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Opening extract from

Dinosaur Cove: Attack of the Lizard King

Written by

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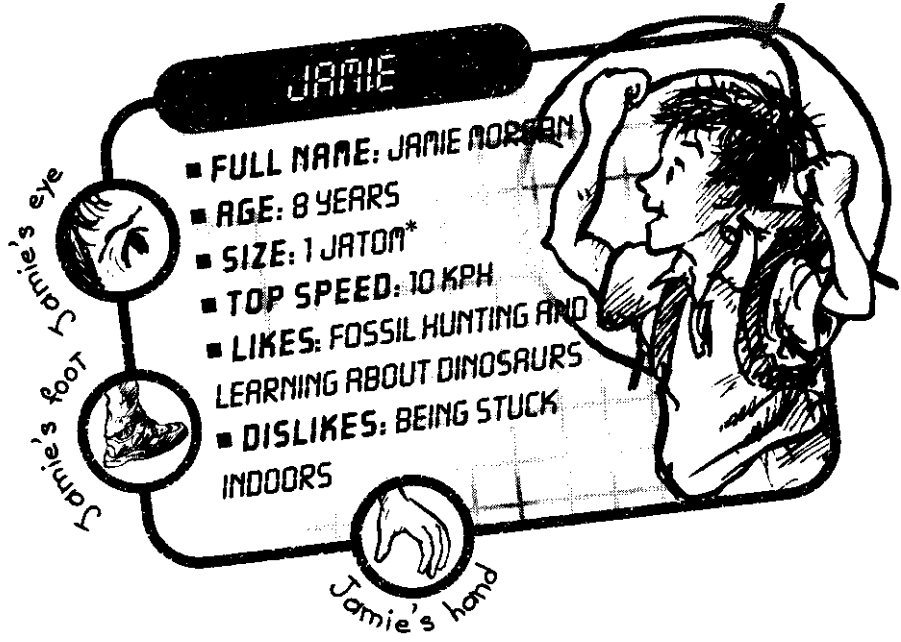
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FACT FILE

JAMIE HAS JUST MOVED FROM THE CITY TO LIVE IN THE LIGHTHOUSE IN DINOSAUR COVE. JAMIE'S DAD IS OPENING A DINOSAUR MUSEUM ON THE BOTTOM FLOOR OF THE LIGHTHOUSE. WHEN JAMIE GOES HUNTING FOR FOSSILS IN THE CRUMBLING CLIFFS ON THE BEACH HE MEETS A LOCAL BOY, TOM, AND THE TWO DISCOVER AN AMAZING SECRET: A WORLD WITH REAL, LIVE DINOSAURS! SOME DINOSAURS TURN OUT TO BE FRIENDLY, BUT OTHERS ARE FEROCIOUS AND... HUNGRY!



*NOTE: A JATOM IS THE SIZE OF JAMIE OR TOM: 125 CM TALL AND 27 KG IN WEIGHT

TOM

- FULL NAME: THOMAS CLAY
- AGE: 8 YEARS
- SIZE: 1 JATOM*
- TOP SPEED: 10 KPH
- LIKES: TRACKING ANIMALS AND EXPLORING WILDLIFE
- DISLIKES: RAINY DAYS

