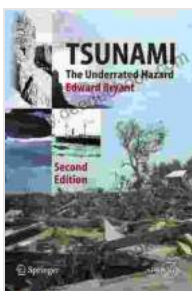


# Tsunami: The Underrated Hazard by Kasi Blake

Tsunamis are often thought of as rare events, but they can be devastating when they occur. A tsunami is a series of waves generated by a sudden disturbance in the ocean, such as an earthquake, volcanic eruption, or landslide. These waves can travel across the ocean at speeds of up to 600 miles per hour, and they can reach heights of over 100 feet.

Tsunamis can cause widespread destruction and loss of life. The 2004 Indian Ocean tsunami killed over 230,000 people in 14 countries. The 2011 Tohoku earthquake and tsunami in Japan killed over 18,000 people and caused an estimated \$235 billion in damage.

Despite the potential for devastation, tsunamis are often underestimated as a hazard. This is due in part to the fact that they are relatively rare events. However, tsunamis can occur anywhere in the world, and they can strike without warning.



## Tsunami: The Underrated Hazard by Kasi Blake

★★★★☆ 4.5 out of 5

Language : English  
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Screen Reader : Supported  
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Print length : 253 pages

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Tsunamis are caused by sudden disturbances in the ocean. The most common cause of tsunamis is earthquakes. When an earthquake occurs under the ocean, it can cause the seafloor to move, which generates a tsunami.

Other causes of tsunamis include:

- Volcanic eruptions
- Landslides
- Underwater explosions
- Asteroid or meteorite impacts

Tsunamis can have a devastating impact on coastal communities. The waves can cause:

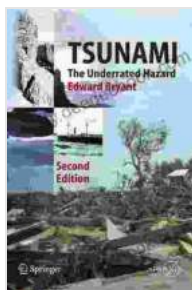
- Flooding
- Erosion
- Structural damage
- Loss of life

Tsunamis can also contaminate water supplies and damage infrastructure, such as roads, bridges, and power lines. This can make it difficult for survivors to access food, water, and medical care.

There are a number of strategies that can be used to mitigate the impacts of tsunamis. These strategies include:

- **Tsunami warning systems:** Tsunami warning systems can provide early warning of an impending tsunami. This can give people time to evacuate to higher ground or take other protective measures.
- **Evacuation plans:** Coastal communities should have evacuation plans in place in the event of a tsunami warning. These plans should identify evacuation routes and safe zones.
- **Building codes:** Building codes can be used to make buildings more resistant to tsunamis. These codes can require buildings to be elevated above the expected tsunami height and to have strong foundations.
- **Natural barriers:** Natural barriers, such as coral reefs and mangrove forests, can help to reduce the impact of tsunamis. These barriers can absorb wave energy and slow down the waves.

Tsunamis are a serious hazard that can cause widespread destruction and loss of life. However, there are a number of strategies that can be used to mitigate the impacts of tsunamis. By understanding the causes, impacts, and mitigation strategies for tsunamis, we can help to protect coastal communities from this devastating hazard.



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