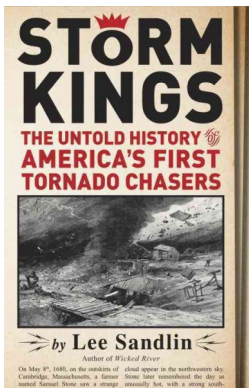


Storm Kings: the untold history of America's first tornado chasers

America's First Tornado Scientists and What They Taught Us



[view in catalog](#)

ISBN:

9780307378521

I was afraid this would be another macho book about reckless men roaming the plains chasing tornadoes during storm season. Instead it turned out to be a wonderful compendium of tornado lore through the centuries. Also included are biographies of some of our most important weather scientists.

Storm Kings begins with a description of how during the 1600s New England settlers called any phenomenon that happened in the sky meteors including: meteors (of course), lightning, thunder, rainbows, comets, clouds in the shape of hands and faces, etc. Although the science behind tornadoes was not understood and barely documented then, many colonists recognized that the weather in America was much more violent than in their home countries.

When a tornado swooped down near Cambridge, MA in 1680, two farming families were shocked when one lost a servant and another a barn during the storm. They were so frightened by this event that one wrote to Increase Mather (the father of Cotton) asking about it. Increase, who was a self-educated weather expert, had no answers so he wrote to a scientific association in Europe. No one replied to his inquiry, but Benjamin Franklin found this letter seventy years later when he became interested in the study of weather and electricity. **Read more »**

[For the Love of Reading Information, Answers & Reviews American History Biography Nonfiction Science Storm Kings: the untold history of America's first tornado chasers](#)

Posted by Dory L. on Jul 18, 2013 [Dory L.'s blog](#) [Add new comment](#)

