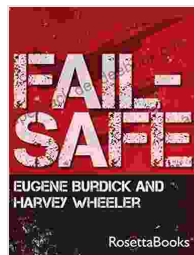
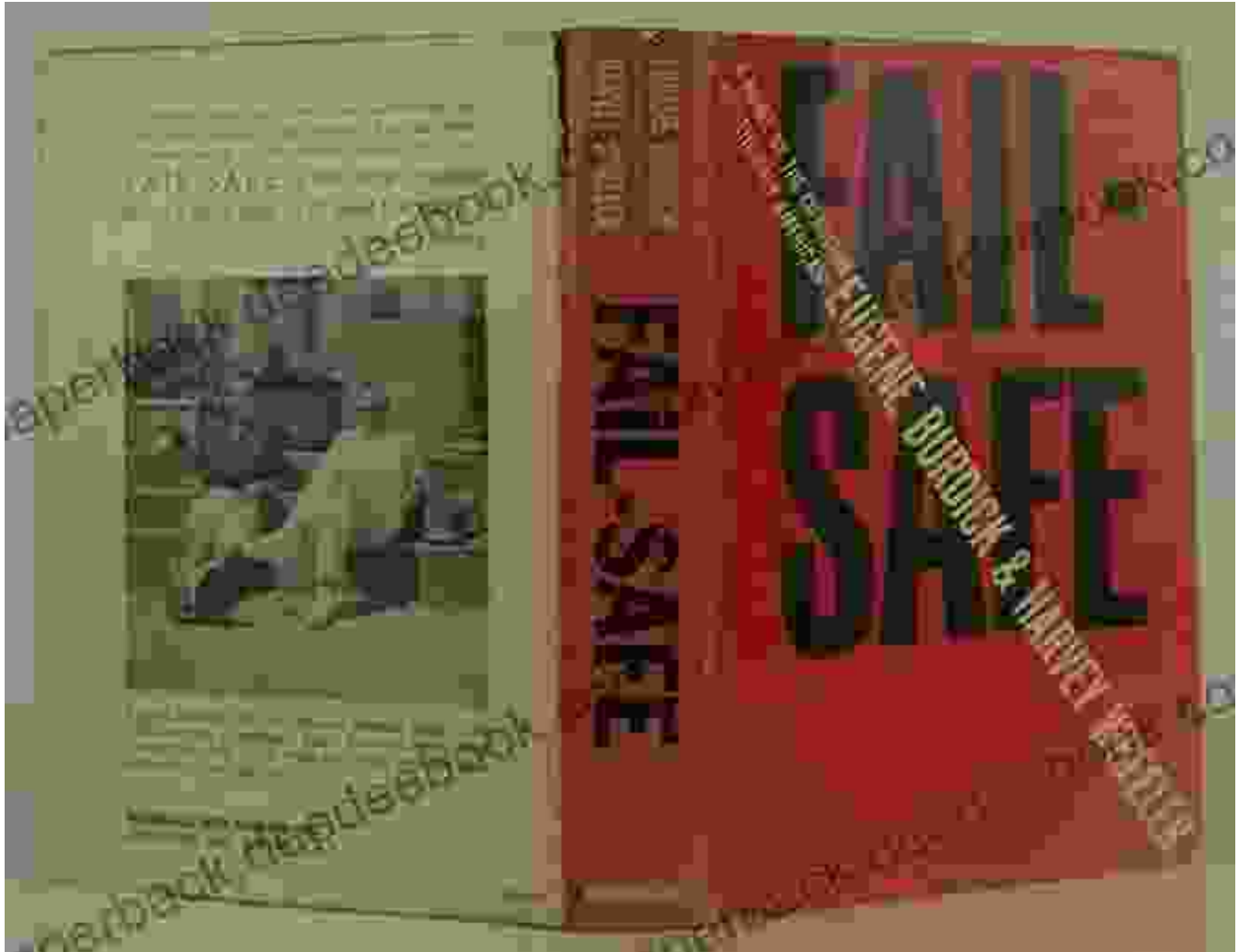


Fail-Safe: A Thought-Provoking Tale of Nuclear Disaster and Human Responsibility



Fail-Safe by Eugene Burdick

★★★★☆ 4.7 out of 5

Language : English
File size : 1299 KB
Text-to-Speech : Enabled
Screen Reader : Supported
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled
Word Wise : Enabled
Print length : 290 pages
Lending : Enabled



Fail-Safe is a classic novel by Eugene Burdick and Harvey Wheeler that was first published in 1962. The novel tells the story of a nuclear war between the United States and the Soviet Union that is caused by a computer error.

