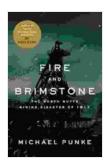
## The North Butte Mining Disaster of 1917: A Tragedy that Shocked the Nation

On June 8, 1917, tragedy struck the North Butte Mine in Butte, Montana, claiming the lives of 168 miners. It was the worst mining disaster in the history of the United States, and it sent shockwaves throughout the nation.



#### Fire and Brimstone: The North Butte Mining Disaster of

**1917** by Michael Punke

★★★★ 4.5 out of 5

Language : English

File size : 1126 KB

Text-to-Speech : Enabled

Screen Reader : Supported

Enhanced typesetting : Enabled

Word Wise : Enabled

Print length : 362 pages



The North Butte Mine was owned and operated by the Anaconda Copper Mining Company, one of the largest mining companies in the world. The mine was known for its dangerous working conditions, and there had been several accidents in the years leading up to the disaster.

#### The Disaster

On the morning of June 8, 1917, a fire broke out in the North Butte Mine. The fire quickly spread through the mine, trapping hundreds of miners underground.

The miners fought desperately to escape, but many were overcome by smoke and flames. Others were killed by falling rocks and timbers.

The rescue effort was hampered by the intense heat and smoke. It took days to recover all of the bodies, and many of the victims were never identified.

#### The Response

The North Butte Mining Disaster shocked the nation. President Woodrow Wilson ordered an investigation into the disaster, and Congress passed a law requiring mines to have better safety measures.

The disaster also led to the formation of the Mine Workers Union, which fought for better working conditions and safety standards in mines.

#### The Legacy

The North Butte Mining Disaster is a reminder of the dangers of mining. It is also a reminder of the importance of safety regulations and the need for unions to protect workers' rights.

The disaster left a lasting legacy on the city of Butte. The city built a memorial to the victims of the disaster, and the disaster is still commemorated every year.

The North Butte Mining Disaster was a tragedy that shocked the nation. It led to important changes in mining safety and the formation of the Mine Workers Union. The disaster is a reminder of the dangers of mining and the importance of safety regulations.





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