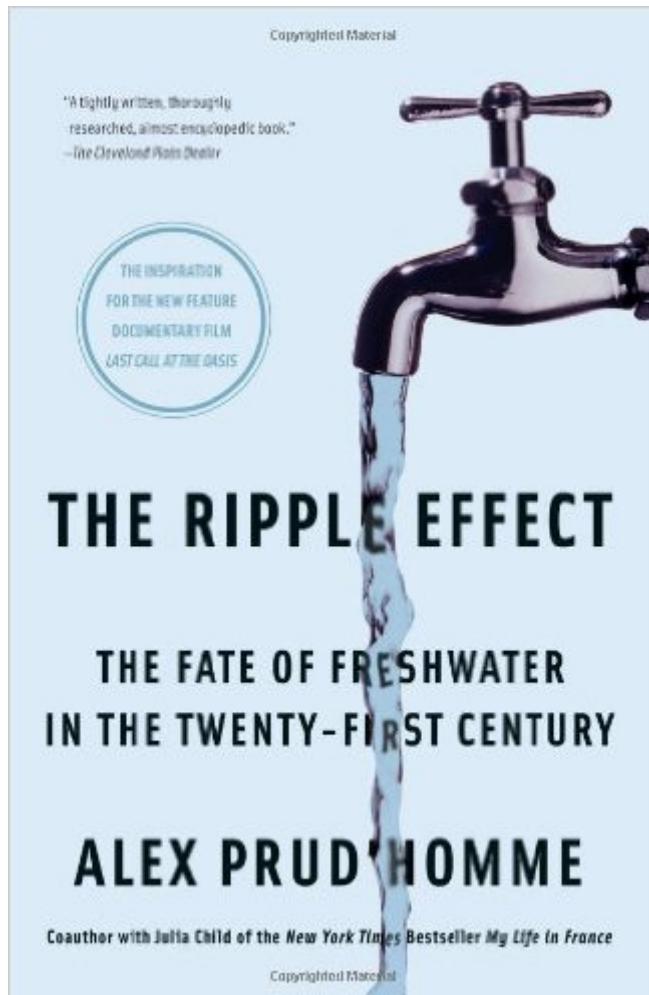


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The Ripple Effect: The Fate Of Freshwater In The Twenty-First Century



Synopsis

From the bestselling coauthor with Julia Child of *My Life in France* âœ a balanced and insightful assessment of what could emerge as the dominant issue in decades aheadâ • (Associated Press)â "the fate of fresh water in the twenty-first century. Will there be enough drinkable water to satisfy future demand? What is the state of our water infrastructureâ "both the pipes that bring us freshwater and the levees that keep it out? How secure is our water supply from natural disasters and terrorist attacks? Can we create new sources for our water supply through scientific innovation? Is water a right like air or a commodity like oil? Will the wars of the twenty-first century be fought over water? As the climate warms and world population grows, demand for water has surged, but supplies of freshwater are static or dropping, and new threats to water quality appear every day.

The Ripple Effect is Alex Prudâ™hommeâ™s vividly written and engaging inquiry into the fate of freshwater in the twenty-first century. Like Daniel Yerginâ™s classic *The Prize: The Epic Quest for Oil, Money & Power*, Prudâ™hommeâ™s *The Ripple Effect* is a masterwork of investigation and dramatic narrative. Prudâ™homme introduces readers to an array of colorful, obsessive, brilliantâ "and sometimes shadowyâ " characters through whom these issues come alive. The Ripple Effect will change the way we think about the water we drink.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Author Alex Prud'Homme claims "The Ripple Effect" is not an "encyclopedic" read, but at times it feels that way. That's not to say I wouldn't recommend this book; after all, the many troublesome

issues over available, clean freshwater for citizens worldwide are crucial to know about and getting increasingly urgent by the year. Prud `Homme cannot be accused of forgoing research or skimping on facts. He transitions nicely from one troubled region to the next, giving proper weight to the severity of the problems but not sensationalizing, and offering advice by experts throughout. I came away thinking super-arid Arizona, remote Las Vegas, sprawling California and weather-troubled Georgia are in for some rough times, presently and in the future. The Midwest, where environmentally destructive farming methods and flooding are common, also has its share of water-related predicaments. Prud `Homme drives the point home that people all over the world -- from seasoned hydrologists to the average man and woman -- will need to rethink every aspect of water. As populations explode, drinkable H₂O is dwindling -- something's got to give in this equation. Additionally, outdated, unregulated laws and a worrisome inclination by politicians and their constituents during the last decade or so to pay less attention to "the fate of freshwater in the twenty-first century" have exacerbated the problems. Admittedly, my eyes and thoughts glazed over at times as Prud `Homme intricately covered numerous judicial cases and technical details to supplement the themes. But numerous things stuck with me.

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