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This image, entitled "Fury of the Storm and Desperate Predicament of Residents," is from *The Complete Story of the Galveston Horror, Written by the Survivors*, edited by John Coulter and published, in 1900, by E. E. Sprague. It appears, with a series of other illustrations, between the book's preface and page 33. [Online, via Project Gutenberg](#). Click on the image for a better view.

For those who view tragedy from the outside, art is sometimes the best way to faintly grasp the horror of what those on the inside have endured.

By the time relief arrives, surviving adults have often moved on to the needs at hand: digging out, pitching tents, starting over. But children, as Pompeo Coppini reminds us with *Victims of the Galveston Flood*, often remember the terror forever.

During monster storms, clinging to the safety of a mother's protective grasp is sometimes not safe enough.

Mr. Nicholson thought he was protecting his family. Warning them not to return to Galveston, he did not realize his wife and child were already back in town. He urged them to "Stay where you are," but where they were was in the storm's path.

Fred Napp used the back of a piece of wallpaper to let his wife Maggie know he was alright. "Hope you and the children are safe," he wrote.

Relief workers set up tents for the survivors of the Great Storm of 1900. Inside these make-do shelters, people at least had some measure of privacy. The same could not be said for side-by-side beds in public assistance facilities.

The people of Galveston had a survivor's spirit. As the *Galveston Tribune* put it, "Galveston was not born to die."

The courage of the survivors is all the more remarkable when one considers the words of Paul Lester, someone who witnessed the storm and its aftermath:

*Words are too weak to express the horror, the awfulness of the storm itself, to even faintly picture the scene of devastation, wreck and ruin, misery, suffering and grief...The mind cannot comprehend all the horrors, can not learn or know all the dreadful particulars...One stands speechless and powerless to relate even that which he has felt and knows.*

See [Alignments to State and Common Core standards for this story online at:](#)

<http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/AcademicAlignment/THE-SURVIVORS-Galveston-and-the-Great-Storm-of-1900>

See [Learning Tasks for this story online at:](#)

<http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/AcademicActivities/THE-SURVIVORS-Galveston-and-the-Great-Storm-of-1900>

## Media Stream



### Mr. Nicholson's Warning before the Great Storm of 1900

Image online via Wikimedia Commons.

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View this asset at:

<http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/Mr.-Nicholson-s-Warning-before-the-Great-Storm-of-1900>



### Fred Napp's Wallpaper Note

Image online, courtesy Wikimedia Commons.

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### Fred Napp's Message after the Galveston Disaster

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### Relief Workers' Tents - Galveston in 1900

Image online, courtesy the Rosenberg Library, Galveston, Texas.

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### Living in Tents - Galveston Survivors

Image online, courtesy the Rosenberg Library, Galveston, Texas.

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### Public Assistance Shelters - Galveston, 1900

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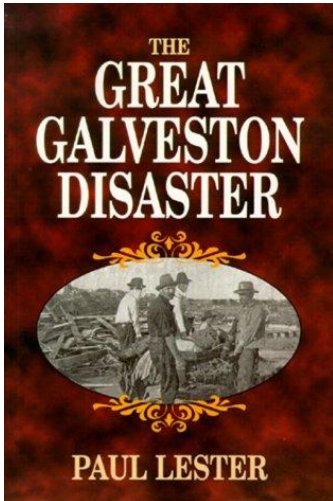


### Life in Public Assistance Facilities - Galveston, 1900

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### The Great Galveston Disaster - by Paul Lester

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### THE SURVIVORS

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