



Why Things Break: Understanding the World by the Way it Comes Apart

By Mark E. Eberhart

Random House USA Inc, United States, 2005. Paperback. Book Condition: New. Reprint. 213 x 132 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book. Did you know It took more than an iceberg to sink the Titanic. The Challenger disaster was predicted. Unbreakable glass dinnerware had its origin in railroad lanterns. A football team cannot lose momentum. Mercury thermometers are prohibited on airplanes for a crucial reason. Kryptonite bicycle locks are easily broken. Things fall apart is more than a poetic insight it is a fundamental property of the physical world. Why Things Break explores the fascinating question of what holds things together (for a while), what breaks them apart, and why the answers have a direct bearing on our everyday lives. When Mark Eberhart was growing up in the 1960s, he learned that splitting an atom leads to a terrible explosion which prompted him to worry that when he cut into a stick of butter, he would inadvertently unleash a nuclear cataclysm. Years later, as a chemistry professor, he remembered this childhood fear when he began to ponder the fact that we know more about how to split an atom than we do about how a pane of glass breaks. In...



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