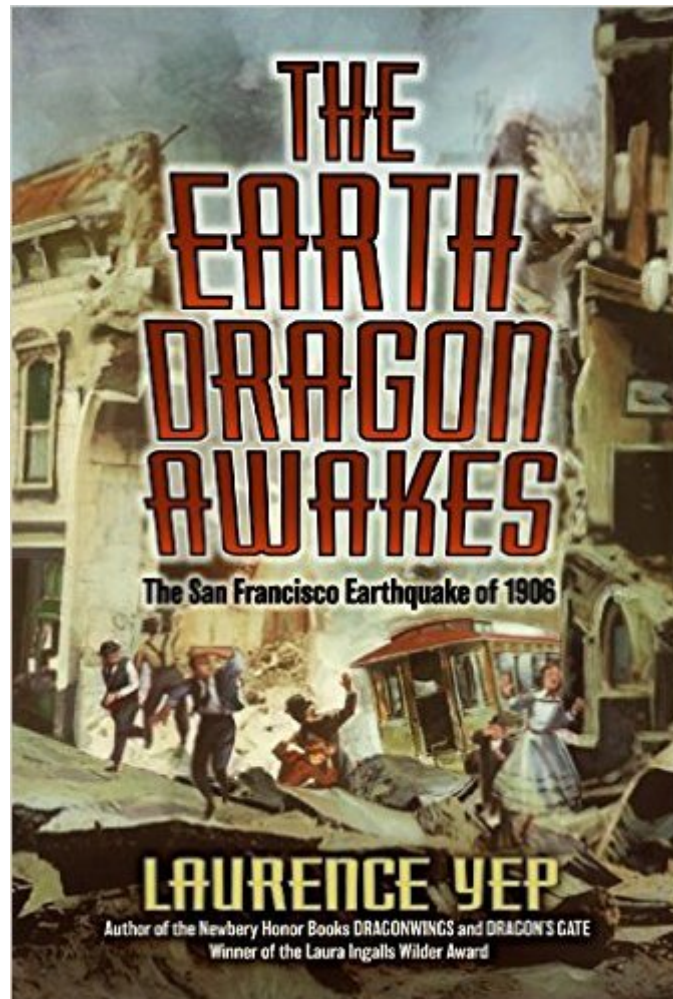


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The Earth Dragon Awakes: The San Francisco Earthquake Of 1906



Synopsis

Over the years the earth has moved many times under San Francisco. But it has been thirty-eight years since the last strong earthquake. People have forgotten how bad it can be. But soon they will remember. Based on actual events of the 1906 San Francisco earthquake and told from the alternating perspectives of two young friends, the earth dragon awakes chronicles the thrilling story of the destruction of a city, and the heroes that emerge in its wake.

Book Information

Lexile Measure: 510 (What's this?)

Paperback: 128 pages

Publisher: HarperCollins; Reprint edition (March 25, 2008)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0060008466

ISBN-13: 978-0060008468

Product Dimensions: 5.1 x 0.3 x 7.6 inches

Shipping Weight: 0.3 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (16 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #95,002 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #55 in [Books > Children's Books >](#)

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[Children's Books > Literature & Fiction > Historical Fiction > United States > 1900s](#) #225

in [Books > Children's Books > Geography & Cultures > Explore the World > United States](#)

Age Range: 8 - 12 years

Grade Level: 3 - 7

Customer Reviews

When I met with my top second grade reading group a few weeks ago, I introduced them to this book. Wow! They've been engrossed ever since. I give them a thought-provoking question to guide their reading and a quick writing assignment to go with it, such as "How do Henry and Chin feel about their fathers?" Their text-related answers are beginning to change as the characters react to the earthquake. My readers want to know everything they can about the famous San Francisco earthquake now. The author cleverly structured the story as a diary, with factual entries about the development of the quake inserted at crucial points. My readers are hooked on an exciting story with just enough facts about the earthquake to make them hungry for more.

This is an excellent young adult book. It is one of our Georgia Book Award Nominees for 2007-2008. It is a great way for kids to learn about what the earthquake was like from a young person's view point. The language of the book was very descriptive. You felt like you were there.

I highly recommend, *The Earth Dragon Awakes!* It is a great book that I used with my 4th graders during our informative/expository text unit. The author uses historical fiction to describe the 1906 San Francisco earthquake in an engaging way with plenty of figurative language and historical facts to make it more compelling. The book also highlights the political climate in Chinatown and how the Chinese were discriminated against during this crisis.

We used this as an anchor text for our science curriculum on earthquakes. It is an easily accessible novel that uses some great imagery, a good history of the San Francisco Earthquake, and two families living through all the horrible events of that time. It also includes some good character growth of two young boys. Lots of references to true stories of the day. Simple enough for struggling students but enough good literary elements to challenge higher readers. Good class read.

My son read this book to me without problem. It is well written and was enjoyable to read-- very descriptive writer! Packed full of true facts and historical points. The author even has an afterword where he points out the historical facts for the reader along with actual pictures from the 1906 earthquake. Kids even learn a little about the science of earthquakes and aftershocks. Chapters were often short in size which was perfect for a young reader.

Look out for the earthquake! *The Earth Dragon Awakes* is one of the best books ever. It is mostly about two kids named Chin, and Henry trying to survive an earthquake. This is a serious book about a real-life event, the San Francisco earthquake. First the brothers are just living a normal life then all a sudden a earthquake comes. Luckily they survived the earthquake. Then after the earthquake, wait I can't tell that, but what ever you do don't take your eyes off that book. It is so good. Break your arm if you have to get it.

This is a well-done fictional account of this events, combining facts with enough fiction to transport the reader into the story. While it is real, it is not too gruesome or dark for children - although I would not recommend for anyone under 6 or 7. It would be an excellent book for a classroom.

THE EARTH DRAGON AWAKES features parallel narration from two young boys...one American, one Chinese-American. Two different neighborhoods, but one terrifying crisis overwhelms them all. Ah Sing is the houseboy to the Travis family, his son, Chin, is friends with Henry Travis. They both share a common passion: secretly reading 'penny dreadfuls' adventure stories full of heroes and action-packed adventures. But little do they know that the true heroes are much closer to home. When the earthquake strikes, the young boys see their fathers revealed as true heroes. Fighting for survival, the city brings out the best and worst of everyone. Some see an opportunity to make profit, and others devote their time to helping strangers. It is an exciting read for young readers.

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