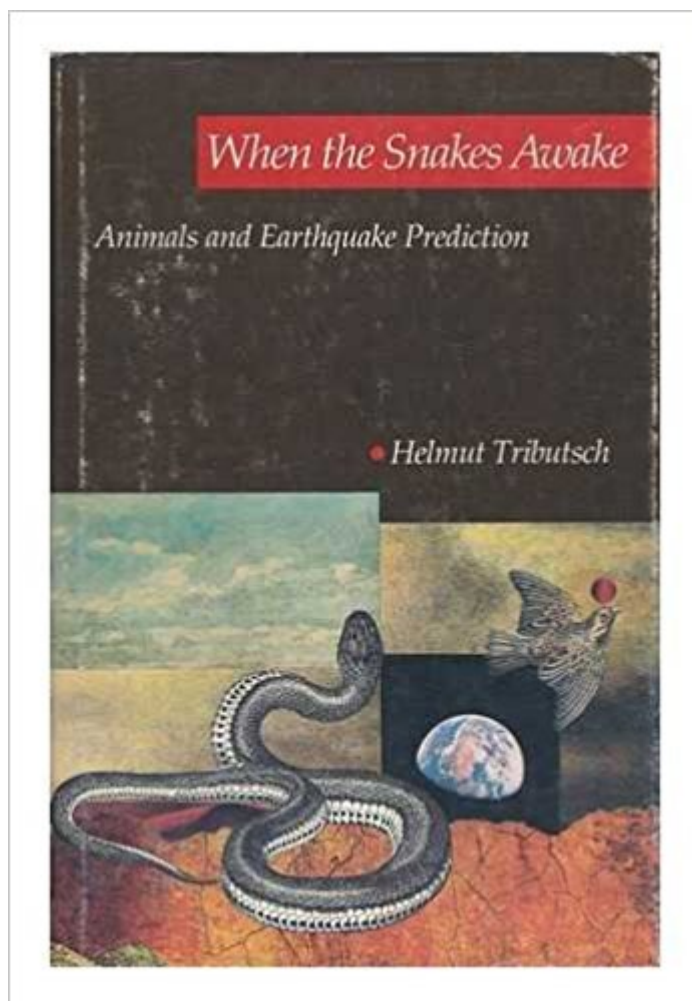


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# When The Snakes Awake



## Synopsis

In this book, he presents the first plausible explanation of why animals behave in unusual ways prior to the onset of an earthquake.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

"In this exhaustive compilation of reports from about 78 earthquakes dating from 373 B.C. to 1979, Helmut Tributsch convincingly argues that there is an explanation for abnormal animal behavior before an earthquake. He also makes an impassioned plea against science's exclusive reliance on geophysical measurements for earthquake prediction." Barbara Bright *The New York Times Book Review* --This text refers to the Paperback edition.

Text: English, German (translation)

I had ordered this book several times before, but needed another copy. I had my own ideas about this subject and this book confirmed them, even though the author was only able to cite the 'whats' rather than the 'whys' animals behaved the way they did before earthquakes. The animals were responding to what would be causing the earthquake rather than predicting the earthquake. It turns out that earthquakes are a two-stage process. The first stage is the effect that changing magnetic fields have on water in confined spaces such as in the soil or in what are called 'inclusions' in crystals in the earth's surface. The second is the effect that tides in the earth's crust has on causing

the earthquake itself after the changes in the water lubricated the rocks to make it easier for the tidal stresses to cause the ground to actually shift instead of just being stressed. The changes in the Earth's magnetic field could be traced to high solar wind or a massive ejection of solar particles that heads toward Earth. Eclipses are especially problematic for earthquakes. The author's discussion of the clouding of well water was a very important clue that provided the key evidence that my ideas were correct/ The behavior of water in changing magnetic fields accounts for a host of other unexplained phenomena. It also appears that parts of the Earth may be superconducting, and that changes in magnetic fields may cause those parts of the Earth to change from the superconducting state to the non-superconducting state or vice-versa causing great stress in that part of the Earth which creates an earthquake when tidal forces in the Earth causes the ground to shift. Similarly, volcanic eruptions may be related to these processes. Ironically, I first bought this book at the MIT Press when I was looking for another book, POLYWATER. It turns out that the two phenomena are related. Human levitation and unexplained aerial lights are other rare phenomena that are also related to these issues. As the author points out, the Chinese take these animal behavior phenomena very seriously, and have people report any such behavior so that the authorities can determine if they should have people evacuate the area. Ironically, some earthquakes in Asia that occurred in the late 1990s after I had already read this book confirmed the clouding of well water before these earthquakes. This is a very valuable book for those who are curious to learn more about these dangerous phenomena. One of the additional ironies was that, as a physics PhD candidate at MIT in the early 1960s, I became interested in superconductivity because of the effect of magnetic fields on the superconducting phase change. The idea that this might be related to earthquakes never crossed my mind until high-temperature phase change superconductors were discovered in 1986, and a professor of geology at the University of Minnesota pointed out that the crystal structure of parts of the Earth's crust were similar to the structure of the crystals used by researchers of high-temperature phase-change superconductors. I immediately saw the possible connection to human levitation and eventually to earthquakes. This illustrates the advantage of reading widely and thinking about possible connections if your objective is to understand the physics of the unexplained. Most researchers just delve deeply into their narrow specialty rather than spread themselves more broadly as I did. But, then again, they have jobs and research grants to worry about, whereas I did my research more as hobby. Needless to say, gets a lot of business from me as a result.

