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# The Big One



## **Synopsis**

The Big One, the great Earthquake everyone expects, finally hits California. This is a detailed account of how the legendary Big One will change the lives of people in Los Angeles and neighboring Southern California. Based upon real world facts, every chapter begins with the historical and scientific basis for the thrilling story of this riveting novel. The death, destruction and horror of the great quake are intermixed with the hope and fortitude of the people who try to survive Nature's cataclysm. The Big One is a marvelously detailed account of the way in which the survivors deal with the disaster. The huge quake, the Big One, is not just a remote possibility, it is the very real event the best scientists expect at some time in our lives. This is one of those books you cannot put down. Crisp characterizations, detailed, fact-based events, real locations and thrilling adventure make the Big One a must-read novel.

## **Book Information**

File Size: 1640 KB

Print Length: 446 pages

Publisher: Saint Gaudens Inc.; 1 edition (September 20, 2016)

Publication Date: September 20, 2016

Sold by: Digital Services LLC

Language: English

ASIN: B01M1HM5Z4

Text-to-Speech: Enabled

X-Ray: Not Enabled

Word Wise: Enabled

Lending: Not Enabled

Screen Reader: Supported

Enhanced Typesetting: Enabled

Best Sellers Rank: #105,001 Paid in Kindle Store (See Top 100 Paid in Kindle Store) #10 in Kindle Store > Kindle eBooks > Nonfiction > Science > Earth Sciences > Earthquakes & Volcanoes #11 in Books > Engineering & Transportation > Engineering > Civil & Environmental > Seismic Design #35 in Books > Science & Math > Earth Sciences > Earthquakes & Volcanoes

## **Customer Reviews**

This is a simple, fast read that took three days. Interestingly, each chapter starts with a fact that is

relevant to the chapter and plotline. The characters are well-drawn, though I could have done without at least two of them, a movie mogul and his trophy wife, both of which are quite one-dimensional and unnecessary. However, the other characters make up for this. Be warned, the author does kill off several major characters, so don't get too attached to them. The descriptions of the disasters is realistic and graphic. There are few fairy tale endings, except for one unrealistic one that is boring. As stated by other reviewers there are a number of spelling and grammatical errors and one continuity error. These are only minor annoyances, so just ignore them. I've seen far worse with many e-books. All in all, a quite enjoyable read that kept me going fairly late at night. Not perfect but, entertaining and lively.

I don't enjoy giving negative reviews but... I guess I misunderstood the theme of the book. I wasn't prepared for an earthquake history lesson after each chapter. If you are interested in everything you ever wanted to know about earthquakes, buy this book. I'm not that far into it and will try to keep going as I am enjoying the story line. I'm skimming all the quake facts, of which there are many, and it's a little distracting. There are also some annoying typos but I think we've all become forgiving about those. There are probably some in this review! One thing I never like is stilted dialog. No contractions which people use in ordinary speech. It's weird to read, 'We are going to the store' instead of, 'We're going to the store.' You know what I mean.\*\*\*\*\* Update on my review. Due to the many typos, added words, missing words, disjointed dialogue and quake history between chapters I could not finish this book. I gave up at 25%. The constant interruptions made me unable to relate to or care about the characters in the story. Sorry.

a few incomplete sentences and a couple of "content" errors, (ie: Barry's anniversary gift is "earrings" at first, then halfway into the book he says he still has "the watch" , for her anniversary present, then back to earrings towards, and at, the end); I found it to be a decent account of many scenarios likely to play out during/after "the Big One".I would have loved to know more about the effects at the Navy base in San Diego, and the goings on in DC. The former is more of a personal preference, having a brother who spent over 20yrs as a Naval Officer, many in San Diego. I wouldn't be surprised if the author knew my brother-since many years overlap in his biography.I also enjoyed the informational prefaces to each chapter, filled with both factoids and opinions of the possible scenarios and geological facts. Overall, thank you for an entertaining account of, what we all know, is an inevitable situation. With professional editing, it would be 5 stars, easily!

Easy reading, well-researched and very believable. I live in S Cal and my knowledge of the places and details portrayed added to the realism of the story. In addition I was living in a dorm room on the 9th floor of a building in downtown LA during the massive Sylmar earthquake in 1971. it was a terrifying experience to be jolted out of bed at 6am only to be thrown around like a rag doll as the building violently shook and swayed for what felt like forever. As a first hand witness to the power and terror of a major quake, I could easily relate to the author's description of what the various characters experienced. I was captivated by the book and my only disappointment was reaching the last page. I feel the story would make a compelling movie if produced properly. Great job by the author and a great read!

In his story THE BIG ONE, Kevin E. Ready asks the question, what would happen if Southern California were indeed hit by a monster earthquake? Ready's answer proves to be both thought-provoking and entertaining. Mr. Ready has exceptional technical knowledge of his subject matter and he takes the reader through several different likely scenarios of what would happen during and right after the monster quake hits. Including a couple scenarios most people don't even think about, like what would happen to the financial system not only locally, but nationally and globally after a big quake. I found the factoids at the beginning of the chapter to not only be informative, but they helped to ground the reader into that particular chapter. The characters Mr. Ready creates to take the reader through the various scenarios are for the most part well done, but several are too one-dimensional. And as other reviewers have already mentioned there are numerous spelling, grammatical and continuity errors scattered throughout the book. While these errors are for the most part minor, they do distract the reader and since Mr. Ready is charging for his product they cannot be overlooked. I think improved storytelling would have made THE BIG ONE a more enjoyable read. THE BIG ONE is a big book, at 358 printed pages, the average novel weighs in at between 200 and 250 pages for the most part. Perhaps Mr. Ready should have figured a way to tell the story in two parts or maybe a trilogy. I think the storytelling would have been better in a series of smaller formats. With all that said, THE BIG ONE contains exceptional technical knowledge and decent enough storytelling for me to recommend it to anyone.

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