



The Weather of the Future: Heat Waves, Extreme Storms, and Other Scenes from a Climate-Changed Planet

Heidi Cullen

[Download now](#)

[Read Online](#) ➔

The Weather of the Future: Heat Waves, Extreme Storms, and Other Scenes from a Climate-Changed Planet

Heidi Cullen

The Weather of the Future: Heat Waves, Extreme Storms, and Other Scenes from a Climate-Changed Planet Heidi Cullen

From Heidi Cullen, one of America's foremost experts on weather and climate change and a senior research scientist with Climate Central, comes *The Weather of the Future*, a fascinating and provocative book that predicts what different parts of the world will look like in the year 2050 if current levels of carbon emissions are maintained.

The Weather of the Future: Heat Waves, Extreme Storms, and Other Scenes from a Climate-Changed Planet Details

Date : Published August 3rd 2010 by Harper

ISBN : 9780061726880

Author : Heidi Cullen

Format : Hardcover 352 pages

Genre : Science, Nonfiction, Environment, Climate Change, History, Politics



[Download The Weather of the Future: Heat Waves, Extreme Storms, ...pdf](#)



[Read Online The Weather of the Future: Heat Waves, Extreme Storms ...pdf](#)

Download and Read Free Online The Weather of the Future: Heat Waves, Extreme Storms, and Other Scenes from a Climate-Changed Planet Heidi Cullen

From Reader Review The Weather of the Future: Heat Waves, Extreme Storms, and Other Scenes from a Climate-Changed Planet for online ebook

William says

Since the precondition of this book is a temperature rise of 11 degrees Fahrenheit and 3 feet rise in sea level, it's more a fantasy-novel- "What If"-book with no connection to reality

Heidi's so-called proof? "we have some very complicated programs run by some very smart people"or something familiar. Very same Global Warming Models that the last 30 years (and counting) have been wrong on every single alarming prediction. I mean, how can anyone with their right mind say: "these guys have been wrong so far - but THIS time they got it right".

On page 54 she claims "...there isn't a single model that is able to produce a trend comparable to what we can see in the real world." She concludes that it then must be CO2 that makes the temperature to rise. This kind of spinning and boomerang arguments will not get far in the real world or any real scientific forum. Claiming that everything we DON'T know (or cannot be explained by models) must be due to CO2? That's like saying - the less I know and the dumber I am - the more we can blame it on CO2. Problem solved.

Not even most Global Alarmist believe in this projection of the future, but claim a temp rise between 3-4 F and a sea level rise counting in inches - not feet. If you are an average skeptic like me, we are even lower on that scale - something like 1 (one) degree Fahrenheit and 2-3 inches.

The rest of the book? Well, since its all fantasy I don't quite see the point of reading it. I did skip chapter 8 - 11 since its more of the same - Doom & Gloom - which makes me wonder why some people are just such a bunch of pessimists. Have you ever wonder why the same people in the seventies proclaimed that we would have a new Ice Age, and these very same "scientists" then flipped in the eighties to predict a new kind of Apocalyptic future where we all are going to burn and drown??? Pessimists with a total lack of Realism, is the only logical explanation for this kind of flip/flopping.

Lets take an example from her book. When getting out of the last Ice Age, she only points out the extinction of the Mammoth (p 23). Really? That's the best you can do? Lets take the general view first: Ice Age is a global killer - plants, animals, humans and I mean everything. Getting out of the Ice Age is the best thing ever happen to Mother Earth, just about almost everything sprouts and grows and the earth fills with life.

Some animals prefer the cold, like Mammoths and Polar Bears. Even if the earth has been much warmer that today we still got the polar bears, meaning they are capable of surviving on some level even if most of their hunting grounds vanish. So did Global Warming extinct Mammoths? Very unlikely. Mammoths would still roam the earth if they weren't hunted to extinction which is also the biggest danger to Polar Bears - not Global Warming.

The ironic (but sad) side of this story is, that even if she tried to find the one thing that supposedly should be a downside of getting out of the last Ice Age, she very likely got that part wrong too.

