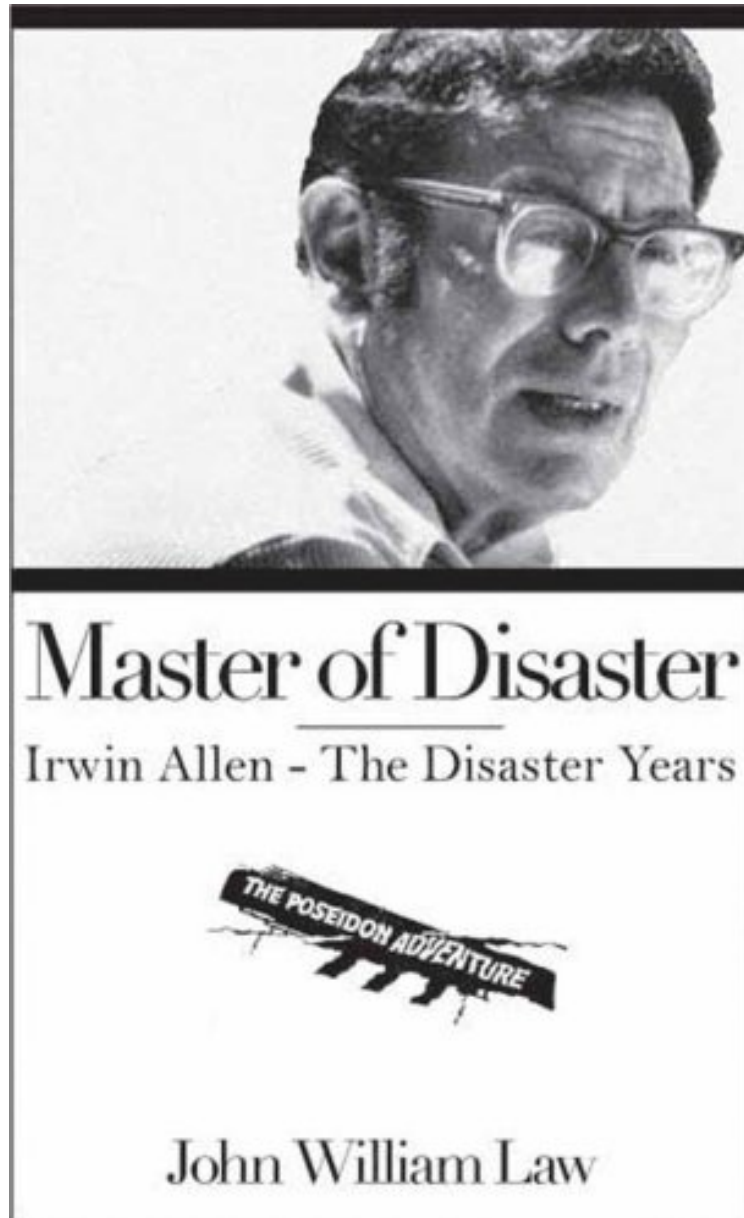


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## Master of Disaster: Irwin Allen - The Disaster Years

*John William Law*

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**John William Law : Master of Disaster: Irwin Allen - The Disaster Years** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Master of Disaster: Irwin Allen - The Disaster Years:

7 of 7 people found the following review helpful. No Good Reason to Buy This Book!By Hollywood WriterI had high hopes - but I am sorry to say that I have to agree with the other pans of this disastrous book.It measures 5.5" x 8.25", with a page count of less than 140 and size 14 font (approx.) In other words, it's small, thin and the pages that have

text are printed in large typeface. I read it cover to cover in less than an hour. I'm not sure the author spent that much time writing it. Certainly, no one spent as much as a minute proofing the manuscript. The photographs are muddy - so muddy that many appear to be nothing more than black blobs, as if color shots were copied on the darkest setting of a defective Xerox machine. Worst of all, the writing is poor and there is nothing new at all. One would be better off buying the Allen films available on DVD with bonus features - at least the commentary tracks and supplemental documentaries contain interesting information. There is absolutely no good reason to buy this book. I am afraid even Irwin Allen "completists" would be sorry they plunked down the cash to add this to their shelves. Spend the money tracking down the films. Even those unavailable commercially can be found in the hands of collectors and offered for trade on the web. 11 of 11 people found the following review helpful. An Absolute Waste of Money, Time, and Paper By WayneInSF When I first received word that "Master of Disaster: Irwin Allen - The Disaster Years" was to be released, I, a huge fan of both "The Poseidon Adventure" and "The Towering Inferno," was excited to get the news! The email announcing publication heralded John William Law's book as such: "Filled with rare photos and tales of movie-making history." The book arrived in the mail two weeks ago, I ripped it open, sat down in my favorite reading chair, and... What a joke. What a disappointing, tremendous let down. Rare photos? There are none. A few blurry movie stills, some really bad pictures of the book covers from which the Allen movies were based, plus a few theatre posters are all you get. Tales of movie-making history? At best, "Master of Disaster" is a poorly written high school report, complete with run-on sentences, crappy grammar, and poor punctuation. If Law was lucky this report would have earned him a C- in a high school writing class (and that's being kind). To top it all off there is absolutely nothing new here. We've heard the tales Law tells before. In fact a few minor facts are wrong, and he leaves out so much other information that I found myself slamming the book down in frustration on several occasions. Don't waste your money or your time. As for me, "Master of Disaster" is such a waste of paper, I plan to throw it in the recycling bin. At least that way something good comes of all this. The local landfill is too good for this stink bomb. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. An embarrassment By Reviewer from Ireland I had read other customer's negative reviews of this book, but convinced myself it couldn't actually be THAT bad. Boy was I wrong! The moment I looked at the book after it arrived I knew something was amiss. It's about 130 pages long but looks like a booklet, while the print size is absolutely enormous - you could easily read the entire book in 30 minutes or less. It's so badly written it beggars belief - there are uncountable spelling and grammatical errors, not to mention endless repetition and maddeningly obvious padding. It's also a really cheap-looking effort, and the apparently 'exclusive' photos are nothing more than shoddy black-and-white shots of what looked like paused images from old VHS copies of the films. It has clearly been written with a minimum of enthusiasm, as if by a disinterested 10-year-old child forced to write it as an essay for homework or detention. Hard to believe but it is truly that bad. Do not waste your money on this miserable effort, as the writer and publisher have not earned it. You will find more about Irwin Allen free of charge on Wikipedia and YouTube. When will a proper, well-researched book on this fascinating if cheesy filmmaker be written?

Take a look back at the making of some of the biggest disaster movies of the 1970s and the amazing career of one of Hollywood's top filmmakers. As the Master of Disaster, Irwin Allen gave us harrowing adventure tales in the grandest fashion only he could imagine. With hits like The Poseidon Adventure and The Towering Inferno, he brought together all-star casts, major Hollywood studios, and state-of-the-art effects to create event pictures that earned millions. In the process he made himself a legend and helped change the industry and the way movies are made. Filled with rare photos and tales of movie-making history, Master of Disaster covers all of Irwin Allen's 1970s disaster pictures and is a tribute to the life and career of Irwin Allen.

About the Author John W. Law is a journalist and author of Curse of the Silver Screen - Tragedy Disaster Behind the Movies and Reel Horror - True Horrors Behind Hollywood's Scary Movies.