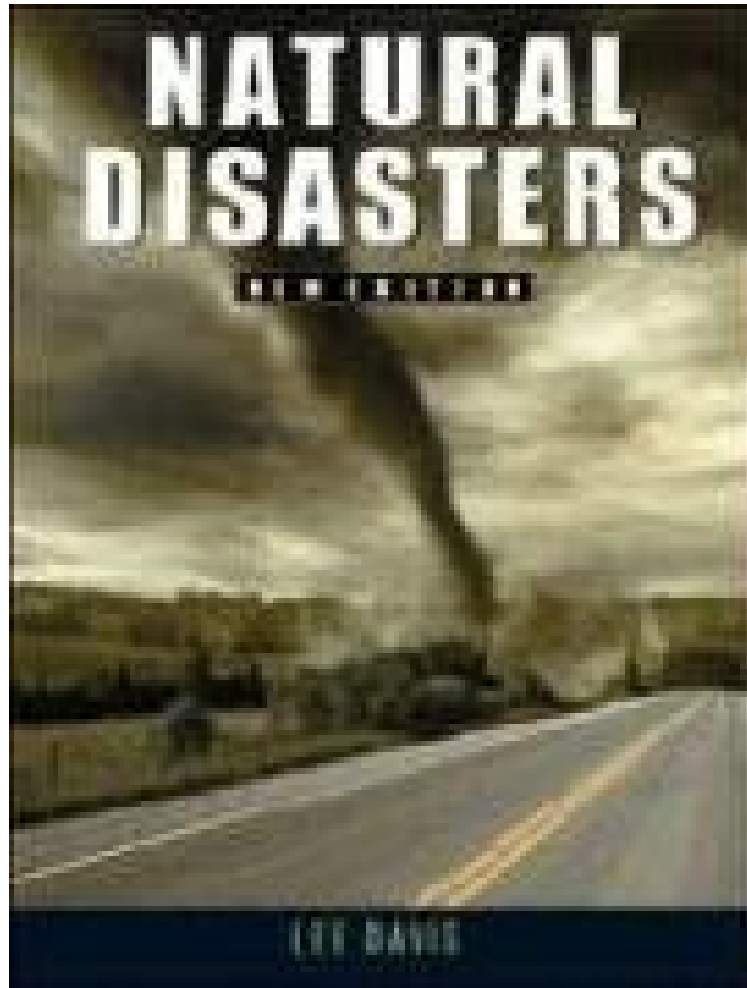


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Natural Disasters

Lee Allyn Davis

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Lee Allyn Davis : Natural Disasters before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Natural Disasters:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Now in a fully updated and expanded new editionBy Midwest Book ReviewNature is seemingly out to get humanity. Now in a fully updated and expanded new edition, "Natural Disasters" is a complete and comprehensive guide to this, covering everything from the black death to hurricanes to earthquakes to tsunamis. In this newly revised and expanded edition, "Natural Disasters" discusses the tragedies of Hurricane Katrina, the Indian Ocean Tsunami of 2004, SARS, and other recent developments. Enhanced with over eighty photos, "Natural Disasters" is an ideal addition to community library reference collections.

A guide to natural disasters around the world which features approximately 600 entries organized by disaster type, then alphabetized by the name of the country in which the event occurred. Each section includes with the event within

the disaster type; a chronology of the event; and an introduction.

From School Library Journal Grade 9 Up The opinionated introduction to this update of the 2002 edition paves the way for the unstinting social commentary ("people situated near volcanoes ignore common sense and the warnings of experts") in these 500-plus articles. Chapters begin with thorough explanations of the phenomena and a chronological list of calamities, prehistory to 2007. They are arranged by disaster type and include "Avalanches and Landslides," "Earthquakes," "Famines and Droughts," "Plagues and Epidemics," "Hurricanes," "Icestorms and Snowstorms," and "Volcanic Eruptions and Natural Explosions." Within these divisions, arrangement is geographical and then chronological. Entries provide a synopsis of the disaster, and then proceed with a detailed history, including magnitude or strength (Richter scale measurements, etc.) death toll, property damage, and other effects, interspersed with numerous eyewitness accounts and quotes. New coverage includes entries on Hurricane Katrina, the U.S. Midwestern floods of 2007, and SARS. There are no cross-references. Also, there is no chapter on tsunamis, so the book lacks a comprehensive explanation of their creation. Instead, descriptions of the genesis and destructiveness of individual tsunamis, including the massive 2004 disaster, are scattered throughout the flood and earthquake sections. Black-and-white photographs accompany many of the entries, and there is an eight-page section of color photos. Both types are grainy. Though it covers only through 2006, Marlene Bradford and Robert S. Carmichael's *Notable Natural Disasters* (Salem, 2007) is a better option. It covers more disaster types, gives the 2004 Indian Ocean tsunami its own entry, and discusses prevention more thoroughly. Henrietta Thornton-Verma, School Library Journal Copyright Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. From Booklist This work documents natural disasters through recorded history. The disasters are grouped by 12 types, among them "Avalanches and Landslides," "Famines and Droughts," "Plagues and Epidemics," and "Volcanic Eruptions and Natural Explosions." Each section provides a time line and a listing of the "worst" events of that particular type of disaster. Within sections, arrangement is chronological. The entry for each disaster begins with a brief summary of the causes, casualties, and unique traits of that particular event. For example, in January to June 1783, "Twenty thousand people--one-third of the population of Iceland--were killed by the monumental, multiple eruptions of Laki, a 15-mile-long series of 100 craters and vents near Lakagigar." Most entries run about one-half to one page and sometimes include quotes from those who experienced the disasters in person. This edition adds disasters occurring since the 1992 edition was released, such as the Kobe earthquake in Japan in 1995; Hurricane Gilbert, which struck the Caribbean in 1997; and flooding in Southeast Asia from July to October 2000. Numerous black-and-white photos, an extensive bibliography, a listing of Web sites, and an excellent index round out the text. The author's straightforward, informative writing style makes this book easily readable by secondary school and college students. Libraries owning the first edition will want to update. RBB Copyright American Library Association. All rights reserved "The author's straightforward, informative writing style makes this book easily-readable by secondary school and college students,"