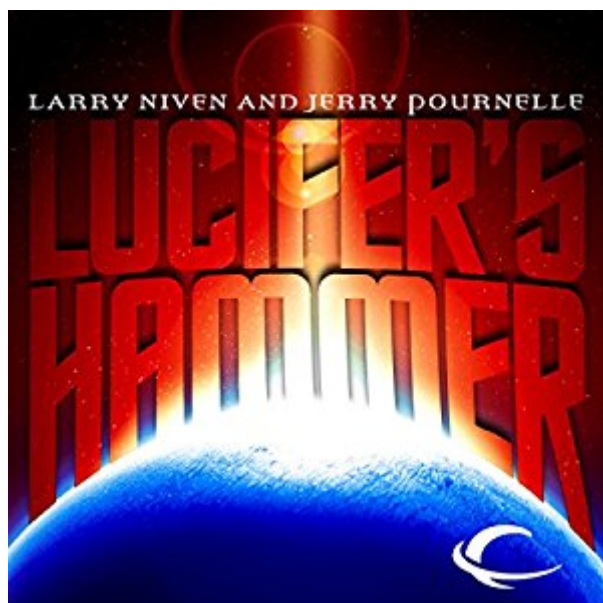


The book was found

Lucifer's Hammer



Synopsis

The gigantic comet had slammed into Earth, forging earthquakes a thousand times too powerful to measure on the Richter scale, tidal waves thousands of feet high. Cities were turned into oceans; oceans turned into steam. It was the beginning of a new Ice Age and the end of civilization. But for the terrified men and women chance had saved, it was also the dawn of a new struggle for survival— a struggle more dangerous and challenging than any they had ever known—.

--This text refers to the Kindle Edition edition.

Book Information

Audible Audio Edition

Listening Length: 24 hours and 32 minutes

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Version: Unabridged

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Audible.com Release Date: July 14, 2009

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Customer Reviews

Been a long time since I read this. I just bought an extra copy so I would always have one around as it is one of my favorite "What if" books of all time. Your living your life, a meteor falls from the sky and life as humans have known it is over. This is the story of how a few humans get together and try to jump start civilization again and do a pretty good job of it. It's frightening and eye opening. Also a good look at what one might need to do if some great catastrophe happened and some humans survived, such as EMP strike or Yellowstone the largest Caldera volcano went up. It is quite the book and one of my number one picks to have on a desert island.

This must have been my 5th or 6th time reading this particular book. The Kindle version has an updated forward from Larry Niven. Some geopolitical things and technology related things have happened since the book was published, but in my opinion make no difference to the story of what

would potentially happen if a comet struck the Earth. I still get chills with every reading and wonder if and how I and my family would survive.

Sets the bar for disaster books. I've read Lucifer's Hammer four times and it is always an enjoyable read. My favorite line from my latest reading is when one of the characters is happy he won't have to decide between a liar or a crook when voting for president once the asteroid strikes earth. The book was written in 1977 and seems like it is talking about the current election! Of course I'm not referring to the candidate you want to win the election, just the other ones. Basically an asteroid is discovered on it's way towards earth. No one wants to believe it will hit and when it does much hilarity results. You know, religious zealots, looting, nuclear weapons going off, tidal waves, and people not wanting to share. Buy it! You'll be happy you did. Oh and check out the pre-packaged disaster food supplies elsewhere on .

Maybe some people think that the way the black characters are depicted is slightly racist or slightly dated. They might be slightly right. Aside from that though, I really enjoyed this book. I got the audiobook version because I drive a lot for my work. This book had me so engrossed that I missed my exit a few times. Honestly, it stressed me out a little too much. Made me realize that I REALLY don't want the apocalypse to come

I read this every 5 years or so ... wonderfully depicted and rational apocalyptic response. Just enough details and no boring descriptions of gun handles and ammunition loads. GREAT STORY WITH ACCURATE SCIENCE.

One of the best books I have ever read..the prologue and after chapter notes read like astronomical poetry, and I reread them many times, just as I find myself rereading paragraphs and chapters. It is compelling, believable, educational, fascinating, and worthy of immediate rereading in the near future. Every chapter is gripping, and you do not have to get to the the climax to be completely engaged. This book is a great introduction to science and astronomy. I just ordered 3 more copies to give to friends and family. Though published in 1977, it is not dated, and if made into a movie it would be the greatest and most terrifying Scy-Fi movie of all time.

Although some people say that this is outdated because it was written in the 70's and some say the female characters are weak, I still think it stands as one of the five best PA novels around. It is

thoroughly realistic regarding the problems humans would face trying to start over and what the dangers of the brave new world would be. It also shows the moral and ethical choices a new society would have to make. I don't disagree with the criticisms, the book is chauvinistic, although the women do show strengths, they still have to cling to men in the old 1950's way...and yet the book shows that the Women's Movement had made some progress with the Good Old Boys science fiction writers of the time. The bottom line is that this book is a thrill ride that you can't put down and it also evokes intellectual activity.

An excellent example of a 1970's disaster movie/novel. A huge cast all well fleshed out, but with any character of color being pretty one dimensional, which sadly dates the book. But as far as an end of the world story goes it's one of the best. Pournelle and Niven do a great job of showing us the world BEFORE the end of it, which is something most of these stories lack. We can see what was lost because they invite you in to see it, instead of just discuss it after the fact. A good portion of the story takes place before Hammerfall, so that when we see our characters afterwards their actions and motivations are much more compelling. You may find yourself wondering if the titular hammer is ever going to fall, but it's worth the wait. A fairly predictable plot is usually a real problem for a novel, but the nature of this book makes it okay. YOU know it's going to hit. Our heroes don't. Dramatic irony, whatever, but even the post impact portion of the novel holds little surprises. These are nit-picks. If you're into apocalyptic fiction it's a must read. If you're not it's still worth a look. You may find yourself having to ignore some silly racial dialogue, but it's a small price to pay for an otherwise classic book that stands head and shoulders above other tales that share the same plot.

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