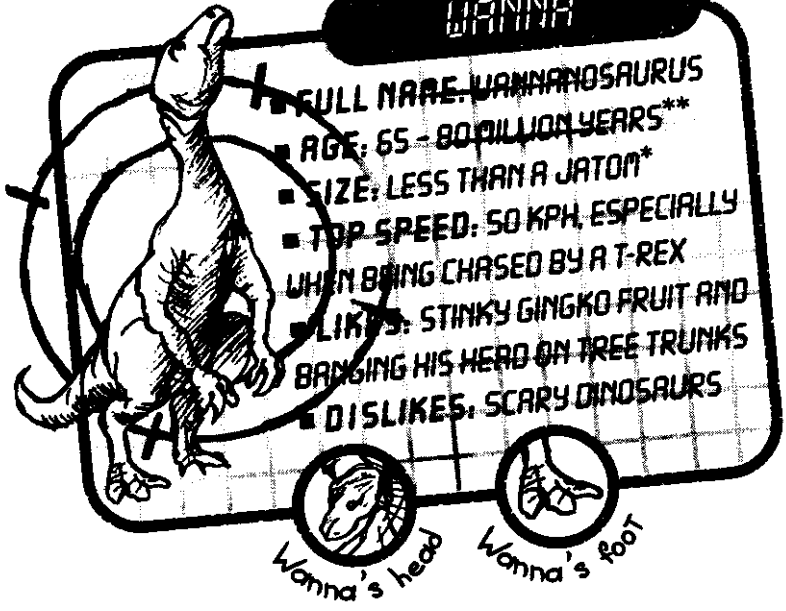


Tom's eye

Tom's hand

WANNA

- FULL NAME: WANNANOSAURUS
- AGE: 65 - 80 MILLION YEARS**
- SIZE: LESS THAN A JATOM*
- TOP SPEED: 50 KPH, ESPECIALLY WHEN BEING CHASED BY A T-REX
- LIKES: STINKY GINGKO FRUIT AND BANGING HIS HEAD ON TREE TRUNKS
- DISLIKES: SCARY DINOSAURS



