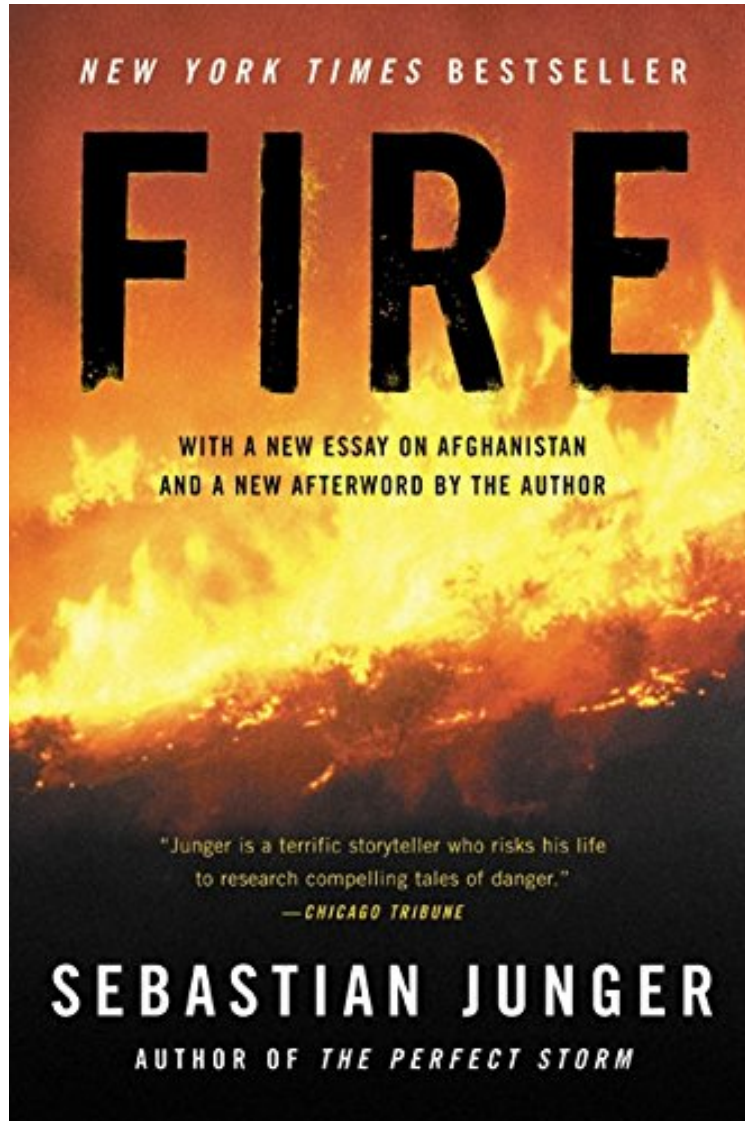


## Fire

*Sebastian Junger*

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#225020 in Books Harper Perennial 2002-09-24 2002-09-24 Original language: English PDF # 1 8.00 x .61 x 5.311, .50 #File Name: 0060088613272 pages Great product! | File size: 59.Mb

**Sebastian Junger : Fire** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Fire:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Fire is hot ,the rest is not By ronald a. moore This book is actually a collection of short narratives by the author about various experiences he has had; among those the one dealing with his work with forest fire fighters is the most engaging .The other articles are less entertaining and account for the fact I gave this a three star rating ,on its own the narrative about the fire fighters was a four star.. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. I've always liked his writing--this did not disappoint By Teresa L. Fischer I've always liked

his writing--this did not disappoint. It is several different mini-documentaries about his journalism ventures--from fires to war-torn areas. Excellent (for me) historical information also. Does not disappoint. I look forward to reading the rest of his books..2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Five StarsBy CustomerIf you know his works then you will like this

A riveting collection of literary journalism by the bestselling author of *The Perfect Storm*, capped off brilliantly by a new Afterword and a timely essay about war-torn Afghanistan -- a superb eyewitness report about the Taliban's defeat in Kabul -- new to book form. Sebastian Junger has made a specialty of bringing to life the drama of nature and human nature. Few writers have been to so many disparate and desperate corners of the globe. Fewer still have met the standard of great journalism more consistently. None has provided more starkly memorable evocations of extreme events. From the murderous mechanics of the diamond trade in Sierra Leone, to an inferno forest fire burning out of control in the steep canyons of Idaho, to the forensics of genocide in Kosovo, this collection of Junger's reporting will take readers to places they need to know about but wouldn't dream of going on their own. In his company we travel to these places, pass through frightening checkpoints, actual and psychological, and come face-to-face with the truth.

