THE LITERARY AND ADVERTISING NARRATIVES OF OIL DEPENDENCE

Roopalakshmi Velu ¹, and Dr. Rajasekaran V ^{2*}

^{1,2} Vellore Institute of Technology, Chennai, India.

Email: ¹roopalakshmi.2020@vitstudent.ac.in, ²rajasekaran.v@vit.ac.in (*Corresponding Author)

DOI: [10.5281/zenodo.12684429](https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.12684429)

Abstract

The world's reliance on crude oil has profound and far-reaching consequences, both positive and negative, that warrant deeper examination through literary and visual mediums. While the abundance of cheap and accessible oil has fueled economic growth and development, it has also contributed to environmental degradation, geopolitical tensions, and social inequalities. Therefore, in this article, through the lens of literary works and visual art, we can delve into the historical, political, and socio-economic factors that have contributed to our reliance on crude oil. These discourses can shed light on the power dynamics, corporate interests, and geopolitical tensions that have shaped the global oil industry. By critically examining these representations, we can gain a deeper understanding of the systemic challenges and barriers to transitioning away from fuels. In addition, literary and visual discourses have the potential to humanize the impact of crude oil dependence on individuals, communities, and the environment. Thus, this article emphasizes that these narratives can foster empathy, solidarity, and a sense of shared responsibility in addressing the consequences of our actions.

Keywords: Oil Addiction, Climate Crisis, Petrofiction, Advertisements, Alternative Energy.

INTRODUCTION

Fossil fuels, including coal, oil, and gas, are the most significant contributors to the urgent global climate crisis, accounting for over 75% of global greenhouse gas emissions. The Oil and Gas industry significantly contributes to climate change primarily through the emission of greenhouse gases. The need for these industries to address climate change has become increasingly urgent in the 21st century, as highlighted in various reports and discussions (Doshi, 2021). In addition, there is a growing demand for these companies to be transparent about how energy transitions impact their operations and business models, emphasizing the importance of reducing greenhouse gas emissions and aligning with the goals of international agreements like the Paris Agreement (Johnston et al., 2020; World Economic Forum 2020). This transparency is crucial for the public to understand the future role of these companies in a lower-carbon world and how they can contribute positively to emerging technologies and business models (Johnston et al., 2020). While there has been a notable increase in mentions of climate change and low-carbon energy in annual reports from major oil companies like Chevron, Exxon Mobil, BP, and Shell, studies suggest that these companies have not fully transitioned to low-carbon technologies despite their pledges (Gabbatiss, 2022). This impasse showcases modernity's addiction to oil, which has been a prevalent theme in modern literature and advertisements. Literary works play a crucial role in prompting reflection on the challenges and consequences of our dependence on non-renewable energy sources. On the one hand, these works offer nuanced perspectives on the environmental, social, and ethical implications of our reliance on fossil fuels. They often illuminate the complex relationship between oil production, consumption, and their impact on climate change. Authors like Deborah Gordon in "No Standard Oil" and Daniel Yergin in "The New Map" provide insights into the distinct environmental impacts of different oils and

gases, emphasizing the urgent need to reduce greenhouse gas emissions within the oil and gas sector. Gordon's work, for instance, highlights the quantifiable climate impact of various oils and gases, identifying those most harmful to the planet and proposing innovative solutions to mitigate their climate footprints. Moreover, petrofiction, a genre that focuses on the role of petroleum in society, has gained prominence in exploring the dominance of a petroleum economy and the cultural implications shaped by oil. Works in this genre, such as Abdul Rahman Munif's "Cities of Salt" and Helon Habila's "Oil on Water," delve into the entanglement of oil encounters with broader societal issues, shedding light on the complexities of our reliance on oil and its consequences for the environment (Woodbury, 2018).

