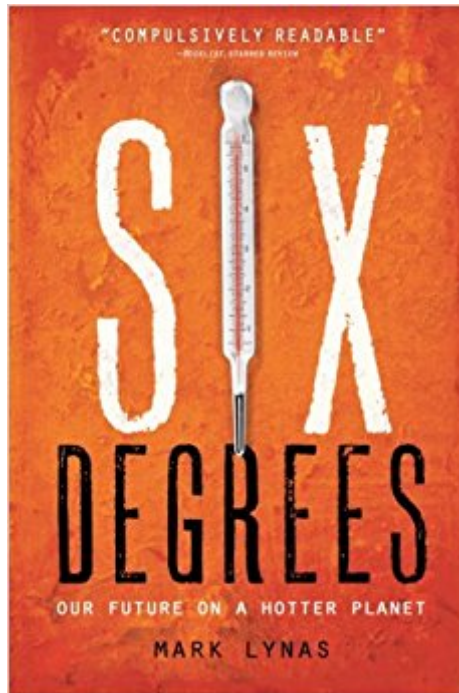




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Six Degrees: Our Future On A Hotter Planet



Synopsis

Possibly the most graphic treatment of global warming that has yet been published, *Six Degrees* is what readers of Al Gore's best-selling *An Inconvenient Truth* or Ross Gelbspan's *Boiling Point* will turn to next. Written by the acclaimed author of *High Tide*, this highly relevant and compelling book uses accessible journalistic prose to distill what environmental scientists portend about the consequences of human pollution for the next hundred years. In 2001, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) released a landmark report projecting average global surface temperatures to rise between 1.4 degrees and 5.8 degrees Celsius (roughly 2 to 10 degrees Fahrenheit) by the end of this century. Based on this forecast, author Mark Lynas outlines what to expect from a warming world, degree by degree. At 1 degree Celsius, most coral reefs and many mountain glaciers will be lost. A 3-degree rise would spell the collapse of the rainforest, disappearance of Greenland's ice sheet, and the creation of deserts across the Midwestern United States and southern Africa. A 6-degree increase would eliminate most life on Earth, including much of humanity. Based on authoritative scientific articles, the latest computer models, and information about past warm events in Earth history, *Six Degrees* promises to be an eye-opening warning that humanity will ignore at its peril.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Adult/High School — Lynas has gathered global-warming information from an array of authoritative scientists: geologists, glaciologists, oceanographers, climate scientists, and

paleoclimatologists, as well as "major scientific projections" from computer modelers. He divides his findings into six main chapters representing the consequences of a one- to six-degree shift in temperature rise. More factual than hysterical and using accessible language, the author portrays a sobering, but broad and fascinating, view of the problem. He discusses not only the environmental consequences of melting icecaps, ocean warming, coral reef bleaching, CO2 emissions, deforestation, and severe weather, but also cultural and economic reverberations-the result of population shifts, animal migrations, and societal collapse. Through computer-modeling simulations he looks back into the past (the Pliocene, the Mayan civilization) and projects into the future for CO2 comparisons. His premise: the problem is now at global scale and will not just impact the disappearance of one group alone as it did the Maya. Claiming that solutions must be political, and that it is too late for quick fixes using renewable energy sources or technology, he concludes with some cautionary possible solutions: relocalization of goods and services, less consumption, global-scale carbon rationing, and a "2 degree increase target." Anyone studying climate change will find this a helpful reference as much current research has been precompiled and interpreted within one resource. --Jodi Mitchell, Berkeley Public Library, CA Copyright © Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

'Scientists predict that global temperatures will rise by between one and six degrees over the course of this century and Mark Lynas paints a chilling, degree-by-degree picture of the devastation likely to ensue unless we act now...' "Six Degrees" is a rousing and vivid plea to choose a different future.' Daily Mail 'The saga of how, in the world as imagined by thousands of computer-modelling studies, global warming kicks in degree by degree. "Six Degrees", I tell you now, is terrifying.' Sunday Times 'Brilliant and highly readable.' Sunday Times --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

