

# Survived The Galveston Hurricane 1900: The True Story of an Unforgettable Tragedy



## Unveiling the Horrors, Heroism, and Resilience of the Deadliest Hurricane in U.S. History

On the morning of September 8, 1900, a monstrous Category 4 hurricane made landfall on the coast of Galveston, Texas. With winds exceeding 145 miles per hour and a devastating storm surge that reached heights of 8 to 12 feet, the hurricane unleashed an unimaginable fury upon the island city.

In a matter of hours, Galveston was transformed from a thriving metropolis of over 37,000 residents to a scene of utter devastation. Buildings were flattened, homes were swept away, and countless lives were lost. The

official death toll was estimated at 8,000 to 12,000 people, making it the deadliest natural disaster in U.S. history.



## I Survived the Galveston Hurricane, 1900 (I Survived

#21) by Lauren Tarshis

★★★★☆ 4.8 out of 5

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Screen Reader : Supported  
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled  
Word Wise : Enabled  
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### Eyewitness Accounts of the Catastrophe

Among those who lived through the horrors of the Galveston Hurricane were numerous survivors who shared their harrowing experiences. Their firsthand accounts provide a vivid glimpse into the chaos, fear, and desperation that unfolded during that fateful day.

One such survivor was Mrs. Laura Kennedy, a schoolteacher who witnessed the hurricane's fury from her home on the island. In her diary, she described the terrifying moments as the storm raged:

"The wind howled like a demon and the rain beat against the windows like a thousand tiny hammers. The house shook and creaked, and I feared that it would be torn from its foundations. Outside, I could hear the screams of people being swept away by the floodwaters."

Another survivor, Mr. John Henry Kirby, a lumber baron who owned a mansion on the seawall, recounted the heroic efforts of his family and friends during the hurricane. Trapped in their house as the water rose, they used hammers and axes to break through the walls and create an escape route. With the help of a neighbor's boat, they were able to evacuate to safety.

## **The Aftermath: Devastation and Recovery**

In the aftermath of the hurricane, Galveston was left in ruins. The once-prosperous city was reduced to a wasteland of debris and twisted metal. The survivors faced an overwhelming task of rebuilding their lives and their shattered community.

With the help of aid organizations and volunteers from across the country, Galveston slowly began to recover. New buildings were constructed, infrastructure was repaired, and the city gradually regained its former glory. However, the scars of the hurricane remained, and the memory of that tragic day would forever be etched in the hearts of those who had endured it.

## **Lessons Learned from the Galveston Hurricane**

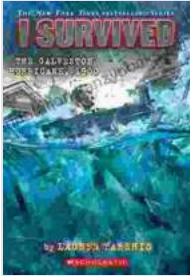
The Galveston Hurricane of 1900 was a watershed event in American history. It exposed the vulnerability of coastal communities to hurricanes and led to significant changes in the way that these storms were predicted and prepared for.

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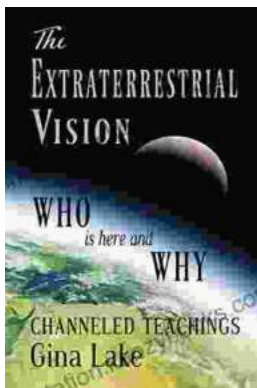
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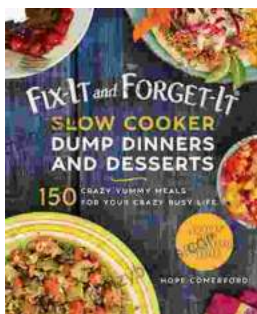


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