Visual mediums, on the other hand, have often sought to downplay or even glamorize our addiction to oil, presenting it as a necessary and even desirable aspect of modern life. Oil companies have long employed marketing strategies emphasizing environmental and social costs. Campaigns featuring sleek, high-performance vehicles or idyllic scenes of energy abundance have created a sense of dependence and even addiction, encouraging consumers to continue relying on fossil fuels. However, in recent years, many counter-advertisements and public awareness campaigns have emerged, challenging the dominant narratives and highlighting the urgent need to address the addiction to oil. These efforts often employ stark imagery and hard-hitting messaging to confront the public with the realities of climate change, environmental degradation, and the social inequalities perpetuated by the oil industry. Drawing attention to the negative consequences of our oil addiction, these campaigns aim to inspire a shift in public consciousness and a transition towards more sustainable energy solutions. Thus, this article delves into how oil has become deeply embedded in our collective psyche, influencing the stories we tell and the messages we consume. This study examines the complex and often contradictory ways oil is portrayed, celebrated, and critiqued through a comprehensive analysis of literary works and advertisements. From the romanticized depictions of oil barons and the allure of the open road to the stark warnings of environmental degradation and the quest for energy independence, the narratives surrounding oil reveal much about our societal values, priorities, and anxieties. By unpacking these narratives, the researchers aim to shed light on the powerful hold of oil on our collective imagination and explore the implications of this dependence for our future. As the world grapples with the challenges of climate change and the need for sustainable energy solutions, this study offers a timely and insightful perspective on the cultural and psychological dimensions of our oil-fueled existence.

SIGNIFICANCE OF THE STUDY

Studying these elements as discourses has become the need of the hour since it delves into the pervasive and deeply ingrained societal narratives that have normalized and perpetuated our reliance on oil, a finite and environmentally damaging resource. By examining how literature and advertising have shaped our collective understanding and acceptance of oil dependency, the study sheds light on the powerful influence of these cultural forces in shaping our attitudes and behaviors. Moreover, this study is timely and relevant in the ongoing global efforts to address climate change and transition towards more sustainable energy sources. As the world grapples with the urgent need to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and mitigate the devastating impacts of fossil fuel consumption, understanding the underlying

narratives that have driven our oil addiction becomes crucial. Therefore, this study provides a valuable lens to examine the societal and psychological barriers that have hindered the transition toward renewable energy and sustainable practices. In addition, the study's exploration of the literary and advertising narratives surrounding oil dependency offers important insights into how these narratives have shaped our individual and collective identities and our perceptions of progress, development, and modernity. By unpacking these narratives, this study can contribute to a deeper understanding of the cultural and psychological factors that have perpetuated our reliance on oil and can inform strategies for promoting more sustainable and environmentally conscious mindsets and behaviors.

DISCUSSION

Literature and media have been crucial in shaping public perception of oil dependence. The discovery and exploitation of petroleum have fueled the rapid industrialization of vast areas of the world, but this insatiable thirst for energy has come at a cost. The world's dependence on oil has given rise to a complex web of social, economic, and environmental consequences reflected in various literary narratives. The early narratives of oil often evoked an idyllic vision of endless productivity, wealth, and ease. These "boy's own stories" celebrated the meteoric social elevation and masculine success stories associated with oil exploration and extraction (Rutledge, 2005., the conversation). However, as the downsides of oil culture became more apparent, these narratives began to take on a darker tone. For instance, in the popular TV series *Dallas* (1979-1991), the display of oil-driven wealth was tinged with addiction and substance abuse, as characters like Sue Ellen and Lucy struggled with alcoholism and drug abuse. This reflected the growing Western anxiety over the world's dependence on oil, further exacerbated by the 1970s energy crisis and the political unrest in the Middle East. The gendered nature of oil narratives is also evident in works like *Things We Left Unsaid* (2012) by Zoya Pirzad, where the character Clarice, the wife of an oil worker in 1960s Iran, feels the rage and frustration of being trapped behind the veneer of a middle-class lifestyle. Her desire for emancipation mirrors Iran's own struggle for autonomy from the grip of British Oil Companies. These literary works highlight how oil has transformed not only the physical landscape but also the social and cultural fabric of societies around the world. As Melville's *Moby-Dick* reminds us, the pursuit of precious resources like whale oil and, later, crude oil has always come at a human cost. The narratives of oil are now shifting, reflecting a growing global anxiety about the sustainability of fossil fuels and their ecological hazards. The once-idyllic vision of oil's endless productivity gives way to a more nuanced understanding of its real impacts, which consumers must hide to ensure their continued support. In the face of the climate crisis, the literary narratives of oil dependence are evolving, challenging us to confront the realities of our energy-hungry world and the urgent need to transition to more sustainable alternatives. Works like "Oil" (1927), "Oil on Water" (2011), and "Satin Island" (2015) depict oil as a 'hostile object' and a 'distorted form of natural wealth,' obscuring the distinction between oil as a commodity and its material consequences. In addition, it exposes the corruption, greed, and exploitation that plagued the industry and the devastating impact on local communities and the environment. The novel's exploration of the power dynamics between oil barons, politicians, and the working class serves as a cautionary tale about the corrupting influence of wealth and the prioritization of profits over the well-being of people and the planet. More recently, Naomi Oreskes and Erik M. Conway's non-fiction work

