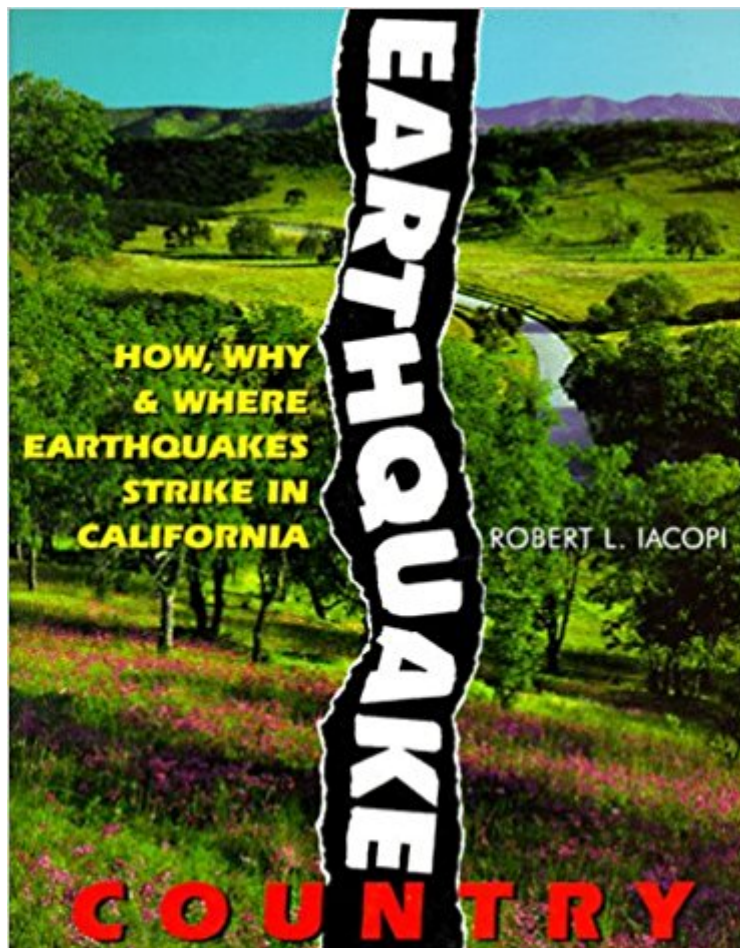




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Earthquake Country



Synopsis

What earthquakes are, how to live with them, and how to be prepared and minimize your losses.

Book Information

Paperback: 152 pages

Publisher: Da Capo Press; 4 Sub edition (August 21, 1996)

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Customer Reviews

This book was at my parents house when I was a child, and it was wonderfully informative about the faults that riddle the state of California. This older edition is still very much worth owning as it has a great deal of information and illustrations. It shows where the faults run (often with illustrations showing how there have been displacements caused by ground movements), how different types of ground will affect earthquake shock waves (the damage to the Marina district in the Loma Prieta quake was both completely predictable and understandable if you knew how the Marina district was formed and had read this book), and the illustrations of earthquake damage are sobering and at times amazing (the picture of a table cloth caught between two panes of glass as a result of the 1957 Daly City quake comes to mind). This is a book that is well worth having if you live in California, AKA "Earthquake Country."

Maps, photos, how and why earthquakes cause damage. Explores the Southern, Central & Northern Andreas Fault, Elsinore Fault, Newport-Inglewood Fault, Santa Ynez and Related Faults, Garlock-Big Pine Fault, White Wolf Fault, Owens Valley Fault, Haywood Fault, and others. Some old black and white photos of damage done. Like: Long Beach in 1933 (Jefferson High School), San Francisco's Hall of Justice and other buildings in 1906, Santa Barbara Pictures from 1925,

Cummings Valley School in 1952, some from Holtville, Hotel Woodrow in Brawley, Naderman Bakery & Hollister Rochdale Company in Hollister in 1906, Santa Rosa's City Hall, a 3 story building in Fort Bragg, Memorial Church and domed library at Stanford, some of San Jose, one where a plate glass window pulled apart at seams and caught a tablecloth in crack when it drew back together, Daly City, one of a tall apartment building in Lake Merced where it blew out all the windows but did no other damage, an entire street in Compton demolished, Mission Santa Barbara, the old Hotel California and more. 160 pages.

The San Andreas Fault, one of the largest transform faults in the world, runs from the Mexican border north to northwest California, where it finally enters the Pacific. Millions of people live by this fault and its branches, and are subject to its powerful earthquakes at any moment. Yet few are familiar with its exact route, what it looks like on the surface, and how to take simple steps to protect against its spasms of movement. "Earthquake Country" addresses these things in a simple, direct, and easily understandable fashion. The photographs are well-chosen and striking, and the directions to various places discussed are highly accurate. A few years ago, I took a trip along the fault, from Pearblossom, northeast of Los Angeles, to Point Reyes, northwest of San Francisco. I saw hills ripped in half, streets that had moved, fault lines in roads, streams that followed the fault, lines of sag ponds crossing hills, and many other amazing features and things. Without this remarkable, carefully crafted book, I would have passed many of these features without knowing of their significance, or even their existence. The chapters on the central sections of the fault around Cholame and Parkfield were especially informative. As he takes you along the fault, the author also discusses earthquake protection, and seismic geology in a crisp, professional fashion. This book is must reading for any Californian, or any tourist who visits that wonderful state. I really enjoy the book, and recommend it very, very highly.

Excellent book, very informative and should be read by anyone living in earthquake country- understanding how and why quakes occur removes some of the fear. I've read all the past editions of this book; the most recent one has been updated to include the 6.7, 1994 Northridge quake, which I experienced. Maybe not a pleasant subject to read about but very interesting. Well-written.

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