The novel begins with a group of American and Soviet scientists who are working on a new fail-safe system for the United States' nuclear arsenal. The system is designed to prevent a nuclear war from being started by accident or by a single person. However, the scientists soon discover that the system is not foolproof.

In the meantime, a group of American pilots are preparing for a training exercise that involves flying a nuclear-armed bomber over the Soviet Union. However, due to a computer error, the pilots are given the wrong orders and they end up flying over the Soviet Union with their nuclear weapons armed.

The Soviets detect the American bomber and believe that it is a nuclear attack. They launch their own nuclear missiles, and the United States responds in kind. The result is a full-scale nuclear war that kills millions of people.

Fail-Safe is a powerful and thought-provoking novel that explores the dangers of nuclear war and the moral dilemmas faced by those who must make life-or-death decisions. The novel has been praised for its realism, its suspense, and its insights into the human condition.

The Characters in Fail-Safe

Fail-Safe features a cast of complex and well-developed characters. The main characters include:

* **General Warren:** The commander of the American nuclear forces. Warren is a dedicated and patriotic officer, but he is also haunted by the knowledge of the terrible power that he wields. * **Professor Groeteschele:** A German-American scientist who helped to develop the fail-safe system. Groeteschele is a brilliant man, but he is also deeply concerned about the dangers of nuclear war. * **Colonel Grady:** The pilot of the American bomber that is accidentally sent over the Soviet Union. Grady is a brave and experienced pilot, but he is also horrified by the realization that he has caused a nuclear war.

The Themes of Fail-Safe

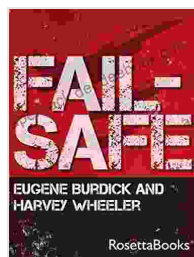
Fail-Safe explores a number of important themes, including:

* **The dangers of nuclear war:** The novel shows the devastating consequences of nuclear war, both in terms of the human lives that are lost and the damage that is done to the environment. * **The moral dilemmas faced by those who must make life-or-death decisions:** The novel shows the difficult choices that must be made in the face of nuclear war. These choices can have a profound impact on the lives of millions of people. * **The importance of human responsibility:** The novel shows that nuclear weapons are ultimately the responsibility of the people who create them and use them. We must all be aware of the dangers of nuclear war and we must work to prevent it from happening.

The Legacy of Fail-Safe

Fail-Safe has had a profound impact on the public consciousness. The novel has helped to raise awareness of the dangers of nuclear war and it has inspired people to work for peace. The novel has also been adapted into several films, including a 1964 film starring Henry Fonda and Walter Matthau.

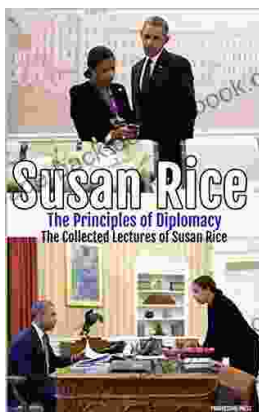
Fail-Safe is a classic novel that is still relevant today. The novel's message of peace and disarmament is more important than ever in the 21st century.



Fail-Safe by Eugene Burdick

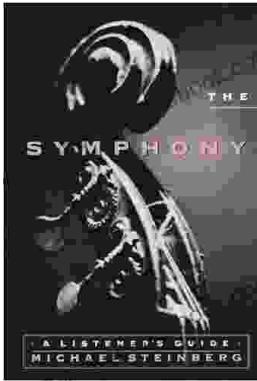
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