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Deluge: Tropical Storm Irene, Vermont's Flash Floods, and How One Small State Saved Itself

By Peggy Shinn

University Press of New England. Hardback. Book Condition: new. BRAND NEW, Deluge: Tropical Storm Irene, Vermont's Flash Floods, and How One Small State Saved Itself, Peggy Shinn, On August 28, 2011, after pounding the Caribbean and the U.S. Eastern seaboard for more than a week, Hurricane Irene finally made landfall in New Jersey. As the storm headed into New England, it was quickly downgraded to a tropical storm. And by Sunday afternoon, national news outlets were giving postmortems on the damage. Except for some flooding in low-lying areas, New York City-Irene's biggest target-had escaped its worst-case scenario. Story over. But the story wasn't over. As Irene's eye drifted north, its bands of heavy rains twisted westward over Vermont's Green Mountains. The mountains forced these bands upward, wringing the rain out of them like water from a sponge. Streams and rivers were transformed into torrents of brown water and debris, gouging mountainsides, reshaping valleys, washing out roads, pulling apart bridges, and carrying away homes, livestock, and automobiles. For weeks, mountain towns were isolated, with no way in or out, and thousands of people were left homeless. In the immediate aftermath of the disaster, it fell on the shoulders of ordinary Vermonters...



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