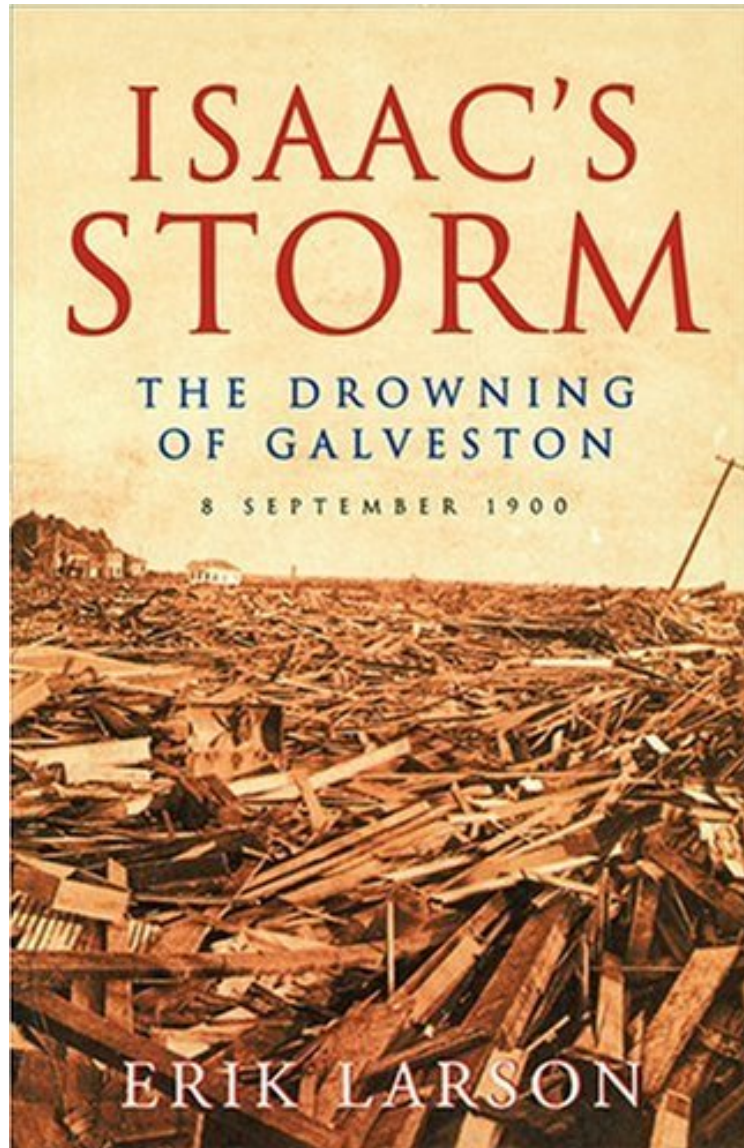


[Read free] Isaac's Storm: The Drowning of Galveston

Isaac's Storm: The Drowning of Galveston

Erik Larson

*ebooks | Download PDF | *ePub | DOC | audiobook*



DOWNLOAD



+

READ ONLINE

#1923283 in Books 2000-06-01Original language:EnglishPDF # 1 #File Name: 1857028422384 pages | File size: 47.Mb

Erik Larson : Isaac's Storm: The Drowning of Galveston before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Isaac's Storm: The Drowning of Galveston:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Overall I enjoyed the book and will recommend it to fans of ...By AIXGThis is the third book by Erik Larson I've read. I agree with many of the other reviewers, that this tale suffered mightily from not including any of the pictures which the author detailed in the narrative, and the only maps pictured

left something to be desired. Wonder why this was so? I felt a little swamped by all the characters mentioned but realize there were so many people who died in this storm that Larson could likely only sketch some of them. He did explain in NOTES how difficult it was to gather accurate information from this disaster so long ago. I probably would've appreciated more details regarding the soured relationship between Isaac and Joseph but wonder how much verifiable data there was on them. Overall I enjoyed the book and will recommend it to fans of Larson. I absolutely loved the other two books I read and will seek others. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. I particularly like the way the author brings into the story the ...By Stephen Gassaway Outstanding writing on the part of Erik Larson. He brings the story of the Galveston hurricane alive and introduces the reader to a variety of actors who ranged from pioneering weather researchers and scientists who furthered knowledge about weather to bureaucrats and agency heads who held back the advancement of meteorology and, through their ineptness and incompetence, caused the loss of countless lives. I particularly like the way the author brings into the story the lives of relatively minor figures in a way that gives the reader a sense of place and history that traditional history books writers seldom attempted. Mr. Larson describes how families with children tried to cope with the massive storm that wiped out entire sections of Galveston in a matter of hours. An excellent book that, like Larson's other books, made me want to read all of his books. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. A Living and Vivid History By Bearsie If not reviewed in the newspaper, I would not have discovered the writings of this author. He produces great accounts of historical events but written in such a manner that one would firmly believe it was a novel. In a way, it is a novel, but based on true facts. His description/narrative at the time the hurricane hit Texas and flooded the town was horrifying and felt so real. Even describing the prior weather conditions and some of his characters were very vivid. Definitely a fascinating read, but yet so informative historically. Again, a book that captivates the reader. I have since read some of his other writings and would also recommend them. His writings should be recommended reading for "History" classes.

