



The Great Chicago Fire of 1871: The Story of the Blaze That Destroyed the Midwest's Largest City

Charles River Editors

Download now

[Click here](#) if your download doesn't start automatically

The Great Chicago Fire of 1871: The Story of the Blaze That Destroyed the Midwest's Largest City

Charles River Editors

The Great Chicago Fire of 1871: The Story of the Blaze That Destroyed the Midwest's Largest City

Charles River Editors

*Includes pictures

*Includes eyewitness accounts of the disaster

*Includes a bibliography for further reading

“The fire was barely fifteen minutes old. What followed was a series of fatal errors that set the fire free and doomed the city to a fiery death.” – Jim Murphy, *The Great Fire*

It had taken about 40 years for Chicago to grow from a small settlement of about 300 people into a thriving metropolis with a population of 300,000, but in just two days in 1871, much of that progress was burned to the ground. In arguably the most famous fire in American history, a blaze in the southwestern section of Chicago began to burn out of control on the night of October 8, 1871. Thanks to *The Chicago Tribune*, the fire has been apocryphally credited to a cow kicking over a lantern in Mrs. Catherine O’Leary’s barn, and though that was not true, the rumor dogged Mrs. O’Leary to the grave.

Of course, the cause of the fire didn’t matter terribly much to the people who lost their lives or their property in the blaze. Thanks to dry conditions, wind, and wooden buildings, firefighters were never actually able to stop the fire, which burned itself out only after it spent nearly two whole days incinerating several square miles of Chicago. By the time rain mercifully helped to put the fire out, the Great Chicago Fire had already killed an estimated 300 people, destroyed an estimated 17,500 buildings, and left nearly 100,000 people (1/3 of the population) homeless.

Several other theories have developed as an explanation for the fire. Most of them center on people around Mrs. O’Leary’s barn, but other have gone so far as to blame a meteor shower as the culprit that started fires across the Midwest that same night. As proof, they note that the country’s worst forest fire in history took place around the same time in the logging town of Peshtigo in northeastern Wisconsin, a fire that killed thousands.

Mrs. O’Leary and her barn remain a part of lore, but it also speaks to Chicago’s ability to rebuild that it’s almost impossible to envision a farm in downtown Chicago today. Chicago suffered a wide swath of destruction, but it had rebuilt itself within 20 years in order to host the World’s Fair, evidence that it was back and bigger and better than ever. Along with that, Chicago has maintained its status as the region’s biggest city and one of the most important in America.

The Great Chicago Fire chronicles one of the largest natural disasters of the 19th century in America. Along with pictures of important people, places, and events, you will learn about the Great Chicago Fire of 1871 like never before, in no time at all.

 [Download The Great Chicago Fire of 1871: The Story of the B ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online The Great Chicago Fire of 1871: The Story of the ...pdf](#)

Download and Read Free Online The Great Chicago Fire of 1871: The Story of the Blaze That Destroyed the Midwest's Largest City Charles River Editors

From reader reviews:

Irene Vaughan:

The book *The Great Chicago Fire of 1871: The Story of the Blaze That Destroyed the Midwest's Largest City* can give more knowledge and also the precise product information about everything you want. Why must we leave the great thing like a book *The Great Chicago Fire of 1871: The Story of the Blaze That Destroyed the Midwest's Largest City*? Some of you have a different opinion about reserve. But one aim that book can give many data for us. It is absolutely correct. Right now, try to closer together with your book. Knowledge or details that you take for that, you may give for each other; you are able to share all of these. Book *The Great Chicago Fire of 1871: The Story of the Blaze That Destroyed the Midwest's Largest City* has simple shape however, you know: it has great and large function for you. You can search the enormous world by open up and read a guide. So it is very wonderful.

Gracie Thomas:

The book untitled *The Great Chicago Fire of 1871: The Story of the Blaze That Destroyed the Midwest's Largest City* contain a lot of information on it. The writer explains her idea with easy way. The language is very straightforward all the people, so do not necessarily worry, you can easy to read the item. The book was written by famous author. The author brings you in the new time of literary works. You can easily read this book because you can read on your smart phone, or product, so you can read the book inside anywhere and anytime. In a situation you wish to purchase the e-book, you can available their official web-site in addition to order it. Have a nice go through.

Catherine Branch:

You are able to spend your free time to read this book this publication. This *The Great Chicago Fire of 1871: The Story of the Blaze That Destroyed the Midwest's Largest City* is simple to bring you can read it in the recreation area, in the beach, train along with soon. If you did not get much space to bring the particular printed book, you can buy often the e-book. It is make you simpler to read it. You can save often the book in your smart phone. Therefore there are a lot of benefits that you will get when you buy this book.

Doug Campbell:

E-book is one of source of information. We can add our expertise from it. Not only for students and also native or citizen require book to know the revise information of year in order to year. As we know those textbooks have many advantages. Beside all of us add our knowledge, could also bring us to around the world. By the book *The Great Chicago Fire of 1871: The Story of the Blaze That Destroyed the Midwest's Largest City* we can get more advantage. Don't you to be creative people? Being creative person must love to read a book. Merely choose the best book that suited with your aim. Don't always be doubt to change your life at this book *The Great Chicago Fire of 1871: The Story of the Blaze That Destroyed the Midwest's Largest City*. You can more desirable than now.

**Download and Read Online The Great Chicago Fire of 1871: The Story of the Blaze That Destroyed the Midwest's Largest City
Charles River Editors #B4Z9A5I76CU**

Read The Great Chicago Fire of 1871: The Story of the Blaze That Destroyed the Midwest's Largest City by Charles River Editors for online ebook

The Great Chicago Fire of 1871: The Story of the Blaze That Destroyed the Midwest's Largest City by Charles River Editors Free PDF d0wnl0ad, audio books, books to read, good books to read, cheap books, good books, online books, books online, book reviews epub, read books online, books to read online, online library, greatbooks to read, PDF best books to read, top books to read The Great Chicago Fire of 1871: The Story of the Blaze That Destroyed the Midwest's Largest City by Charles River Editors books to read online.

Online The Great Chicago Fire of 1871: The Story of the Blaze That Destroyed the Midwest's Largest City by Charles River Editors ebook PDF download

The Great Chicago Fire of 1871: The Story of the Blaze That Destroyed the Midwest's Largest City by Charles River Editors Doc

The Great Chicago Fire of 1871: The Story of the Blaze That Destroyed the Midwest's Largest City by Charles River Editors Mobipocket

The Great Chicago Fire of 1871: The Story of the Blaze That Destroyed the Midwest's Largest City by Charles River Editors EPub