Fred Dameron says

The big thing when reading climate change books is seeing how many of the authors predictions have already come true. Heidi Cullen has done very well. The chapter on the Great Barrier Reef happened in Feb of this year and was predicted for 2025, www.cnn.com/2016/11/28/asia/great-bar.... The chapter on California's Central Valley was an earth quake or the Orrville Dam Spillway collapsing of coming true, any Sacramento Bee from mid Feb 2017. Until the snow pack melts Orrville is still not out of the woods. This current storm train is one year earlier than predicted. The chapter on N.Y.N.Y. describes Hurricane Sandy in Oct 2011 to a T. Just lucky that Sandy weakened to a tropical storm before it made landfall or else, best not to think about. Sandy was 10 years earlier than predicted

The \$64.00 question is, how long will U.S. politicians continue to trust to our luck before this country gets serious about carbon reduction? Katrina was a wake up call, all these F5 and F4 tornadoes running across the south, wake up calls. Just how long before this country has a huge lose of life to a storm or series of storms. Washington has been warned repeatedly time has come to heed the warnings and cut emissions!!

Iskander says

This is a fascinating book on the history and most importantly on the future of the weather of our planet. A must read book who question the current issues on the climate change as a whole, Written in a very plain language wich makes this research more valuable to understand and to promote its core ideas and facts. From the outset of reading this book I was looking for the argument on the origins of CO2 .. is it human-made or natural. I have heard too many times by global warming deniers that most of the carbon dioxide in the atmosphere today comes from natural sources and the author admits it and argues that a big portion of an ADDITIONAL CO2 that's been placed in the atmosphere over the last years comes from the US!

Due to all my knowledge on climate change is in infancy, so I can not tell which scientific models are new or archaic, but by the end of this book I found out that there are tons of new climate models and tools on tracing carbon just like the bullet to the gun are so many nowadays.

"The Weather of the Future urges us to think long-term about the climate change. What we need to do to prepare ourselves to global sea rise, heat waves, dry-outs and extreme storms to name a few. And the origins of the issue, and the ways how to solve it so we can leave the planet more secure and safe to the coming generations.

Ron Joniak says

A wonderful read on climate change that discusses what different parts of the world will look like in 50 years. The author does a very nice job of showcasing different elements of climate change ranging from drought and heatwaves to barrier reef damage and culture adaptation.

Ted Smith says

Cullen has written a very easy-to-read explanation of the driving forces and science of climate change, covering the history of related research. Few of the public realize that a slowly warming climate was predicted in the early 1800s and assumed the low global population (1.7 billion) and low use of carbon-emitting fuels. Today we have four to five times as many people and have greatly accelerated use of fossil fuels. About half of the book (published in 2010) consists of predictions for various locations and contains predictive echoes of Hurricane Sandy, California's current (2014) drought, and disappearing glaciers worldwide. The book closes with a discussion that suggests global warming will continue and already is irreversible--the only question is if and how emissions will be curtailed.

Book says

The Weather of the Future by Heidi Cullen

"The Weather of the Future" is a book that describes how global warming is impacting our climate today and how it will impact our planet's future. With a sound scientific approach renowned climatologist Heidi Cullen provides an interesting insight into climate change by taking us through a journey of seven of the most at-risk locations around the globe and what global warming is projected to do to those areas. This 352-page book is composed of the following two main parts: Part 1. Your Weather is Your Climate and Part 2. The Weather of the Future.

Positives:

1. Well researched, well-written book.
2. Good explanation of scientific terms that is accessible to the masses.
3. This is a science book at heart. There is no partisan politics to speak of. Ms. Cullen is strictly concerned with the science of the issue and does so with conviction.
4. The difference between weather and climate...time.
5. A great look at climate history and the scientists that made it so.
6. A very good explanation of all the greenhouse gases and their impact. Carbon as the secret ingredient in adjusting the natural thermostat.
7. The mechanisms of weather predictions. Weather models.
8. The link between weather forecasting and the economy.
9. The evolution of the weather models.
10. Fantastic explanation on why the additional carbon dioxide in the atmosphere is raising temperatures.
11. A more extreme planet...find out why.
12. Ms. Cullen never overextends herself. She tells you what we know and what we don't know based on the best evidence possible from the best sources possible.
13. Evolution for good measure.
14. The second part of the book takes us through a journey of seven of the most at-risk locations of the planet: The Sahel, Africa; The Great Barrier Reef, Australia; Central Valley, California; Inuit Nunaat, Canada; Greenland; Dhaka, Bangladesh; and New York, New York. Ms. Cullen
15. Great conversations with leading scientists around the globe to provide much needed wisdom.
16. The weather/climate situation of each one of the seven locations is discussed with expertise and a projection into the future based on the best models provides a fascinating look.
17. The decision to use such diverse locations of the globe was a great one. It allowed Ms. Cullen to apply the best science to each location and to put a "face" to each location thus engaging the reader in a unique

manner.

