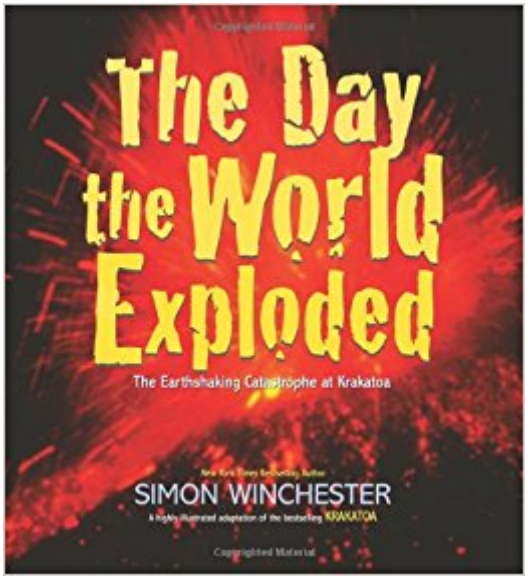
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The Day The World Exploded: The Earthshaking Catastrophe At Krakatoa



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Synopsis

Eruptions. Explosions. Shock waves. Tsunamis.The almighty explosion that destroyed the volcano island of Krakatoa was followed by an immense tsunami that killed more than thirty thousand people. The effects of the waves were felt as far away as France, and bodies were washed up in Zanzibar. Today, one hundred and twenty-five years after the volcano erupted in one of the greatest catastrophes the world has ever known, the name Krakatoa is still synonymous with disaster.In this illustrated account based on Simon Winchester’s bestselling Krakatoa, the colossal explosion is brought to vivid life. From the ominous warnings leading up to the eruption to the wave of killings it provoked, here is an engaging and insightful look at what happened on the day the world exploded.

Book Information

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Age Range: 10 - 14 years

Grade Level: 5 - 9

Customer Reviews

Grade 5Ã¢â ¬â œ8Ã¢â ¬â •Zimmerman has successfully adapted Winchester’s Krakatoa (HarperCollins, 2003) for young people. The book casts light on a specific moment when geological forces interacted with civilization, providing readers with a vivid picture of the destruction and human suffering caused by the volcanic eruption. The volume conveys much historical background to the 1883 Indonesian disaster, including the European colonization of the region in response to the spice trade. Relevant cultural and scientific advances are also presented, such as Alfred Wegener’s concept of "continental displacement," Alfred Russel Wallace’s breakthroughs in evolutionary

science, and the invention of the telegraph. The eruption sequence is portrayed chronologically from personal records, telegraph reports, and official officer logs. Chin’s full-color cartoon illustrations enhance the many archival and contemporary photographs, historical illustrations, and maps that accompany the text. The account of 19th-century scientific achievement is coupled with the drama of the eruption, resulting in an exciting and informative read, with the wide-ranging effects of the volcanic explosion explained in a powerful manner. In addition to this work’s educational and reference potential, it lends a human face to a natural disaster and will attract general readers as well.Ã¢â ¬â •Jeff Meyer, Slater Public Library, IA Copyright Ã Â© Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved.

A splendid example... of downsizing popular adult books into ones worthy of kids. (Kathleen Krull (inkrethink.blogspot.com))

At first glance this book looks like something for 7 year olds but buried within it there is quite a lot of serious stuff about what actually happened at Krakatoa (or Krakatau) in 1883. To me this is a classic case of falling between two stools. Perhaps it is best considered to be suitable for use in Primary schools, under the guidance of a teacher who has bothered to read up the descriptions of the 1883 eruption of Krakatua as detailed in the compilation by Simkin and Fiske, ’Krakatua 1883’, published by the Carnegie Institute in 1984.

I read this myself before passing on to great-grandson. The illustrations and photos are well done, and the text presents good information presented in an interesting manner. Additionally, the story makes connections with other scientific and historic events, enough to lead to further studies, and there is an index to enable reviewing specific areas. Oh, and Tony, age 10, also enjoyed it. We had a nice visit about it.

I was very impressed with the flow of the story. After reading several books concerning this event in history I found this book very informative and a different perspective and approach to the event. Very pleased and worth rereading at a later date. I would have enjoyed more of a brief on the book before my purchase although it would have not kept me from purchasing the book.

This book is so cool. It is the children’s version of Simon Winchester’s excellent Krakatoa, but with drawings, commentary, science, and photos of Krakatoa and other volcanos. The book is the

informative and interesting and a great gift for an older child who loves history, or science, or good true stories, or plate tectonics, or volcanos and stuff that explodes. Great text and illustrations.

Brilliant for budding volcanologist by the great Simon Winchester

The order was not what I expected. Thought that I was buying the novel, not this pictorial children's book. Hopefully the grand children will like it.

Simon Winchester's well-researched historical works have lured fiction readers to the nonfiction genre. Krakatoa provided a riveting account of the volcano's 1883 eruption and its aftermath. Dwight Zimmerman's outstanding adaptation for young people uses a conversational approach inviting readers into the world of Krakatoa.From the engaging text to the wide variety of vivid visual examples, The Day the World Exploded immerses readers in both an historical and scientific adventure. Zimmerman's ability to condense Winchester's work and focus on the key elements necessary for the young audience is outstanding. Focusing on a variety of topics including legends, science, business, communication, culture, early warnings, the explosion and it's impact, the book tells the story of the people and places impacted by this historical event.Maps, diagrams, historical etching, photographs, news clippings, and color illustrations detail much more than the event itself. Readers are immersed in all aspects of the history, science, people, and time periods.Features including a glossary, list of suggested resources, and index will be particularly appealing for young researchers. The book's sidebars are filled with "News Briefs" providing wonderful insights into the time and place.Although the large format may be attractive to very young children, the reading level is most appropriate for intermediate and middle school students. High school students seeking high interest, low reading level materials will also find this book appealing.If you're looking for a way to bring history alive for young people, read Dwight Zimmerman's adaptation of The Day the World Exploded by Simon Winchester.Ideas for Teachers and ParentsPair this book with its parent, Krakatoa by Simon Winchester, for a shared reading experience. Parents or teens could read Krakatoa while youngsters read The Day the World Exploded. Then, use the Internet to explore additional resources about Volcanoes. Even better, take a family or school trip to a volcano site.Compare the events surrounding Krakatoa to more recent catastrophes.What natural disasters are likely in the area where you live? Is your community prepared? Create a family plan so you'll be ready.

My child was utterly fascinated by this book. The text is great -- taking the reader to Batavia and the lifestyle of the time. The book delivers tons of full-color photographs, contemporary photographs of Krakatoa, full-page illustrations, maps of the tsunamis and the shipping lanes.Outstanding book for science-minded kids.My little guy is a little young for this book -- I like that it stretches his knowledge. He is so interested in natural disasters -- this book feeds his hungry little eyes for a long time.

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