“Merchants of Doubt” (2010) delves into the historical manipulation of scientific information by the oil industry and its allies. The book examines how the industry has systematically sowed doubt and confusion about the environmental and health impacts of fossil fuels, often employing tactics similar to those used by the tobacco industry. By tracing the origins of this disinformation campaign, Oreskes and Conway expose the lengths to which the oil industry has gone to protect its profits, even at the expense of public welfare and the planet’s future. In dystopian fiction, Kim Stanley Robinson’s “New York 2140” (2017) offers a chilling vision of a future where the effects of climate change and sea-level rise have transformed the iconic city. The novel explores the social, economic, and political upheaval that arises from the consequences of our oil-dependent way of life and the resilience and ingenuity of those who must adapt to the new reality. Through this lens, Robinson challenges readers to confront the potential consequences of our continued reliance on fossil fuels and consider the urgent need to transition to more sustainable energy sources. These shifting narratives reflect a growing global anxiety about the sustainability of fossil fuels and the urgent need to transition to more sustainable alternatives. The literary exploration of oil dependence has become a crucial lens through which we can confront the realities of our energy-hungry world and the human cost of our reliance on the precious resource (Riddle, 2007., the conversation). These works, among others, have played a crucial role in shaping our understanding of the darker aspects of oil dependence. By delving into the complex web of political, economic, and environmental issues surrounding the oil industry, these authors have provided a platform for critical reflection and discourse. Their works serve as a powerful reminder that the pursuit of oil has often come at a heavy price, one that we must be willing to confront and address if we are to build a more sustainable and equitable future.

On the other hand, the print and visual mediums have sought to shed light on these darker aspects through thought-provoking campaigns. One such example is “The Exxon Valdez” advertisement, created by Greenpeace in the aftermath of the 1989 oil spill disaster. The advertisement features a striking image of a seabird covered in oil, its once-vibrant feathers now matted and discolored. The text accompanying the image reads, “You can’t clean this up.” This powerful message is a stark reminder of the devastating environmental consequences of oil spills, which can have long-lasting effects on marine ecosystems and wildlife. The advertisement effectively conveys that the damage caused by such incidents is not easily remedied, challenging the notion that oil companies can simply “clean up.” Another iconic advertisement that explores the darker side of oil dependence is Shell’s “Drip” campaign. This series of advertisements, which ran in the 1990s, depicted a series of scenarios in which a single drop of oil had catastrophic consequences. In one ad, a drop of oil falls onto a pristine forest floor, causing the entire ecosystem to wither and die. In another, a drop of oil contaminates a family’s drinking water, leading to health problems. The “Drip” campaign was notable for its use of stark, minimalist imagery and its focus on the insidious nature of oil pollution. By highlighting how a single drop of oil can have far-reaching and devastating effects, the advertisements challenged the notion that oil is a clean and benign energy source. Instead, they painted a picture of oil as a substance that is inherently dangerous and difficult to control, even in small quantities. A more recent example of an advertisement that explores the darker side of oil dependence is the “Crude Awakening” campaign by Greenpeace. This campaign, which was launched in 2019, featured a series of advertisements that used surreal and unsettling imagery to draw attention to the environmental and social impacts of the oil industry.

One advertisement in the campaign depicted a group of children playing in a field, only to have their idyllic scene shattered by the sudden appearance of a massive oil rig. The text accompanying the image reads, “The future is not what it used to be.” This powerful message is a stark warning about how the oil industry is threatening our planet’s future and future generations’ well-being. Another advertisement in the “Crude Awakening” campaign featured a series of images that juxtaposed the opulent lifestyles of oil executives with the poverty and suffering experienced by communities living in the shadow of the oil industry. These advertisements highlighted the stark inequalities and social injustices often perpetuated by the oil industry, challenging the notion that the benefits of oil wealth are evenly distributed. Using striking imagery, powerful messaging, and a focus on the real-world consequences of fossil fuel consumption, these campaigns have sought to challenge the dominant narratives surrounding oil and raise awareness about the urgent need for a transition to more sustainable energy sources. While the oil industry continues to wield significant power and influence, these advertisements serve as a reminder that the public is increasingly aware of the darker realities of oil dependence and is demanding meaningful action to address these issues.

