



No Apparent Danger: The True Story of Volcanic Disaster at Galeras and Nevado Del Ruiz

Victoria Bruce

[Download now](#)

[Read Online ➔](#)

No Apparent Danger: The True Story of Volcanic Disaster at Galeras and Nevado Del Ruiz

Victoria Bruce

No Apparent Danger: The True Story of Volcanic Disaster at Galeras and Nevado Del Ruiz Victoria Bruce

In 1985 in Columbia, more than 23,000 people died due to the government's failure to take seriously scientists' warnings about an imminent volcanic eruption at Nevado del Ruiz. In 1993, at Volcán Galeras, the death toll was smaller but no less tragic: despite seismic data that foretold possible disaster, an expedition of international scientists proceeded into the volcano. Two hours later, nine people were dead.

Expertly detailing the turbulent history of Colombia, Victoria Bruce links together the stories of the heroes, villains, survivors, and victims of these two events. *No Apparent Danger* is a spellbinding account of clashing cultures and the life-and-death consequences of scientific arrogance.

No Apparent Danger: The True Story of Volcanic Disaster at Galeras and Nevado Del Ruiz Details

Date : Published February 19th 2002 by Harper Perennial

ISBN : 9780060958909

Author : Victoria Bruce

Format : Paperback 272 pages

Genre : Science, Nonfiction, History, Geology



[Download No Apparent Danger: The True Story of Volcanic Disaster ...pdf](#)



[Read Online No Apparent Danger: The True Story of Volcanic Disast ...pdf](#)

Download and Read Free Online No Apparent Danger: The True Story of Volcanic Disaster at Galeras and Nevado Del Ruiz Victoria Bruce

From Reader Review No Apparent Danger: The True Story of Volcanic Disaster at Galeras and Nevado Del Ruiz for online ebook

Jaci says

Not Just Another Disaster Story

The knowledge imparted by this book is widespread, covering information on subjects from South American geology to the current political woes in Columbia. It introduces you to leading scientists in volcanology, geology, and other related fields of study. However, this book is not a dry textbook. The knowledge is interspersed with the lives and concerns of the scientists in the forefront of the story.

Told in a steady, forthright manner, the book presents the events surrounding Nevado del Ruiz and Galeras, two "quiet" volcanos in Columbia. Something happened on top of Galeras to temporarily turn that insignificant volcano into a focal point for arguments and discoveries that rattled the scientific community. It may seem to some that the Galeras disaster is the story here but in fact it is much broader than that. It is a book about people responding to extraordinary circumstances and about governments learning to provide for the safety of their people.

Jhawn says

In-depth about a couple of volcanoes. Very interesting. Amazingly detailed about the damage a volcano can do. Covers the state of eruption science at the time, and how the community and government can respond.

Krista the Krazy Kataloguer says

A gripping read. Kept me right on the edge of my seat. Tells a different story from that offered by the documentary!

Geoff Habiger says

In 1993 a horrible disaster struck the geology community. On January 14 of that year, 13 volcanologists were on a workshop fieldtrip inside the caldera of Galeras, a volcano in southern Columbia, when it erupted killing 6 of the scientists and 3 local tourists. This tragic event shocked and stunned the geological community. But it was preceded by an ever more disastrous eruption that occurred 8 years earlier at Nevado Del Ruiz. Victoria Bruce's book takes a critical look at these two volcanic tragedies that struck Columbia.

Victoria writes in a wonderfully easy to read narrative that grabs your attention from the beginning. She lays out the events of the two volcanic eruptions in the form of a crime scene, where you know the final outcome, but not the events and facts leading up to the crime. She leads the reader through the multitude of facts and eyewitness accounts of these two eruptions to give a clear understanding of what happened, and the mistakes that were made.

The book was inspired by the tragedy at Galeras, but to understand the tragedy there, she takes us back 8 years to the eruption at Nevado del Ruiz that caused a lahar to bury the town of Armero, killing 23,000 people. Here we meet Marta Calvache, a Colombian geologist who plays important roles in both events. Marta and her colleagues are a group of bright, young Colombian scientists who are given the responsibility to interpret the activity at Nevado del Ruiz, a task that they admit is over their heads. The Colombian scientists seek out the best international help they can get to help them interpret the volcano, and do their best to warn the government of the danger the volcano poses. In the end, their dire warnings are ignored, and the most tragic volcanic eruption of the twentieth century occurs.

After Nevado del Ruiz, we jump forward 8 years to follow Marta Calvache and other Colombian scientists to the newly active volcano at Galeras. This time, the Columbians have more knowledge and equipment at their disposal, but tragedy again occurs. Victoria Bruce leads us as a detective would, setting the background of the volcano, its history and the facts about its activity leading up to the mild, but fatal eruption in 1993. She intersperses her narrative with quotes from the scientists who worked on the volcano, as well as those scientists who were in the caldera on the day of the eruption and survived. Her narrative leads the reader through a series of events, piecing together the decisions that led to the tragedy, and how it could have been prevented.

The book holds you captive as you walk with the scientists into the heart of the danger. Victoria gives us access to the scientists to listen to their personal thoughts, misgivings and concerns about the tragedy and the safety of their companions. Her descriptions are so vivid, that at times I felt like ducking as I read about the explosion and the volcanic bombs that flew out of the crater. The book is not only a critical look at the two eruptions, but a detailed study of crisis management and the importance of knowing all the facts.

I highly recommend this book for anybody interested in geology, volcanoes, or a good account of tragic events.

