

# Contents

	<i>Acknowledgments</i>	vii
	Introduction	1
<b>1</b>	Catastrophism Versus Gradualism	9
<b>2</b>	Lyell's Laws	20
<b>3</b>	The Alvarez Hypothesis	29
<b>4</b>	Mass Extinctions	50
<b>5</b>	Kill Curves and Strangelove Oceans	60
<b>6</b>	Catastrophism and Natural Selection: Charles Darwin Versus Patrick Matthew	78
<b>7</b>	Impacts and Extinctions: Do They Match Up?	88
<b>8</b>	The Great Dying: The End-Permian Extinctions	105
<b>9</b>	Catastrophic Volcanic Eruptions and Extinctions	115

<b>10</b>	Ancient Glaciers or Impact-Related Deposits?	128
<b>11</b>	The Shiva Hypothesis: Comet Showers and the Galactic Carousel	136
<b>12</b>	Geological Upheavals and Dark Matter	150
	Epilogue: What Does It All Mean? A New Geology	158
	<i>Sources and Further Reading</i>	161
	<i>Index</i>	201