Various works have critiqued oil’s pervasive influence on modern life, portraying it as a destructive force that hinders progress and innovation. The addiction metaphor emphasizes the need for a radical shift in energy policies and consumption habits.

As discussed, oil dependence is one of the most critical issues humanity faces today, with profound implications for the environment, economy, geopolitics, and the future of our civilization. Yet despite its immense importance, the topic of oil dependence is surprisingly less from much print and visual media. Advertisements, in particular, which shape so much of our collective consciousness, rarely, if ever, address the realities and challenges of our oil-dependent world. For a transition towards a sustainable future, we cannot hope to effectively address and overcome the challenges of oil dependence if we do not first confront them head-on in our cultural narratives and cultural imagination. Literature and art are vital in shaping our understanding of complex issues like oil dependence by making them tangible, personal, and emotionally resonant. Advertisements, meanwhile, have the power to shift social norms and behaviors on a massive scale. By remaining largely silent on the topic of oil dependence, literature, art, and advertising fail to rise to one of the greatest challenges of our time. They are missing opportunities to educate, inspire, and catalyze change. They are allowing oil dependence to remain an abstract, distant issue rather than a pressing personal and societal concern. They ceded the cultural narrative to those who would deny the realities of oil dependence or offer false solutions. Realizing the complexities, literature, art, and advertising should begin (and it has begun) to grapple with oil dependence in all its complexity. They must make it a central part of our cultural discourse and collective imagination. They must help us understand oil dependence’s true costs and consequences and envision a future beyond it. Only then can we hope to build the political will and social change necessary to create a more sustainable, resilient, and equitable world. The stakes could not be higher. Oil dependence is a threat to the environment and global stability, economic prosperity, and even human civilization. As the impacts of climate change accelerate and the world faces increasing competition for dwindling oil supplies, the risk of our addiction is becoming ever more severe.

Oil-rich autocracies like Russia and Saudi Arabia use their oil wealth to prop up repressive regimes and project power abroad. Oil has been a driver of wars and military interventions from the Middle East to Latin America. The extraction and burning of oil is causing untold damage to the natural world, with catastrophic implications for the climate and the future of life on Earth. Yet despite these grave risks, our societies remain stubbornly addicted to oil. We have built our economies, infrastructure, and way of life around the abundant supply of this finite resource. We have allowed the oil industry to wield immense political and economic power, distorting our policies and blocking the transition to cleaner energy sources. This is where literature, art, and advertising can play a vital role. By shining a light on the realities of oil dependence, they can help break the spell of denial and inaction. They can make the personal and emotional case for change in a way that dry policy papers and scientific reports cannot. And they can help us imagine and build a better future beyond oil.

In addition, we are seeing glimmers of this kind of cultural engagement with oil dependence. In recent years, several novels, films, and works of art have grappled with the challenges of oil dependence and climate change. From Kim Stanley Robinson's "New York 2140" to Naomi Oreskes and Erik M. Conway's "The Collapse of Western Civilization," these works use the power of storytelling to make the stakes of our oil addiction tangible and personal. In advertising, some brands are beginning to acknowledge the environmental impacts of their products and services. Electric vehicle companies like Tesla and Rivian are running ads highlighting the benefits of going electric. Some oil companies are trying to rebrand themselves as "energy companies" and tout their investments in renewable energy, even if their actions don't always match their rhetoric. But these examples are still the exception rather than the rule. For the most part, literature, art, and advertising remain stubbornly diverted from the realities of oil dependence. And when they engage with the topic, it is often superficial or even misleading. This has to change. We need a cultural revolution in how we think and talk about oil dependence; for that, we need print and visual media that can grapple with the complexity of the issue, from the geopolitics of oil to the environmental justice implications of fossil fuel extraction. The stories and images make the human costs of oil dependence tangible and personal, and that inspires us to imagine and build a better future. Visual and print media can imagine an alternative and change the collective consciousness. For instance, a novel that follows the lives of people worldwide whose lives have been upended by the impacts of oil dependence. A young woman in the Niger Delta whose community has been devastated by oil spills. A family in the Arctic whose traditional way of life is being destroyed by climate change. A worker in the oil fields of Saudi Arabia who dreams of a different life. A child in Beijing who has never known a day without smog. By weaving these personal stories, the novel could make the global impacts of oil dependence visceral and real. It could show how our individual lives are all connected to this finite resource. It could also inspire readers to see themselves as part of a global movement for change. Or imagine an advertisement campaign that reframes our relationship to oil more honestly and compellingly. Rather than celebrating the freedom and convenience of driving, the ads could acknowledge the hidden costs of oil dependence. They could show the environmental damage caused by oil extraction, the human rights abuses enabled by oil wealth, and the risks of a future defined by climate change and resource scarcity. And rather than pushing consumers to buy more, the ads could inspire them to use less. They could promote public transit, electric

