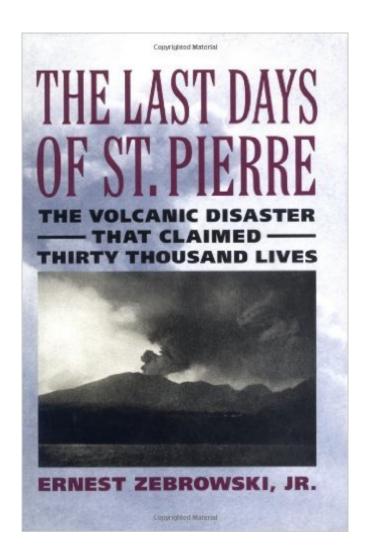
The book was found

The Last Days Of St. Pierre: The Volcanic Disaster That Claimed 30,000 Lives





Synopsis

On May 8, 1902, Mont PelÃce on the island of Martinique exploded. A deadly cloud of steam and ash churned through plantations and villages, flattened the grand city of St. Pierre, then thundered into the bay where it sank eighteen ships and hundreds of smaller craft. Within a minute or two, nearly 30,000 humans died. The splintered rubble of their homes and belongings burned for three days, and the world began to understand the awesome power of nuées ardentes, glowing avalanches of hot gas and debris that sweep down the slopes of volcanoes, instantly steaming to death anything in its path. The enormous death toll was particularly tragic because it was avoidable. Had it not been for an unfortunate combination of scientific misjudgment and political hubris, most of the victims would have escaped. Â Â Â Â Â Â Â Â Â Â Â Â Â Â În The Last Days of St. Pierre, Ernest Zebrowski Jr. counts down the days leading up to the catastrophe, and unfolds a tale intertwining human foolishness and heroism with the remarkable forces of nature. Illustrations contrast life in Martinique before and after the eruption, and evewitness accounts bring the story to life. Although it seems a long time since the destruction of St. Pierre, it is a mere blink of an eye in our planetâ ™s geological history. Mont Pelée will erupt again, as will Vesuvius, Krakatau, St. Helens, Thera, and most other infamously fatal volcanoes, and human lives will again be threatened. The St. Pierre disaster has taught us much about the awesome power of volcanic forces and the devastation they can bring.Â

Book Information

Hardcover: 304 pages Publisher: Rutgers University Press (February 1, 2002) Language: English ISBN-10: 0813530415 ISBN-13: 978-0813530413 Product Dimensions: 9.3 x 6.3 x 1.1 inches Shipping Weight: 1.4 pounds Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 stars Â See all reviews (25 customer reviews) Best Sellers Rank: #1,130,831 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #60 in Books > Science & Math > Earth Sciences > Geology > Volcanology #150 in Books > Science & Math > Earth Sciences > Seismology #240 in Books > Science & Math > Earth Sciences > Earthquakes & Volcanoes

Customer Reviews

This review is unusual in that it compares two books that were published nearly at the same time

and both deal with the same event: the devastating 1902 eruption of Montagne Pelée volcano on the Caribbean island of Martinique. The first of these books is Alwyn Scarth's "LA Catastrophe: The Eruption of Mount Pelée, the Worst Volcanic Disaster of the 20th Century", the second is Ernest Zebrowski's "The Last Days of St. Pierre: The Volcanic Disaster that Claimed 30,000 Lives", published just four months earlier. Both books mark the 100th anniversary of the eruption that virtually exterminated the town of Saint-Pierre along with nearly all of its inhabitants. Both fulfill an important mission: putting an end to the incredible amount and degree of misinformation veiling that tragic event to the present day. The 1902 Montagne PelACe (commonly translated into Mount Pel©e in the English literature) eruption produced a phenomenon called pyroclastic flows (and/or surges), which had until then not been recognized by geologists - although today we know that they occur quite frequently. Just as I write this review (early February 2006), pyroclastic flows are spilling down the slopes of Mount St. Augustine volcano in Alaska. They were produced by nearly all the famous explosive eruptions in history, including Mount St. Helens (1980), Pinatubo (1991), Krakatau (1883), and Vesuvius (79 A.D.). However, there was no common conscience of pyroclastic flows among scientists and people living on volcanoes in early 1902, when Montagne Pelée stirred and gradually came back to life. What was known at the time about volcanoes was limited to lava flows. ash falls, and tsunamis (the latter are rarely caused by volcanic eruptions).

Download to continue reading...

The Last Days of St. Pierre: The Volcanic Disaster That Claimed 30,000 Lives Claimed By The Cowboys 2 (Claimed Series) Volcanic Eruptions of El Malpais, The: A Guide to the Volcanic History & Formations of El Malpais Natl Monument No Apparent Danger: The True Story of Volcanic Disaster at Galeras and Nevado Del Ruiz La Catastrophe: The Eruption of Mount Pelee, the Worst Volcanic Disaster of the 20th Century THE MIRACULOUS RESULTS OF EXTREMELY HIGH DOSES OF THE SUNSHINE HORMONE VITAMIN D3 MY EXPERIMENT WITH HUGE DOSES OF D3 FROM 25,000 to 50,000 to 100,000 IU A Day OVER A 1 YEAR PERIOD Hollywood on \$5,000, \$10,000, or \$25,000 a Day: A Survival Guide for Low-Budget Filmmakers Last Days of Last Island: The Hurricane of 1856, Louisiana's First Great Storm A Beautiful Wedding: A Beautiful Disaster Novella (Beautiful Disaster Series) Pierre Berton's Canada: The Land and the People The explorations of Pierre Esprit Radisson: From the original manuscript in the Bodleian Library and the British Museum Pierre-Esprit Radisson: The Collected Writings, Volume 1: The Voyages Pierre-Esprit Radisson: The Collected Writings, Volume 2: The Port Nelson Relations, Miscellaneous Writings, and Related Documents Pierre et (&) Gilles: The Complete Works, 1976-1996 / L'Oeuvre Complet / Samtliche Werke (English, French, German and Spanish Edition)

Pierre Reverdy (New York Review Books Poets) La Farce de Maître Pierre Pathelin: 2 versions (en ancien français et en français moderne) (French Edition) Culture and Power: The Sociology of Pierre Bourdieu Unlawfully Claimed (The Omega Rescue Book 1) Claimed (Demon's Mark 5): Dark Paranormal Erotica Claimed by Caligula: Roman group erotica

<u>Dmca</u>