Author Essay



Simon Winchester

Krakatoa

ISBN13: 9780060838591

August 27, 1883 was the Day the World Exploded Krakatoa — Top 10 Facts

- . The explosion of Krakatoa was 10 times the force of the atomic bomb that leveled Hiroshima.
- . The rumblings lasted exactly **20 hours and 56 minutes** and could be heard as far as **2,800 miles away** in the India Ocean.
- The explosion of Krakatoa was responsible for raising the global temperature a full degree centigrade.
 The explosion of Krakatoa shot so much lava into the atmosphere that it was the equivalent of 706,000 cubic feet.
- **3. 36,000 people were killed** by the tsunamis that followed the explosion, more than any other volcanic explosion in history.
- 6. The **afterglows were brilliant** and caused confusion worldwide. In fact, **firemen from Poughkeepsie**, **New York** raced to put out what they thought was a fire but which turned out to be a hazy glow from the dust of the explosion thousands of miles away.
- 7. The most **bizarre survival story**: The man who found himself being swept inland next to a crocodile. And to survive, he clambered on to its back and hung on with his thumbs dug deep into the creature's eye sockets.
- 8. The **beginning of the Global Village**: The world knew of the explosion of Krakatoa within moments due to the newly installed worldwide submarine telegraph network.
- 9. After the explosion, the island of **Krakatoa completely disappeared**.
- 10. AND Anak Krakatoa, the 'child' of Krakatoa, is growing 20 feet a year. Java is preparing for another explosion.

Only now are we beginning to understand the dramatic impact this cataclysmic event had on the entire planet.