vehicles, and walkable communities. They could highlight the benefits of energy efficiency and renewable energy. And they could position oil companies not as providers of a necessary resource but as obstacles to a sustainable future. And the changing cultural narrative around oil dependence will be a herculean task. The oil industry and its allies have spent decades and billions of dollars shaping public opinion in their favor. They have funded climate denial, lobbied against clean energy policies, and used their wealth and influence to maintain the status quo. But the tide is turning. As the impacts of climate change become ever more severe and the costs and risks of oil dependence become harder to ignore, more and more people are demanding change. Literature, art, and advertising are vital in amplifying this demand and shaping the cultural imagination. By engaging with the realities of oil dependence, these cultural forms can help us understand the true stakes of our challenges. They can make the case for change in a way that resonates emotionally and personally. And they can help us envision and build a better future beyond oil. This future will not be easy to achieve. It will require massive investments in clean energy, sustainable infrastructure, and resilient communities. It will require rethinking our economic systems, political institutions, and way of life. It will also require overcoming powerful vested interests that profit from the status quo. But it is a future that is essential if we are to avoid the worst consequences of climate change and create a more just, equitable, and sustainable world. Literature, art, and advertising make this future tangible and compelling. By engaging with the realities of oil dependence, these cultural forms can help us understand the true costs and consequences of our addiction to this finite resource. They can show us how our individual lives are connected to global systems of extraction and consumption. And they can inspire us to imagine and build a better future beyond oil. This is not just a matter of raising awareness or sparking individual action. It is about shifting the cultural narrative and creating the conditions for systemic change. By making oil dependence a central part of our cultural discourse, literature, art, and advertising can help create the political will and social momentum necessary to drive the transition to a clean energy future. Of course, this transition will not be easy. It will require massive investments, difficult trade-offs, and the disruption of entrenched interests. But a transition is essential if we are to avoid the worst consequences of climate change and create a more just, equitable, and sustainable world. Therefore, by shifting the cultural narrative around oil dependence, we can create the conditions for systemic change. Through that, we can build the political will and social momentum necessary to drive the transition to a clean energy future.

CONCLUSION

Literature and visual media possess a remarkable power to revolutionize the discourse surrounding oil dependence. Through the creative expression of ideas, these mediums can challenge existing narratives, spark critical thinking, and inspire meaningful change. In literature, authors can craft compelling stories that delve into the complexities of our reliance on fossil fuels. Whether it's a dystopian novel that envisions a future ravaged by resource scarcity or non-fiction that meticulously examines oil dependency's geopolitical and environmental implications, the written word can profoundly share public perception and discourse. Literature can humanize the issue by giving voice to diverse perspectives, fostering empathy and a deeper understanding of the stakes involved. Similarly, visual media such as film, television, and art have the power to captivate audiences and convey messages in a visceral,

impactful manner. Documentaries that expose the harsh realities of oil extraction and its consequences can stir emotions and motivate action. Narrative films that explore the personal and societal struggles associated with oil dependence can challenge preconceptions and inspire critical reflection. Even thought-provoking visual art can serve as a catalyst for dialogue, prompting viewers to question the status quo and consider alternative paths forward. Ultimately, the transformative potential of literature and visual media lies in their ability to transcend traditional boundaries and reach a wide audience. By creating stories, images, and narratives that resonate on an emotional and intellectual level, these mediums can shape public discourse, influence policy decisions, and ultimately drive the transition towards a more sustainable future, less reliant on the finite and environmentally damaging resource of oil.

