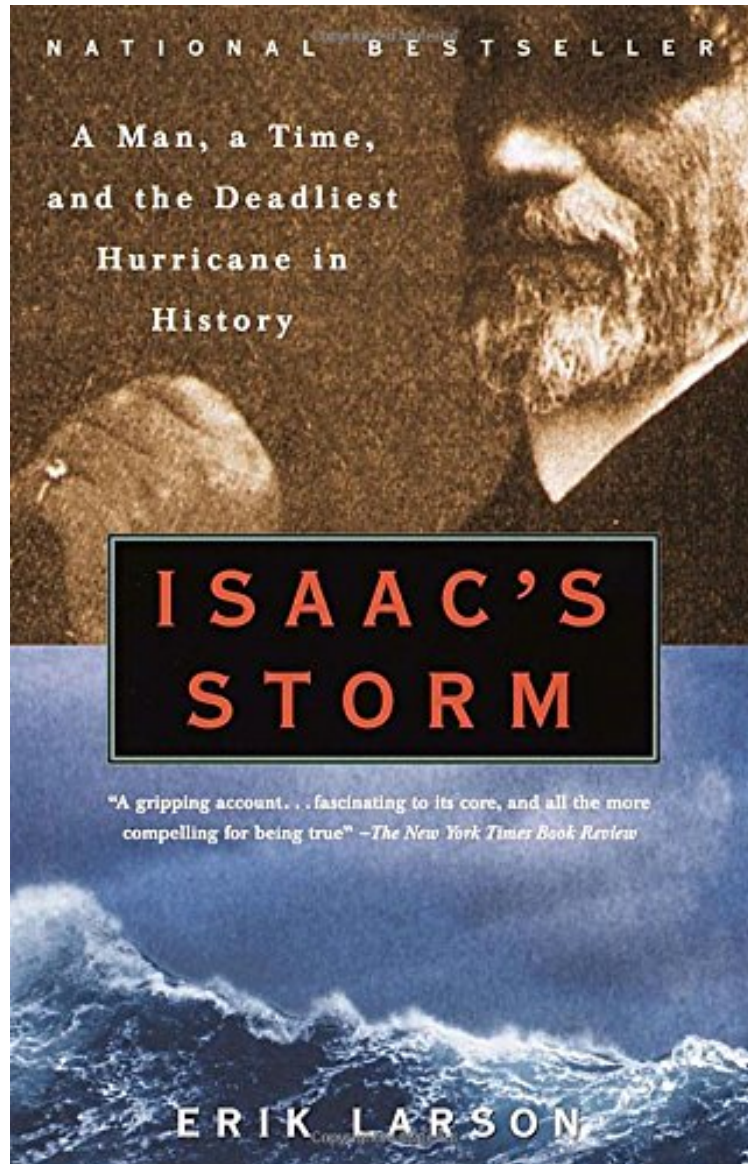


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Isaac's Storm: A Man, a Time, and the Deadliest Hurricane in History

Erik Larson

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#5884 in Books Erik Larson 2000-07-11 2000-07-11 Original language: English PDF # 1 8.00 x .72 x 5.161, .55 #File Name: 0375708278323 pages Isaac s Storm A Man a Time and the Deadliest Hurricane in History | File size: 44.Mb

Erik Larson : Isaac's Storm: A Man, a Time, and the Deadliest Hurricane in History before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Isaac's Storm: A Man, a Time, and the Deadliest Hurricane in History:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Overall I enjoyed the book and will recommend it to fans of ...By AIXG
This 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
I 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.

National Bestseller
September 8, 1900, began innocently in the seaside town of Galveston, Texas. Even Isaac Cline, resident meteorologist for the U.S. Weather Bureau failed to grasp the true meaning of the strange deep-sea swells and peculiar winds that greeted the city that morning. Mere hours later, Galveston found itself submerged in a monster hurricane that completely destroyed the town and killed over six thousand people in what remains the greatest natural disaster in American history--and Isaac Cline found himself the victim of a devastating personal tragedy. Using Cline's own telegrams, letters, and reports, the testimony of scores of survivors, and our latest understanding of the science of hurricanes, Erik Larson builds a chronicle of one man's heroic struggle and fatal miscalculation in the face of a storm of unimaginable magnitude. Riveting, powerful, and unbearably suspenseful, Isaac's Storm is the story of what can happen when human arrogance meets the great uncontrollable force of nature.

.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.