18. I finally understand the impact of El Niño.
19. The fascinating world of the corals...
20. How global warming affects corals.
21. The Delta and the complications of extending a dream.
22. Fascinating facts, "Scientists will tell you that climate change is happening faster in the Arctic than anywhere else on the planet".
23. Ice cores...the cold hard facts.
24. The predicament of Bangladesh.
25. New York's own predicament. Absolutely fascinating!
26. Great appendices.
27. Good use of charts and graphs.
28. The links worked great.

Negatives:

1. With so many great references a comprehensive bibliography would have been welcomed.
2. Some critics may claim that Ms. Cullen is an alarmist but I don't agree. Ms. Cullen's makes compelling arguments in support of her positions.
3. The epilogue was unnecessary.

In summary, I really enjoyed this book. Ms. Cullen did a wonderful job of explaining the scientific terms and in doing so clarified some things for me. The use of diverse locations allowed the author to apply the best of climatology to further explain the current and future impact of global warming. I highly recommend this book.

Stephany Wilkes says

As others have said, this should be required reading for every voting American. Five stars for subject importance and urgency, three stars for its relevance to me personally (I already know much of the subject matter and thus skimmed much of the second half), so four stars net.

I don't understand much of the criticism levied against this book for being "too simplistic." Heidi Cullen writes in a clear, understandable style that anyone with a sixth grade or better reading level can understand. And that's exactly the style of book that most people need when it comes to climate science (though I doubt sufficient numbers of people will read her terrific science writing).

I understand a great deal about climate science, so it turned out that I understood more than I thought (and that what I've learned over the past several years is still relevant and proven, which is what I was checking up on). I skimmed several sections for this reason. But most people truly don't understand climate science, what climate models are about and how they work, how these models evolved over many decades, why they believe weather forecasts but not climate forecasts, and, most critically, the specific ways in which we KNOW climate forecast models to be valid and thus should ACT on them. Many people, for example, just never learned the basic tenet that, when you take a model and apply it to PAST data and obtain the same result your model created, it's a major indicator of validity (among other things).

That is who this book is for - and it's a LOT of people, if our political climate is any indicator. There's no shame in not understanding climate science; the shame is in knowing that you don't know it and not taking any steps to correct it, and deciding not to care because "it's just too much." It's NOT "just too much." We

have plenty of science and we need to act - but we probably won't. It's easier to hide our heads in the sand and distract ourselves with issues that matter much, much less than human survival.

Renay says

This is a little heavy on the science/numbers for someone who is new to reading about these issues. There are also very depressing Earth/Climate Change fanfic scenarios the author presents for what might happen in the locations she discusses if the trends when she wrote the book continue, many of them already jossed.

Funny enough, even though the cover is meant to make you go "crap, New York!", New York is the only place where her made-up scenarios provide a happy ending. XD

Also, many pieces of this book repeat things I've read in other books about changes to weather or extreme weather events: governments really suck at educating the population and will sometimes even suppress information. YIKES.

Joan says

This book was just drop dead terrifying. Part 1 wasn't so bad: it covered the basic info needed to understand the climate change from a climatologist POV. But Part 2 was just terrifying! Of course, the chapter that affected me the most was the one on Central Valley of California, but the New York one came a fairly close second. I guess that illustrates the saying: all politics are local. The second part was projections into the future of 7 places climatologists consider especially vulnerable to climate change disasters. I guess I shouldn't have been surprised by Central Valley of CA making the list, which by extension essentially means a substantial part of CA. However, I was. As for New York, you need to remember this book was written before Hurricane Sandy but a lot of what she put into her projections...and she is the first to acknowledge that the further into the future the date is, the more fictional it is...came true in Hurricane Sandy. I hope some of her more optimistic projections come true as well: that people learn from events such as Hurricane Sandy and realize things have to change and that as expensive as making these changes will be, it will be peanuts compared to the rescue and repair work needed if nothing is done and something like Hurricane Sandy hits again. This is definitely worth the read!