Bryanna Plog says

An excellent book about human's interactions with volcanoes. The stories are well researched and I appreciated Bruce's background as a geologist and journalist. This book is well written and tells two compelling stories of the 1985 eruption of Nevado de Ruiz and the 1993 eruption of Galeras, both in Colombia. Recommended to anyone who like good narrative nonfiction, stories of natural disasters, or is curious about how a scientific community fits in to our greater world.

Irene Young says

Great book

I loved reading this book and couldn't put it down. I have always had an interest in the subject of volcanology and geology and I felt I was in the crater of Galeras with the scientists so gripping was the tale.
As for Stanley Williams, what a shame he tried to take all the long period event study that belonged to Bernard Chouet. A tale of hubris resulting in the deaths of many people
A wonderful book by Victoria Bruce. If you are interested in the subject, or not, you will find this a fascinating story.

Daniel Morgan says

Wow, an incredible book that combines history, earth science, and the human narratives of local people, scientists, politicians, survivors. This was a gripping read from beginning to end, and it was both fascinating and horrifying to watch new discoveries in volcanology unfold through these two eruptions. Also by the end of this book, you will hate a man named Stanley Williams.

Carlton Phelps says

Stunning book.

I don't know a lot about volcanoes but this book is a real eye opener. It is also a story about lives lost because one person convinced his team it was safe to go into the volcano. Then to make matters worse he began to tell the story of the eruption as though there were no warnings and he alone came out alive. A sad story of human life lost.

Susan says

I had vague memories of hearing about the scientists killed in a volcanic eruption but didn't remember any of the details. This book tells the stories of the Nevado del Ruiz eruption which caused a mudslide that buried a small town in Colombia and the Galeras eruption in 1993 in which 6 scientists lost their lives.

Victoria Bruce, the author, is a geologist and does an excellent job of giving the reader a grounding in vulcanology. She explains the different sorts of volcanoes and how plate tectonics is related to vulcanism. In addition to writing an informative book, she has written a tale that really held my interest. She introduces us to a few of the key players in the drama and makes them people we care about, in addition to being able to create tension even though the reader knows how things come out. The details Bruce includes make the people and events real.

It was a great read. If I see any other books by Victoria Bruce I'll probably snap them up.

Julie says

Victoria Bruce pieces together eye-witness accounts of two tragic volcano disasters in Colombia. First are the accounts of the eruption of Nevado del Ruiz in 1985 in which mudflows killed over 23,000 people in the surrounding area. The second part of this book details the 1993 eruption of Volcán Galeras which took the lives of nine people (including six scientists) who were in the crater at the time.

Whether or not you're a geologist (I'm a geologist though, so maybe I'm biased), I think you'll find this is an interesting and thrilling read. Even though this is a historic event where you know the end result, Victoria

Bruce did a great job of recounting the events and filling the pages with suspense. Bruce knows enough about geology to accurately describe the science involved (she has an M.S. in Geology), but she also explains the terms for any readers who are not scientists.

I think one of the take-home messages of this book is that science (and funding for research/technology/etc...) is extremely important. And even when the scientists have the technology, it's imperative that they know what to do with that knowledge and being able to bridge the gap between pure science and public policy.

I enjoyed reading this book, and I would definitely recommend it. It's probably not one I would read again (I rarely re-read non-fiction books), but it's worth a read.

Rebecca Thatcher-Murcia says

I've always heard about the disaster at Armero, when the Nevado del Ruiz volcano buried a town of 20,000 people. I was surprised to find such an excellent book about the disaster and the ensuing explosion at Galeras in Pasto. Bruce has written a great book about volcanoes, but it's also a great book about Colombia.

Rebecca Huston says

This was quite a read. Despite the length -- just over 200 pages -- this chronicle of the disastrous eruptions of two volcanoes in Colombia in the 1980's and 1990's is very well written and understandable for the lay person. Yes, there is some science in this one, but it is presented smoothly enough that it doesn't bog down the story. What is heartrending are the attitudes among scientists and politicians and sadly, the ordinary people who would pay the price for their arrogance. Geology nerds will have the best time with this one. I give it four stars and a recommendation.

For the longer review, please go here:
http://www.epinions.com/review/no_app...

Ford says

The think I remember most about the book is you can't trust TV interviews. One of the scientists went on TV and told big time lies. Because it made "good" TV and network was so eager to be first to cover his story it was never checked out. When the network was informed of the truth, no correction was every made. Once again Fake News. You can't trust anything that you see on TV or hear on the radio.

Dee Eisel says

Oh, my word. This book is not for the faint of heart. The author does not mince words when it comes to describing the injuries volcanic hazards can cause. Nor does she softball the anger of the people who survived the (minor!) eruption of Galeras in 1993 while nine of their friends and colleagues died.

The story centers on the Columbian geologists, especially Dr. Marta Calvache. It traces her involvement with various departments and companies in Columbia and then the tragedy of Nevada Del Ruiz and Armero in 1985. I've never read such a sad, gripping account of that terrible night and the events that led to it. Honestly, by the time I was done reading I wanted to run upstairs and hug my family for a few hours.

But it gets worse, because the next major player in this is Dr Stanley Williams - Dr. Calvache's advisor as she was getting her doctorate. He decided to run a conference on the Columbian volcano Galeras. But some of the decisions he made would result in the deaths of many, and he himself would be critically injured.

I won't spoil the book with exactly what happened. It's well, well worth the time. At the end of the day, you may also find yourself angered by the pointlessness of the losses on that 1993 day. I know I was.

Mary Swilling says

Truth wins!!

A great story of adventure, scientific expedition, and tragedy in the study of Colombia's Galeras and Nevado Del Ruiz volcanos. Victoria Bruce has done the science academy, history, and human honor and integrity a great service in writing this book!