This gave extensive information about animal behavior as a pre-runner to a significant earthquake.

It gave me the type of information I needed for a report I was making to present to a group of people about preparing for a significant earthquake.

I read the book many years ago. I then loaned it out, and I have not gotten it returned. I feel that it is a great book to have in the home library, so I ordered another one.

Dr. Helmut Tributsch is a highly competent physicist who has been affiliated with some of Europe's leading universities and research centers. He has an enviable publishing record with over 446 scientific papers published in peer-reviewed journals. In addition, he has published 10 books on energy and related topics. In other words, "When Snakes Awake" is a serious work undertaken by a brilliant man. The real delight is that the result is eminently readable. Tributsch informs us about this intriguing topic without ever once talking over or talking down to the reader. The result is thumb-worthy ready reference for the scientist as well as a quick-read for the science-oriented secondary student. Although originally published in 1982, and now reprinted, Tributsch's work on animal behavior as earthquake precursors remains the clearest and most comprehensive book on the topic, compiling reports from virtually every part of the globe and delving as far back in history as the ancient Greeks. Recent work by biologists in Peru, Italy and Turkey continue to confirm the age-old observation that earthquakes very often are preceded by marked changes in animal behavior along with other well documented seismo-electromagnetic precursors. The many startling reports collated by Dr. Tributsch reveal a coherence across times, places and cultures, which simply cannot be dismissed scientifically as mere coincidence. Science begins with observation. Einstein himself said that if a credible observation ever differed from his theory of relativity, he would have to throw out his entire theory, and hold fast to that incontrovertible observation. Dr. John Vidale's dismissive review below would suggest that we do the opposite, throw out a wealth of observational data, simply because these data cannot be squared with his conventional mechanical seismology. Vidale is quite right that there is no evidence of substantial rock cracking before an earthquake. Therefore, seismology is a mechanical and statistical discipline and can offer no insight into these pre-earthquake changes. The new seismo-electromagnetic paradigm accepts that the Earth acts like a semiconductor and that these pre-earthquake changes ultimately are electronic in nature. There have been tremendous advances in the related discipline of seismo-electromagnetics since 1982 and these discoveries in solid solution chemistry, solid-state physics and quantum physics go a long way toward uncovering the causes and confirming the effects of these pre-earthquake changes upon animals. 34 years ago, no scientist

could do more than offer hypotheses. It is no shame to Tributsch that his working hypothesis of that time proved incorrect. It was a reasonable surmise given the evidence at hand! The suggestion that "few other scientists take his work seriously" is beyond laughable and more a reflection on the man staking that claim than on this book. Needless to say, MIT Press is solidly within the mainstream of responsible scientific publishing. Readers who would like to go further in this field after reading Tributsch would do well to search on the term "seismo-electromagnetics" and the work of Dr. Friedemann Freund at NASA Ames Research Center.

I stumbled on this book while I was a biology student 30 years ago, and it answered all my questions. In the ensuing years, I have become sensitive to magnetic (piezoelectric) fields similar to those described by Mr. Tributsch. I doubt I would feel a field as minute as the ones a fault puts out before an earthquake, but you never know. I can feel the field a CT scan puts out, and the technicians say they can't believe it - they've never heard of such a thing - they didn't even know it put out "a field." I tell them, "Give me a CT machine and let me take it home and I'll sleep so well you won't believe it." They shake their heads. "Only if you have \$50,000." I can also feel the charge of a dry wind when I ride my bicycle, so maybe I would be able to feel the seismic field. I actually wonder if feeling these fields is something primitive man could do naturally, and we've "domesticated" ourselves out of it. I believe reading this book was one step along the journey that led me to feeling magnetic fields. Beginning to work with magnets for pain relief was the second step. Doing aura work was the third. Perhaps each of us has the undeveloped capacity.

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