

What if 320,000 gallons of beer is released into the city? What if you see a wave of molten chocolate coming towards you?

Stop imagining! Because these events have actually happened, and I am going to share these bizarre stories with you!

While history is filled with stories of natural disasters, there have been some unusual and fascinating floods that have been lost in the annals of time. They did not receive the coverage or attention they deserved.

So, let me tell you about these extraordinary events that happened not too long ago...

#4 The London Beer Flood (1814)

Let me take you to the heart of London in 1814 where the idea of free beer flooding the streets sounds like every ale lover's dream. But if that beer is part of a 15-meter high tide with a million liters of beer, no ale lover would love that sight.

Right in the middle of the St Giles Rookery, there was this Meux and Company's Horse Shoe Brewery. It was founded during King George III's reign. The place was no small-time operation; it used to produce over 100,000 barrels of that delicious, dark brew annually.

In 1810, they built a 22-foot wooden fermentation tank, which could hold 3,500 barrels worth of beer. It was basically a ticking time bomb since it was held together by iron rings.

On October 17, 1814, George Crick, who was the storehouse clerk noticed that a giant iron hoop had slipped off the tank. This wasn't new, though. It used to happen now and then. No big deal, right? Wrong.

Despite the nonchalance, a disaster was on its way.

Just after an hour and BAM! The tank exploded, and thrashed out hot, fermenting ale everywhere, smashing through walls, and setting off a domino effect of destruction.

Over 320,000 gallons of beer were released onto the streets, turning them into rivers of porter, sweeping away everything and everyone in its path.

But don't think of it as a merry free-for-all! It was total chaos. Buildings collapsed, people were trapped, and, tragically, eight lives were lost in the flood.

And whatever you are thinking, it happened as well! Yes, people desperately collected beer from the streets in any container possible. In fact, nine people died a few days later due to alcohol poisoning!

The worst thing that came out of this scenario is that the brewery faced no repercussions! The incident was declared an 'Act of God'.

But one thing did change: those risky wooden tanks were gradually replaced with lined concrete vats.

#3 The Boston Molasses Flood (1919)

Boston, 1919, might sound like the setting for a vintage American tale, but trust me, it is the place for one of the most mind-boggling disasters you have probably never heard of.

On Commercial Street in Boston's North End, there was a giant 50-foot tall steel tank that was filled with 2.3 million gallons of molasses. This sticky, sweet substance was all for alcohol and munitions, thanks to the wartime boom.

Now, on a typical January day, everything else was going normal in the North End... kids were playing, people were going about their day, and then - the disaster!

That massive tank couldn't bear the heat. It burst and sent a 15-foot-high tsunami of molasses barreling through the streets at 35 miles per hour. Yes, you heard that right: a molasses flood!

This wasn't an entertaining sight... It was deadly. Twenty-one people lost their lives, and over 150 were injured. The scene was apocalyptic: horses were stuck, buildings were demolished, and the neighborhood was coated in a thick, brown sludge.

The craziest thing was the aftermath. The community teamed up and put together a legal case that lasted five years against United States Industrial Alcohol.

Over 1,000 witnesses and 1,500 exhibits were involved in the hearings, and finally, after five long years, the verdict came out!

State auditor, Hugh W. Ogden pinned the blame squarely on United States Industrial Alcohol for their poor tank construction and neglect. They ended up paying over \$628,000 in damages, which is like 8 million bucks today.

So next time you think of Boston, remember it is not just about tea parties or baseball... It is also the site of one of the stickiest, most bizarre disasters in American history.

#2 The Brooklyn Chocolate Flood (1919)

You would think a river of chocolate is just present in Willy Wonka movies, right? But you cannot be more wrong because in 1919, just four months post the infamous Boston Molasses Flood, Brooklyn faced its own sweet disaster.

At that time, Brooklyn Rockwood & Company was one of the biggest chocolatiers in the world. They were only rivaled with Hershey's. This company had its massive factory on Park Ave. It was practically a chocolate fortress.

Then, on the quiet early morning of May 12, disaster struck.

A fire erupted in their shipping department, and as firefighters were putting out the flames, the heat melted raw cocoa and cocoa butter. It sent a gooey, chocolatey wave crashing through the streets, transforming Flushing Ave into a bizarre cocoa canal.

Let me paint you the picture. A sticky, foamy flood, with sugar and butter frothing at the top, was flooding through the streets. However, it seemed more like a nightmare than a dream, especially for the local sanitation department.

Kids, though, had a different take! Little ones were scooping up this unexpected treat right off the streets! They were living the fantasy, of course!

Damage-wise, it was significant but not catastrophic. There was around \$75,000 worth of damage to the building and one firefighter was injured. No, it didn't match the beer or molasses calamities in scale, but for those Brooklyn kids, it was an unforgettable day.

#1 The Russian Juice Flood (2017)

Believe it or not, the Don River in Russia got a taste of the unexpected in 2017. It faced a massive juice flood!

Yeah, you heard it right: on April 25th, a PepsiCo warehouse roof collapsed and flooded out a fruity wave of 176,000 barrels of fruit and veggie juices.

Streets were washed out not with water, but with rivers of orange, tomato, and apple juice. The whole town was covered in vibrant, sticky hues.

Now, despite the sticky situation, the damage was surprisingly light. Fortunately, there were just two minor injuries. Maybe it was the bizarre sight of a juice-drenched landscape that kept spirits high, or the sheer oddity of it all that made everyone chuckle at the mess.

Environmentalists were concerned about the potential impact on the Don River's ecosystem. But tests revealed that there was no harm done and the ecosystem was safe.

PepsiCo owned up to their mistake and apologized for the mishap. They promised to cover the cleanup costs while ensuring such a fruity flood would not happen again.

As things settled back to normal in Lebedyan, locals were left to muse over the surreal experience. A river of juice? It is the kind of thing that legends are made of!

So next time you sip on your morning juice, remember the day the Don River turned into a flood of smoothies!

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That was all for today's video! Do you happen to know about any other bizarre events that happened in history? Share with us in the comments below!

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Thanks for watching... I will see you in the next video!

Goodbye!

