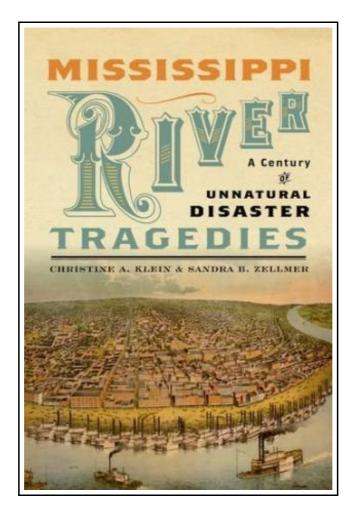
# Mississippi River Tragedies: A Century of Unnatural Disaster



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#### Reviews

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(Lavina Torp)

#### MISSISSIPPI RIVER TRAGEDIES: A CENTURY OF UNNATURAL DISASTER



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NYU Press, 2014. Book Condition: New. Brand New, Unread Copy in Perfect Condition. A+ Customer Service! Summary: "With grace and passion, Christine Klein and Sandra Zellmer intertwine river history with legal history in a powerful indictment of human efforts to control the Mississippi River. Anchoring personal stories in horrendous floods and destructive hurricanes, Klein and Zellmer critique the mission of the federal government to create 'floodless floodplains,' a myopic (and ironic) quest to conquer nature that ends up producing 'unnatural' disasters. Along the way, federal taxpayers funded immense flood control projects, subsidized flood insurance, and then, provided disaster relief to those who built in the floodplains. Sometimes repeatedly. Mississippi River Tragedies uses this absurd narrative to call for comprehensive reform of flood control policy. Anyone who loves rivers will find compelling Klein and Zellmer's pitch-perfect plea for 'giving rivers room to flood." -Robert Glennon, Regents' Professor, University of Arizona "Klein and Zellmer have provided a thoroughly engaging account of the human contributions to so-called 'natural' disasters that reads like a good mystery novel. By deftly weaving together a compelling historical narrative of the recurrent floods of the Mississippi River with legal and public policy analysis, they have produced a standard-setting contribution to the increasingly salient field of disaster law. The detailed vignettes of the heroes and rogues of the devastating River floods bring to life and deepen the impression of the book's key lessons on natural resource management policies. Written by two of the nation's top environmental and water law scholars, the book provides imaginative and persuasive solutions to the problems that result from policies that create incentives to aggravate rather than minimize flood risks."-Robert L. Glicksman, J.B. & Maurice C. Shapiro Professor of Environmental Law, George Washington University Law School "A lyrical natural history and smart legal analysis of the Mississippi...

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