This is a critical read for anybody planning to survive the 21st century. Mr. Lynas has exhaustively collected the research data and scientific reports on global climate change and pre historical events we know have actually happened, and fashioned this examination of the most probable results to our climate as we sustain each of six degrees celsius global temperature rise. While our planetary policies seem to accept the inevitable 2 degree celsius rise by 2050 because of the environmental damage we have already caused, he demonstrates this seemingly small change is only the best possible scenario and it includes some very worrisome changes. Because very little action has been

taken to limit temperature and CO₂ rise so far, it is clear that this goal will almost certainly be overshoot in the coming century, leading to some rather catastrophic climate changes for humans to try and survive. While many good people continue to work on this knotty problem, It would seem that until our policy makers abruptly change their focus from research and rhetoric to more forceful global action against further environmental destruction, our future looks bleak indeed.

Although this book was written 12 years ago, it was still informative. It was hoping that this edition had been updated with some of the latest data and statistics, but.... He talked about a scenario where we stayed below 400 ppm CO₂ levels, but we crossed that threshold in 2013 or 2014. On the positive side we have seen massive increases in wind and solar power generation and even bigger declines in coal.

If you want to understand the implications of what lies ahead for our immediate future, this book will educate you. It is an alarming overview of what lies in store for us collectively as we continue to live unsustainable lifestyles. I felt like a patient who had been given a cancer diagnosis if I did not change my lifestyle. Buy it for your friends or anyone you care about. A very powerful and awakening read!!! also recommend the DVD National geographic made to accompany this book. Same title. A visual masterpiece that really shows the collaborative efforts of Nasa, NOAA, and scientists around the world attempting to address this issue of climate change. Between the book and the DVD, you come to realize the challenges ahead; adding to your awareness and understanding of this global game changer.

Mark Lynas' "Six Degrees" is the best book I've read that gives sense, meaning to all the climate change numbers we hear thrown around in the news. It's a scientific detective story, based on serious research (complete references at the end) that looks back deep in time, deep in geologic history, revealing what our planet was really like when it was warmer by 1°C or 2°C or 3°C, all the way back to times when it was 6°C warmer, 55 million years ago. Each of the main 6 chapters looks at Earth's history degree by degree and fleshes out what the Earth was like when the average global temperature was that much higher than it is now. "Six Degrees" puts the value of science on full display. It uses science to reveal hidden mysteries of the past through clever careful research in many different disciplines. It is reasonable to be concerned that if we change our planet's temperature it will respond very much like it did in the past. "Six Degrees" will make you understand why a mere degree or two difference in average

global temperature is a very big problem, for all of us, for every living thing.

We've progressed beyond the debate of whether global warming is real. It's time to debate what's going to happen because of global warming. This book represents one version of possible consequences. I hope he's wrong. If he's not, billions of people will die. There's no way we are going to cut emissions enough to stop this train wreck. All we can do now is prepare our children and grandchildren to survive in the world they will inherit. Hopefully, they won't hate us for it.

I really enjoyed the clarity of the organization I found in this book. It describes the changes that will occur on the globe (to the best of our knowledge) with each degree that the climate increases. This scheme helps the reader understand the impact of global warming efficiently. The picture that is painted would be clear and terrifying if it weren't for the fact that we can still do something to avoid these predictions. I so appreciate that this message is being communicated.

A thorough overview of research about the effects of rising average temperatures in the world. It felt a bit like reading a lot of short-stories about apocalyptic events, which quickly became tiresome. Best chapters are the last three, that give a geological history lesson, and discuss future possibilities for us. The age of the book made the last part not as interesting as it could be.

Book arrived promptly and was as good or better condition than listed. Book Review: An excellent overview of what each of first six degrees of global warming might mean according to the body of science. Excellent place to start if you are just beginning to take the issue seriously. Science writing at its best. Very readable.

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