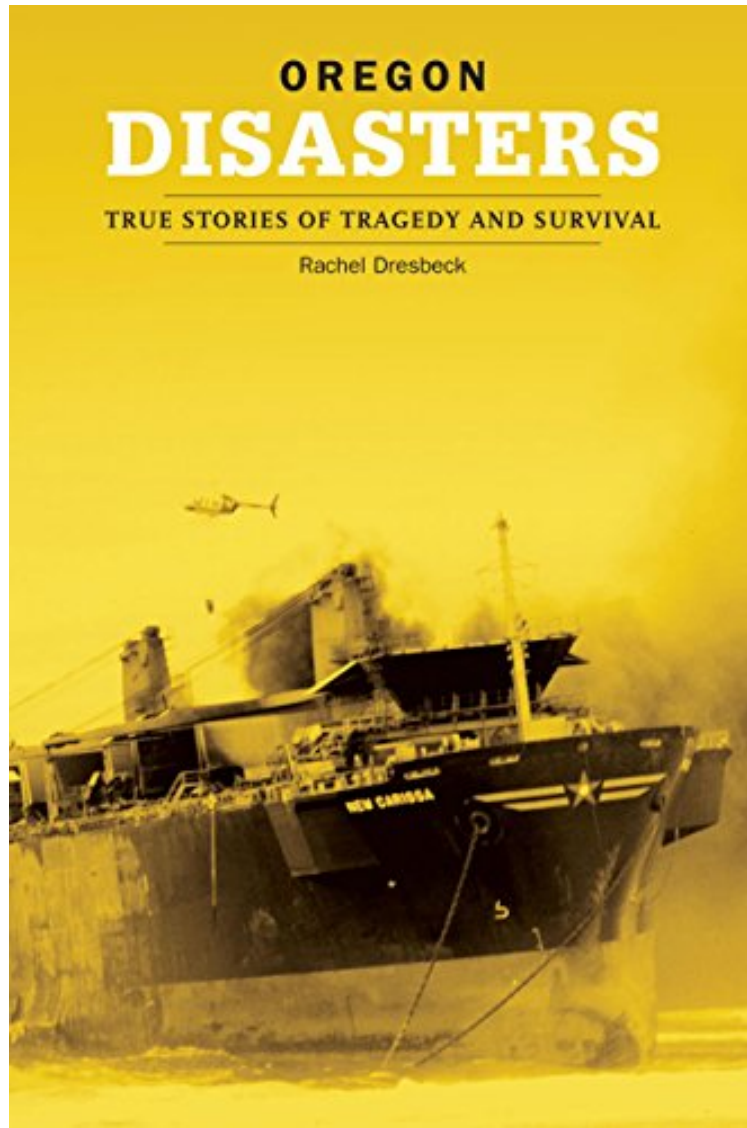


(Download) Oregon Disasters: True Stories of Tragedy and Survival (Disasters Series)

## Oregon Disasters: True Stories of Tragedy and Survival (Disasters Series)

*Rachel Dresbeck*

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



DOWNLOAD



READ ONLINE

#3148884 in Books Globe Pequot 2006-08-01 Original language: English PDF # 1 .65 x 6.08 x 9.00l, .77 #File Name: 0762739932224 pages | File size: 20.Mb

**Rachel Dresbeck : Oregon Disasters: True Stories of Tragedy and Survival (Disasters Series)** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Oregon Disasters: True Stories of Tragedy and Survival (Disasters Series):

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. A Great Read, and a Fine Way to Learn Some of Oregon's History By Gary Borjesson I thoroughly enjoyed this collection recounting "true stories of tragedy and survival" in

Oregon's history, ranging from 1903 to 2003. Rachel Dresbeck is a clear, engaging writer who knows how to tell a story and has a great eye for the salient details that bring events and the people involved in them to life. Each of the 20 chapters is relatively short and tells the story of a different disaster. Dresbeck moves along briskly, avoiding the tendency of some historical writing to be dull by becoming overly fascinated with trivial detail. Instead, she goes quickly to the heart of each story. As a native Oregonian who knows shamefully little of my own state's history, the stories in this book held particular interest. Places I've known all my life now have an added depth from learning something of their past. One of my favorite chapters was the story of the Tillamook Burn, something I've heard about since I was a child but have never known much about. During summers in high school my friends and I used to drive out to the Wilson River in the Tillamook forest to swim. Little did I know that in 1933 over 311,000 acres of that forest burned--for weeks. Dresbeck reports that "Eighteen miles of solid flame stretched across the Tillamook forest. This wall created a cloud of smoke that stretched 40 miles across....The fire sped through the forest, devouring 166 acres per minutes." These are amazing facts, hard to wrap one's mind around. Besides having the instant appeal of being dramatic, the advantage of focusing stories around disasters is that these extreme occasions are especially revealing of the people and places. Dresbeck clearly knows this very well. I'd recommend this book to anyone who wants to get to know Oregon better, and of course to those who enjoy reading true and dramatic histories.

5 of 5 people found the following review helpful. A Potpourri of Oregon History as Seen Through 100 Years of Disasters By Carol Berger

There is a fascination in reading about disasters, especially ones that are close to home. So when I came across Oregon Disasters: True Stories of Tragedy and Survival at a gift shop, I snatched it up to see what the book had to say about disasters that have occurred in the state where I live. In Oregon Disasters Rachel Dresbeck covers 20 incidents that span the time period from 1903 to 2003 and include a number of different types of disasters: a shipwreck, a sinking, floods, fires, a wind storm, mountain climbing accidents, blizzards, a tsunami, a massive chain-reaction car accident, and an airplane crash. She even covers the eruption of Mount St. Helens in Washington State because "many of the fifty-seven official dead were from Oregon." Like any good story-teller, particularly one telling stories of tragedies, Dresbeck emphasizes the impact of these events on the people involved and on their friends, families, and communities. Though the chapters are short - any one of them could easily be developed into a book of its own - Oregon Disasters is engrossing and well-written. While the chapters can be read in any order, reading them in sequence (from oldest to most recent) gives more of a feel for the flow of history, which is an important element of the book. As important as the people in the stories are to the reader, Dresbeck herself writes that "the stories in this book were chosen for their scale and scope - not necessarily for how many people died, but whether the event had a deep or long-lasting influence, whether it wrought changes to landscapes, lives, practices, or policies." Whether you focus on the individuals whose lives were changed by these disasters or on the influences and aftermaths of these incidents, Oregon Disasters makes for a good read.

Twenty disasters spanning more than a century are brought to life in this engagingly written volume. Among the true accounts dramatically retold are the deadly Mount Hood avalanche of 1927, the 1933 Tillamook forest fire (one of the worst in U.S. history), the devastating tsunami of 1964, and the 1903 flash flood in Heppner, which carried away a fourth of the town's inhabitants.

From the Back Cover

It's only human to be fascinated by disasters and uplifted by reports of survival in the face of overwhelming circumstances. Rachel Dresbeck takes you back to Oregon's most catastrophic events, vividly re-creating the moments that changed the Beaver State forever. The twenty true stories in Oregon Disasters are a chilling reminder to expect the unexpected and to respect the powerful, often deadly forces of nature.