CRISIS IN THE HOT ZONE - The New Yorker Oct 22, 2014. As an infectious disease epidemiologist and a science communicator in the midst of the biggest Ebola outbreak in history, The Hot Zone is one of the most important books on the topic. It is the story of the outbreak of Ebola appearing in a lab in Washington D.C. Now it's back in The Hot Zone USA. This edition is packed with new material and analysis, quotes, character descriptions, themes, and more. How The Hot Zone created the climate that made possible the Ebola outbreak of 2014.