Dick Chady says

"Weather of the Future" is an Invaluable Resource

Written by an expert, but for the general public, the book explains how and why climate science is so precise. Then it sets likely scenarios at key locations from NYC to Bangladesh to show what will likely happen without substantial, immediate actions to combat climate change. The future is here.

Emily says

Pros: describes, in detail, environmental issues from around the world, ranging from draught to glacial bursts, from ice hunting to flooding in the subway systems; it does a good job of identifying some of the political, cultural, and technological shortcomings in battling the environment

Cons: becomes rather tedious in its repetition; the science behind the arguments is poorly articulated

Kb says

It's a good but now dated look at what's happening around the world as the Earth warms. In fact, the earliest of her predictions are predicting 2012-2018 and pretty accurate. The only thing she got wrong was the speed of the problems -- we're seeing them faster than predicted in 2008ish.

James says

Very well done, but if anything, a bit cautious and conservative. In this book, Dr. Heidi Cullen of the Weather Channel and Climate Central examines the impact of current and predicted climate change in several representative places around the world at intervals between 2010, when she wrote the book, and the middle of the 21st century.

One of the book's strengths is that it focuses, in depth, on the effects of changed climate and weather on the lives of ordinary people. Dr. Cullen consulted with local experts in the places about which she wrote, e.g. New York City and Bangladesh. She also examines the potential impacts on international politics, such as India's growing conflicts with Pakistan to its west and Bangladesh to its east over the water released into the big rivers by the melting of Himalayan glaciers.

At the same time, she could have made it harder-hitting - I wish she'd gone into depth about the 30,000 people who died in Europe in the heat wave of summer 2003, for example, or written more about the low-lying island countries that are in danger of completely disappearing and leaving their entire populations as refugees. If I'm reading the collective forecasts right, she's low-balling on how much we'll see sea level rise, too.

One intriguing bit was the part in which Dr. Cullen wrote about a hurricane she imagined hitting New York in 2013. Some of what she depicted resembled the effects of Hurricane/Super-storm Sandy, but her version was quite a bit tamer than the real thing turned out to be in October 2012.

Anyway, this is well worth reading, but as noted I believe that in hindsight years from now it will be revealed as under-forecasting the devastation the world is already experiencing and will see more and more of in the decades to come.

Leif says

In short? A decent primer with a great premise.

The first sections aim to convince the wary or the hesitant of the power of climate modeling and the premises behind climate study, weather forecasting, and contemporary climate studies. To be frank, I found these tough going because they're directed at a different audience (who might disbelieve the premise of "climate change" full stop, in which case I don't think Cullen will convince anyway) and also because they weren't very sprightly. Perhaps I'm just spoiled in my prose reading, but I found the material dry and unmotivated. However, things livened up quickly as the book moved on.

The winning section of the book is its case studies: different ecosystems with multiple types of human development sketched as they are today, as they are poised to develop, and with some speculation on future events to come – should a given set of models be more right than not. I found these passages fascinating: the Canadian Arctic (Nunavut, primarily), Greenland, California, Bangladesh, New York... all give the reader much to think about, though analysis is kept relatively superficial and the tone bright and chipper – very little doomsaying here, if you care one way or the other.

I was also very caught by the book's brief conclusion on an ancient Sumerian epic of total societal collapse and Cullen's experiences on a dig that proved that, yes, the societal collapse was linked to ecological failure and climate change. More of that would have been welcome, but by that point the book did feel like it had had its say – I might be the odd one out in wanting much more.

All told, an engaging book that picks up steam when it moves into its dedicated forecasts. Get it from your libraries: stay woke! The world is changing. We have to change with it, knowingly.

Stacy Clark says

One of the first books I read that delves into the realistic consequences of man-made climate change. Brilliantly narrated by our nation's first climate-aware meteorologist, science advisor to NOAA, creator of Forecast Earth and Chief Science Advisor to the Showtime Series, *The Years of Living Dangerously*, Cullen has made her mark on every facet of American journalism. I highly recommend "The Weather of the Future" to readers of all genres, particularly those of us interested in science-based awareness of modern society's ecological footprint on the planet.