.com The events explored in *Fire* focus on "people confronting situations that could easily destroy them," and as he demonstrated in *The Perfect Storm*, Sebastian Junger is skilled at breaking such situations down to their core elements. In this exciting book, he reports on raging forest fires in the Western U.S, war zones in Kosovo and Afghanistan, the deadly diamond trade in Sierra Leone, the plight of travelers kidnapped by guerrillas in Kashmir, the last living whale harpooner on the Caribbean island of Bequia, and the Greek-Turkish conflict on Cyprus. There is also a fascinating chapter on John Colter (explorer, fur trader, and member of the Corps of Discovery led by Lewis and Clark) in which he comments on the need for some to seek adventure as a means of escape from our relatively safe modern world: "Life in modern society is designed to eliminate as many unforeseen events as possible, and as inviting as that seems, it leaves us hopelessly underutilized.... Threats to our safety and comfort have been so completely wiped out that we have to go out of our way to create them." Junger has a keen grasp on this mentality (in fact, he exhibits it himself), and in *Fire* he clearly explains the fears and difficulties involved in reporting on dangerous events from foreign countries: "You have two weeks to understand a completely alien culture, find a story that no one has heard of, and run it into the ground. It never feels even remotely possible. But it is." And he has done it well in this thrilling book. -- Shawn Carkonen  
From Publishers Weekly  
Danger junkies rejoice! *The Perfect Storm* king returns with no, not a new booklength narrative, but a collection of previously published magazine articles. Junger spent the last few years documenting some of the world's toughest places: Afghanistan, Sierra Leone and the former Yugoslavia, as well as nonmilitary hot spots like American wildfires. His reporting on wartime atrocities for *Vanity Fair* is well known, and his wilderness stories for adventure magazines like *Outside* and *Men's Health* have brought him an enormous extra-book readership. Junger's newest can be considered a sort of early Greatest Hits volume, wherein Junger's disaster-zone reporting will whet the appetites of risk voyeurs everywhere. Consider his interview with Afghan guerrilla leader Ahmad Shah Massoud ("After we'd spent half an hour ducking the shells, the commander said he'd just received word that Taliban troops were preparing to attack the position, and it might be better if we weren't around for it"), or his Kosovo klatch with Serbian paramilitaries ("The men grinned broadly at us. One of them wasn't holding a gun in his hands. He was holding a huge double-bladed ax."). But Junger is more than a dispassionate adventure-monger; he is an observer awed by the courage of "people confronting situations that could easily destroy them." Whether describing the trials of airborne forest firefighters or the occupational hazards of old-fashioned harpoon-and-rope whale hunting, Junger challenges readers to reconsider their fondness for ease: "Life in modern society is designed to eliminate as many unforeseen events as possible, and as inviting as that seems, it leaves us hopelessly underutilized. And that is where the idea of 'adventure' comes in." (Oct.) Copyright 2001 Reed Business Information, Inc.  
From Library Journal  
This is a collection of first-person reports by adventurer/reporter Junger that span the globe in his search for hot spots, from Sierra Leone to Afghanistan, from Kashmir to Kosovo. With reporting as timely as today's news, Junger (*The Perfect Storm*) moves from the first story, of a literal battle with fire by firefighters in the Western United States, which he narrates, to the more figurative but no less real "fire" of battlefields in wartorn areas of the world. The rest of the work is read by noted actor Kevin Conway, whose rugged voice is right for conveying the chaos of fire and war. A counterphobic's dream come true, and thrill seekers of both sexes will love the experience of listening to these "you are there"-style reports. Highly recommended. Mark Pumphrey, Polk Cty. P.L., Columbus, NCCopyright 2002 Cahners Business Information, Inc.