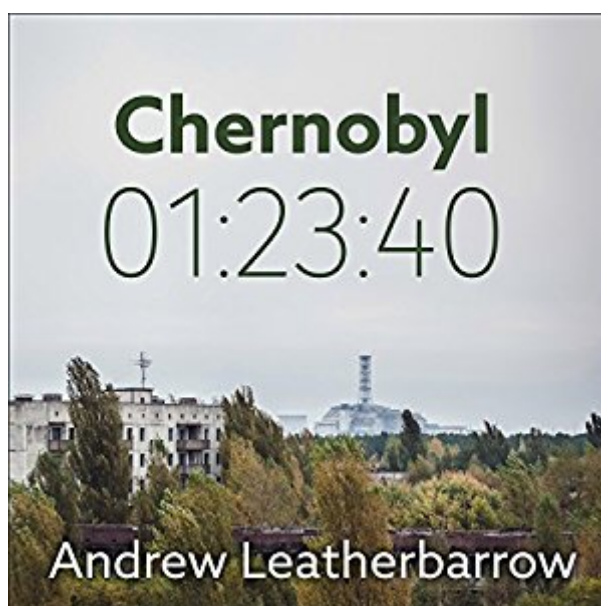


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Chernobyl 01:23:40: The Incredible True Story Of The World's Worst Nuclear Disaster



Synopsis

At 01:23:40 on April 26th 1986, Alexander Akimov pressed the emergency shutdown button at Chernobyl's fourth nuclear reactor. It was an act that forced the permanent evacuation of a city, killed thousands, and crippled the Soviet Union. The event spawned decades of conflicting, exaggerated, and inaccurate stories. This book, the result of five years of research, presents an accessible but comprehensive account of what really happened - from the desperate fight to prevent a burning reactor core from irradiating eastern Europe, to the self-sacrifice of the heroic men who entered fields of radiation so strong that machines wouldn't work, to the surprising truth about the legendary "Chernobyl diver", all the way through to the USSR's final show-trial. The historical narrative is interwoven with a story of the author's own spontaneous journey to Ukraine's still-abandoned city of Pripyat and the wider Chernobyl Zone.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I'd like to give this 3.5 stars, not quite 4 and not quite 3. First the good: The material is incredibly well researched. The documentation of his sources is terrific, though hard to follow in the Kindle edition (not the author's fault). I was fascinated by the recounting of events leading up to the disaster, the heart-breaking stories of those who sacrificed their health if not their lives, and his impressions of Chernobyl today. Now the bad: Leatherbarrow admits he is not a writer and this proves to be true. I found myself wanting to take a red pencil to many of his sentences. He credits the staff of Reddit for helping edit the book. In my opinion, the manuscript could have used even more rigorous editing. There were whole paragraphs repeated almost word for word in different

chapters of the book. His account of exploring an abandoned British installation, though interesting, was unrelated to the overall story. The nighttime stroll through Kiev (part of his trip to Chernobyl) really wasn't relevant to the subject matter either. I would still recommend this book for those interested in the Chernobyl crisis, though be prepared to get jarred occasionally by the writing and organization of the material.

This book was straight up fantastic!!! I wanted to learn more about this horrific event so I could use the information for my own book series and this phenomenal story went from being a research project to a book that I couldn't put down. From the get go, Mr. Leatherbarrow had me very intrigued with his story of how he came to write this book and how much time, effort and money it took to actually get him halfway across the world to the very site where all of this took place. As a fellow author, I truly commend his efforts to make this book 100% personal. His touch adds a layer that most books can't compete with because other authors don't put their heart and soul into a book like Mr. Leatherbarrow did. From the breakdown of the plot woven neatly with his our journey to Chernobyl, to the riveting pictures he added into the book, this work is more than worthy of my 5-star review. I am so glad I bought this book and will be recommending it to everyone I know. Thank you Mr. Leatherbarrow, thank you. My only wish is that you left your contact info somewhere in the book so I could write to you somehow and thank you personally.

If you're interested in Chernobyl, read this book. It is a description of a trip an amateur photographer made to Chernobyl (or Pripjat). The author is not an expert on nuclear energy; but, he has apparently studied the Chernobyl disaster in detail. There are some interesting technical details in the book; although, this is not the book to read if you want technical information. There are some interesting details on the human beings involved in the accident, although Medvedev's book on Chernobyl is a better description of what each person did. Another book about the human side of the story is Voices from Chernobyl. Chernobyl 01:23:40 provides some images to go with Voices of Chernobyl; although it provides images of things, not people. I wasn't impressed by the photos until I read the book. The Chernobyl accident can be seen from many perspectives, and this book provides one more perspective.

Great read and viewpoint on the Chernobly incident. It's written in a way that is easy to follow and understand for most anyone, which is quite an accomplishment considering the complexity of what happened and the Russian language. The book has a good balance of summarizing that happened

during the incident and what is going on today for the cleanup and in the surrounding areas. While you can see some inexperience in the overall writing the writer has a real passion for this and it shows, making for a compelling read none the less.

The information about the actual event was lacking and very thin. The book was more about a young man's photography journey to Chernobyl and his interactions with others in his tour group. I was very disappointed, not a nuts and bolts detail of the event. There are better options.

My second book purchase covering the Chernobyl disaster, and I found it to be very well written and researched. The information was easily understood, not too scientific that the average person can fully understand and went into not just the cause but history before and after the event. The author did his homework and I would recommend this novel to anyone interested in this piece of our history, a very good read.

Very interesting summary written by a Scottish fellow who was fascinated with how it happened, how it unfolded, who was involved, and the long-term consequences of the disaster, roughly equivalent to 440 nuclear weapons going off. Excellent description of acute radiation sickness. Also excellent description of why the Soviet reactor design was so bad. I liked the author's personal take on his journey to go see Chernobyl, which is not exactly a tourist Mecca or on the bucket list of a lot of people. (He borrowed the money for the trip from his parents.)

Though the book was well researched and fair in the authors views on the pluses and minuses of the nuclear industry it [the book] was a bit haphazard in the layout of the chapters. A minor criticism really of a very important subject.

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