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This image, entitled "The Water from the Gulf Destroying Galveston," 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 at page 230 of the book which is [online, via Project Gutenberg](#). Click on the image for a better view.

Thomas Edison (who had [invented the phonograph](#) in 1877) also invented a moving-film camera. Developing his own thoughts - in addition to improving on, or using the work of others - Edison became one of the world's leading inventors.

When the Great Storm of 1900 devastated Galveston, Edison had already formed a moving-picture company. An employee of that business used a moving-film camera to record scenes of the Galveston disaster.

His [waterfront film](#) depicts sailboats, moored in the harbor, torn up like matchsticks. Still pictures portray the same type of [wreckage](#).

Ships in port, at the time of the storm, were stranded and had to be relaunched. Vessels coming into port after the storm were greeted by [piles](#) of rubble and [ruined](#) boats.

The harbor, normally a safe haven for mariners, was no better than being at sea. Indeed, Galveston was effectively *at sea* for much of Saturday evening, September 8th, 1900.

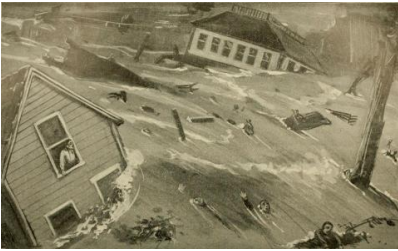
The blackness of the night would have added a level of terror for those who surely must have known they and their families were about to die.

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

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

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

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THE HARBOR

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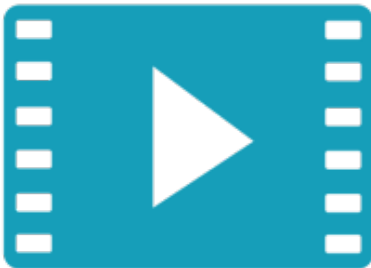


Edison Phonograph Recording - 1888

Clip of historical recording on an Edison phonograph, online courtesy Library of Congress. Compilation of two early clips, maintained at the Library of Congress, online via YouTube.

View this asset at:

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Edison Film - Galveston Waterfront, 1900

Clip of historic footage, recorded by Thomas Edison's film company, online courtesy the Library of Congress.

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