

"A thrilling tale of brilliant researchers...not only crystal-clear
but also wonderfully dramatic." —*Washington Post*

SNOWBALL EARTH

THE STORY OF A MAVERICK SCIENTIST
AND HIS THEORY OF THE GLOBAL CATASTROPHE
THAT SPAWNED LIFE AS WE KNOW IT



GABRIELLE WALKER

Snowball Earth: The Story of the Great Global Catastrophe That Spawned Life as We Know It

Gabrielle Walker

Did the Earth as soon as endure an excellent ice age, one who iced over the complete planet from the poles to the equator? In *Snowball Earth*, talented author Gabrielle Walker has crafted an exciting worldwide event story, following maverick scientist Paul Hoffman's quest to end up a thought so audacious and profound that it truly is shaking the area of earth sciences to its core. In lyrical prose that brings each one distant and inviting locale vividly to life, Walker takes us on an exhilarating typical background day trip to witness firsthand the assisting facts Hoffman has pieced together. That evidence, he argues, indicates that seven-hundred million years in the past the Earth did certainly freeze over completely, turning into an immense "snowball," within the worst climatic disaster in history. much more startling is his statement that, rather than finishing existence on Earth, this international deep freeze used to be the set off for the Cambrian Explosion, the hitherto unexplained second in geological time whilst a wonderful large quantity of advanced lifestyles types first emerged from the primordial ooze. In a narrative packed with highbrow intrigue, we persist with the irascible yet amazing Hoffman and a aiding forged of intrepid geologists as they scour the planet, uncovering clue after astonishing clue. We go back and forth to a primeval lagoon at Shark Bay in western Australia, the place dolphins cavort with swimmers each morning at seven and "living rocks" sprout out of the water like broccoli heads; to the desolate and forbidding ice fields of a tiny Arctic archipelago seven-hundred miles north of Norway; to the astonishing fossil beds that beautify Newfoundland's foggy and windswept coastline; and directly to the superheated salt pans of California's demise Valley. Through the contours of those wealthy and sundry landscapes Walker teaches us to learn the lines of geological time *Snowball Earth: The Story of the Great Global Catastrophe That Spawned Life as We Know It* with specialist eyes, and we surprise on the attractive feats of resilience and renewal our impressive planet is able of. *Snowball Earth* is technological know-how writing at its so much gripping and enlightening. From the Hardcover edition.

The 'national geographic' tone to this ebook annoyed me from the very starting and that i felt i might made a mistake in taking it on. the most protagonists are stated a primary identify foundation and the prolonged narratives of the authors event vacationing quite a few geological websites and tangential historic anecdotes (e.g. Huxley and Wilberforce) have been in most cases distracting to me, even though there has been finally adequate substance to make the learn worthwhile. every now and then the demanding turns out to merge among the previous and the current and makes an attempt to explain a stormy iciness panorama as 'granite' colored (as in dappled crimson just like the orthoclase feldspar?) weren't important either. The medical tale approximately snowball earth, either the way it occurred geologically and the way it *Snowball Earth: The Story of the Great Global Catastrophe That Spawned Life as We Know It* was once discovered, is an engaging one. Like many new ideas, there were various personal, theoretical and logical demanding situations to beat in making them coherent and credible. That ice can have reached the equator and close down the planet for a couple of million years is a thorough idea, because it 'should' push the earth right into a runaway icehouse mode. (Although no longer acknowledged during this book, this threat opens *Snowball Earth: The Story of the*

Great Global Catastrophe That Spawned Life as We Know It the choices for the habitability of different planets, supplied volcanism can counteract different chilly mode settings.) The proof for the snowball had to be compiled from a variety of resources that are a bit of noticeable in hindsight, yet sophisticated beforehand. The elucidation of those offers an invaluable representation approximately how geological technological know-how works. For all of the dialogue of box observations, however, the absence of illustrations (in the kindle model at least) used to be disappointing, particularly because the writer turns out to have visited some of the key sites. I believe there's extra to the technological know-how of this tale than was once given room during this book, but when this strategy is required to make key geological tales available then I welcome it.

Snowball Earth The Story Of The Great Global Catastrophe That Spawned Life As We Know It

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