A native of Tulsa, Oklahoma, Ken Steele retired from a successful career in the oil & gas industry. He holds a B.S. in Civil Engineering from Oklahoma State University where he graduated first in his class. He went on to study engineering at MIT where he graduated with an M.S.

While at ExxonMobil, Ken was credited with numerous technical innovations, including patents in deepwater technology that have been featured on ABC's *Good Morning America*. After joining Chevron, he coordinated their global Quality Assurance process for major capital projects, some exceeding $50 billion in spend. Throughout his career, Ken traveled extensively across six continents.

In 2017, *The Houston Chronicle* published Ken's essay reflecting on the aftermath of Hurricane Harvey and the struggle of a city to heal. That essay drew from his personal experience in rebuilding after a devastating flood.

*The Promise of Unbroken Straw* is Ken's debut novel, a work of historical fiction. He resides in Colorado with his wife of 44 years where his days are filled with skiing, pickleball, golf, hiking, and all that the mountains can offer.