Galveston, Texas, 8 September 1900. It's another fine day in the Gulf according to Isaac Cline, chief observer of the new US Weather Bureau, but one day later, 6-10,000 people were dead, wiped out by the biggest storm the coast of America had ever witnessed. Isaac Cline was confident of his ability to predict the weather: he had new technology at his disposal, 'perfect science', and, like America itself, he was sure that he was in control of his world, that the new century would be the American century, that the future was man's to command. And the coastal city of Galveston was a prosperous, enthusiastic place -- a jewel of progress and contentment, a model for the new century. The storm blew up in Cuba. It was, in modern jargon, an X-storm -- an extreme hurricane -- and it did not circle around the Gulf of Mexico as storms routinely did. On 8 September 1900 it ploughed straight into Galveston. It was the meteorological equivalent of the Big One. It was to be the worst natural disaster ever to befall America to this day: between six and ten thousand people died, including Isaac Cline's wife and unborn child. With them died Cline's and America's hubris: the storm had simply blown them away. Told with a novelist's skill this is the true story of an awful and terrible natural catastrophe.

.com Reading in his signature dispassionate style, narrator Edward Herrmann brings an eerie calm to this powerful chronicle of the deadliest storm ever to hit the United States--a huge and terribly destructive hurricane that struck land near Galveston, Texas in September of 1900. Author Erik Larson re-creates the events leading up to the disaster in astonishing detail, tracing the thoughts and actions of Isaac Cline, a scientist with America's burgeoning U.S. Weather Bureau. Cline's unwavering confidence--"In an age of scientific certainty one could not allow one's judgment to be clouded..."--blinds the meteorologist to the deadly onslaught about to be unleashed. Herrmann's calculated performance reflects the impending doom and dangers inherent to an unquestioned and absolute faith in science. (Running time: 5 hours, 3 cassettes) --George Laney From Publishers Weekly Torqued by drama and taut with suspense, this absorbing narrative of the 1900 hurricane that inundated Galveston, Tex., conveys the sudden, cruel power of the deadliest natural disaster in American history. Told largely from the perspective of Isaac Cline, the senior U.S. Weather Bureau official in Galveston at the time, the story considers an era when "the hubris of men led them to believe they could disregard even nature itself." As barometers plummet and wind gauges are plucked from their moorings, Larson (*Lethal Passage*) cuts cinematically from the eerie "eyewall" of the hurricane to the mundane hubbub of a lunchroom moments before it capitulates to the arriving winds, from the neat pirouette of Cline's house amid rising waters to the bridge of the steamship *Pensacola*, tossed like flotsam on the roiling seas. Most intriguingly, Larson details the mistakes that led bureau officials to dismiss warnings about the storm, which killed over 6000 and destroyed a third of the island city. The government's weather forecasting arm registered not only temperature and humidity but also political climate, civic boosterism and even sibling rivalries. America's patronizing stance toward Cuba, for instance, shut down forecasts from Cuban meteorologists, who had accurately predicted the Galveston storm's course and true scale, even as U.S. weather officials issued mollifying bulletins calling for mere rain and high winds. Larson expertly captures the power of the storm itself and the ironic, often catastrophic consequences of the unpredictable intersection of natural force and human choice. Major ad/promo; author tour; simultaneous Random House audio; foreign rights sold in Germany, Holland, Italy, Japan and the U.K. (Sept.) Copyright 1999 Reed

Business Information, Inc. From School Library Journal YA-Larson has brought together powerful elements to create one of the most memorable of the "natural disaster" docudramas that have come out recently. Meteorologists within the U.S. Weather Bureau at the turn of the 20th century had become so confident of their own forecasting abilities that they dismissed with irritation troubling weather reports out of Cuba. In a burgeoning port city like Galveston, TX, in 1900, the idea that severe damage could be done by a hurricane seemed preposterous. Following several threads at once, Larson creates a likable character in the real-life weatherman Isaac Cline, tracing his career as a meteorologist. A tropical depression takes on an ominous life of its own as it thrashes its way through the Caribbean and up through the Gulf of Mexico. The town of Galveston becomes one of the major characters in the story. Poignant details and sweeping narrative create a book that is hard to put down even though the outcome is a well-known historical fact: more than 6000 dead and an entire city devastated. At the same time, Larson chronicles a critical period of history for the National Weather Bureau. The blatant errors in judgment led to changes within that federal agency. More than anything, this is a gripping and heartbreaking story of what happens when arrogance meets the immutable forces of nature. Cynthia J. Rieben, W. T. Woodson High School, Fairfax, VA Copyright 2000 Reed Business Information, Inc.