Reference

- 1) Ahlberg, S. (n.d.). *Friday essay: the Rise and fall of oil in popular culture*. The Conversation. <https://theconversation.com/friday-essay-the-rise-and-fall-of-oil-in-popular-culture-68751>
- 2) Bertram, M. (2024, May 16). 7 Marketing Trends for oil and gas industry | EWR Digital | Data-Driven Search Marketing Digital Agency. *EWB Digital*. <https://www.ewrdigital.com/blog/7-marketing-trends-and-how-they-apply-to-the-oil-and-gas-industry>
- 3) Cordell, D., Drangert, J., & White, S. (2009). The story of phosphorus: Global food security and food for thought. *Global Environmental Change*, 19(2), 292–305. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.gloenvcha.2008.10.009>
- 4) Deutscher, G. (2018). *Entropy and sustainable growth*. World Scientific.
- 5) Drollette, D. (2021, May 3). *Big advertising to ditch Big Oil? - Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists*. Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists. <https://thebulletin.org/2021/04/big-advertising-to-ditch-big-oil/>
- 6) EarthRights International. (2020, February 25). *Big oil dumps billions into misleading advertising campaigns | EarthRights International*. <https://earthrights.org/blog/big-oil-dumps-billions-into-misleading-advertising-campaigns/>
- 7) From soil to oil: The resistance of the environment in the cities of Salt. (2015). *International Journal of Comparative Literature and Translation Studies*, 3(4). <https://doi.org/10.7575/aiac.ijclts.v.3n.4p.20>
- 8) Giampietro, M. (2008). Studying the “Addiction to oil” of developed societies using the Multi-Scale Integrated Analysis of Societal Metabolism (MSIASM). In *NATO science for peace and security series. C, Environmental security* (pp. 87–138). https://doi.org/10.1007/978-1-4020-8494-2_7
- 9) Hunziker, B. (2023, September 28). *The role of oil and gas companies in the energy transition*. Atlantic Council. <https://www.atlanticcouncil.org/in-depth-research-reports/report/the-role-of-oil-and-gas-companies-in-the-energy-transition/>
- 10) *How to end America’s addiction to oil*. (n.d.). Hoover Institution. <https://www.hoover.org/research/how-end-americas-addiction-oil>
- 11) Jordan, T. (2024, July 3). *REVEALED: Hundreds of ad campaigns by oil and gas companies have appeared on London public Transport since mayor’s carbon Zero pledge*. DeSmog. <https://www.desmog.com/2024/07/02/revealed-hundreds-of-ad-campaigns-by-oil-and-gas-companies-have-appeared-on-london-public-transport-since-mayors-carbon-zero-pledge/>
- 12) Kimball-Brown, J. (2019, December 17). *Congress and climate news spark oil company ads*. Futurity. <https://www.futurity.org/oil-companies-advertising-climate-change-2235542/>
- 13) Kraemer, T. D. (2007). *Addicted to oil: Strategic implications of American Oil Policy*. <https://apps.dtic.mil/sti/pdfs/ADA448334.pdf>
- 14) Miller, M. K. (2022, December 19). The oil and gas industry’s dangerous answer to climate change. *Center for American Progress*. <https://www.americanprogress.org/article/oil-gas-industrys-dangerous-answer-climate-change/>

- 15) Magazine, S. (n.d.). *A crude awakening*. STANFORD Magazine. <https://stanfordmag.org/contents/a-crude-awakening>
- 16) Morgan, M. (2010). Are We Addicted to Oil? Lessons from Mental Health. *Social Science Research Network*. <https://doi.org/10.2139/ssrn.1523381>
- 17) *Oil and gas industry needs to step up climate efforts now - News - IEA*. (n.d.). IEA. <https://www.iea.org/news/oil-and-gas-industry-needs-to-step-up-climate-efforts-now>
- 18) Riddle, A. (n.d.). *Petrofiction and Political Economy in the age of Late Fossil Capital | Mediations | Journal of the Marxist Literary Group*. Mediations Journal. <https://mediationsjournal.org/articles/petrofiction>
- 19) Rutledge, I. (2005). *Addicted to oil: America's Relentless Drive for Energy Security*. I.B. Tauris.
- 20) Woodbury, M. (2022, January 25). *Climate Change Author Spotlight – Writers & Big Oil*. Dragonfly: An Exploration of Eco-fiction. <https://dragonfly.eco/part-xxi-authors-big-oil/>
- 21) Verma, M. (2023, April 11). India's petroleum consumption broke all records in 2022-23. *Quartz*. <https://qz.com/indias-petroleum-consumption-broke-all-records-in-2022-1850322200>