Wanna's head

Wanna's foot

*NOTE: A JATOM IS THE SIZE OF JANE OR TOM: 125 CM TALL AND 27 KG IN WEIGHT

**NOTE: SCIENTISTS CALL THIS PERIOD THE LATE CRETACEOUS

T-REX



T-Rex's claw

T-Rex's eye

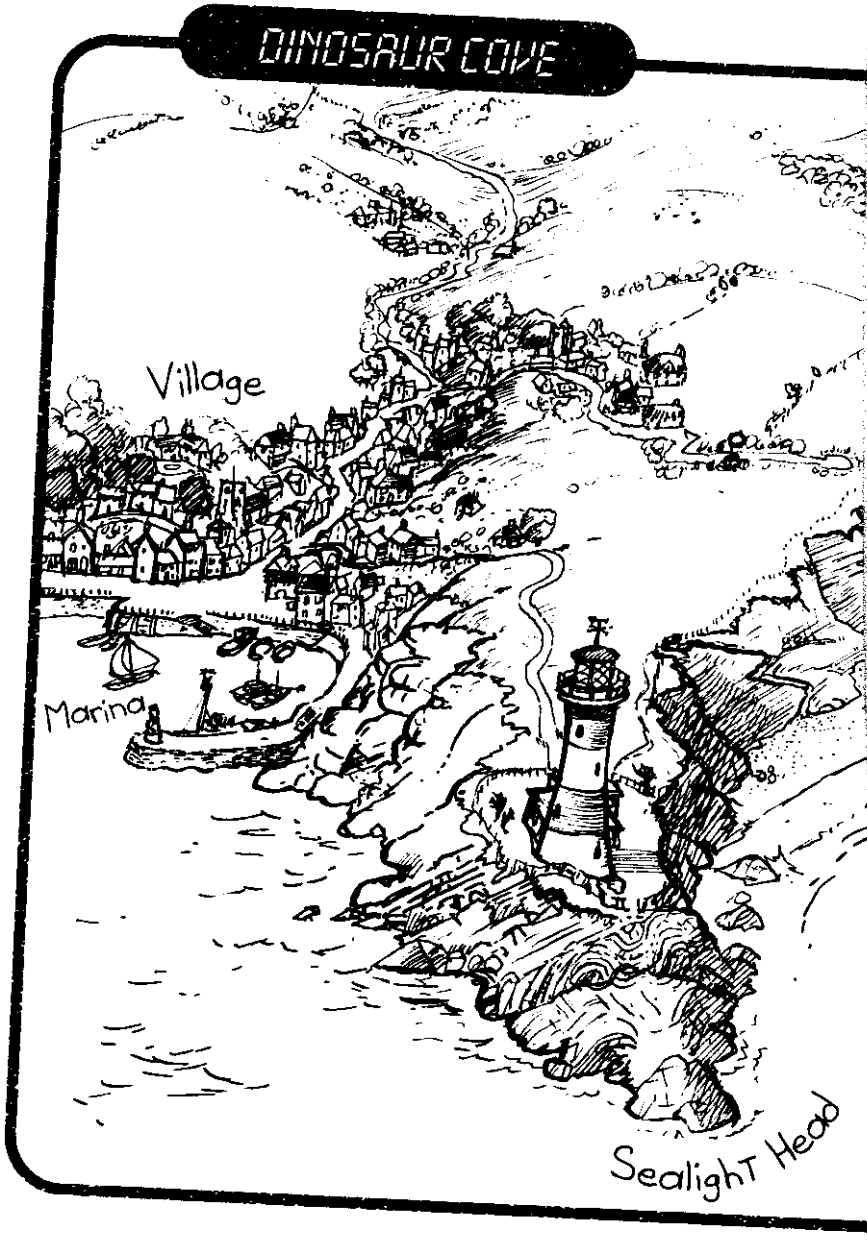
T-Rex's Teeth

T-Rex's tail

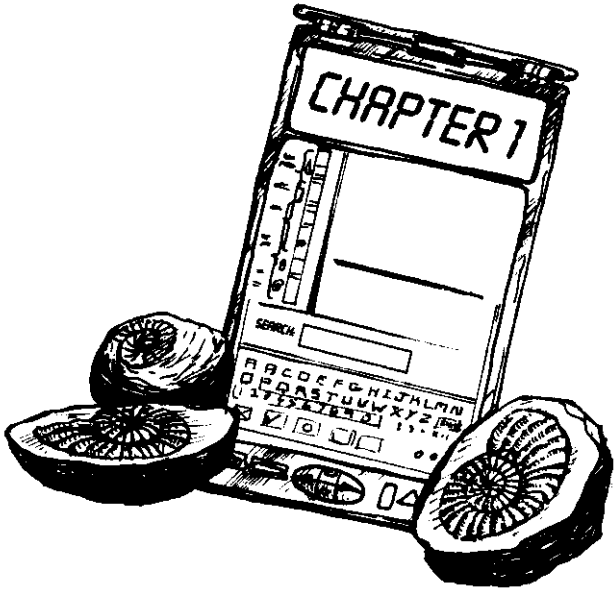
- **FULL NAME:** TYRANNOSAURUS REX
- **AGE:** 65 - 80 MILLION YEARS**
- **HEIGHT:** 5 JATOMS*
- **LENGTH:** 10 JATOMS*
- **WEIGHT:** 200 JATOMS*
- **TOP SPEED:** 48 KPH
- **LIKES:** FRESH FLESH AND CRUNCHING BONES
- **DISLIKES:** CHEWY GREEN LEAVES AND OTHER T-REX

*NOTE: A JATOM IS THE SIZE OF JANIE OR TOM: 125 CM TALL AND 27 KG IN WEIGHT

**NOTE: SCIENTISTS CALL THIS PERIOD THE LATE CRETACEOUS


DINOSAUR COVE
Village
Marina
Sealight Head


Landslips where clay and fossils are
Muddy beach
DINO CAVE
igh Tide beach line
Low Tide beach line
Sea
Smuggler's Point



'Dinosaur Cove!' Jamie ran to the cliff edge and looked down over the fence. 'This has got to be the best place on earth to find dinosaurs!'

His grandad's eyes twinkled. 'They're down there in the rocks, that's for sure. Why don't you go and have a look?'

'Fossils, here I come!' Jamie said. 'See you later, Grandad.'

Jamie scrambled down the rocky path from the old lighthouse onto the sand. He turned away from the sea and ran straight up the



beach, over pebbles and rocks, to the sludgy black mud nearest the foot of the cliff.

That was the place to find fossils.

Jamie kept his eyes fixed on the muddy rocks and every so often he bent down to pick one up. They were crumbly and broke apart in his fingers, but none of them had a fossil inside. *Maybe I should try a bigger rock*, he thought.

He spotted a large blue-grey rock with a crack down the middle and dumped his backpack on the mud beside it. He dug out his safety goggles and his fossil hammer and chisel. Then he set to work, angling the chisel





into the crack and tapping it with his hammer. He tapped again. He tapped harder.

A stone chip pinged off Jamie's goggles as the rock split cleanly in two.

'Treasure!' Jamie said.

Sticking out of one half of the rock was a black spiral fossil with shiny gold ridges. He looked at it closely. It was about the length of his finger. But when he tried to pick it out, it was stuck fast in the rock.

The Fossil Finder will tell me what it is, Jamie thought. He fished in his backpack and took

out his favourite new gadget—a hand-held computer. He flipped the lid and the screen glowed with a picture of a fossilized dinosaur footprint, then the words: *'HAPPY HUNTING!'*

At the bottom of the screen, a cursor blinked. Jamie tapped *'FOSSIL SHELL'* on the small keypad, looked again at his fossil, and typed what it looked like: *'COILED ROPE'*. Then he pressed *'FIND'* and stared at the screen. A picture popped up. It looked just like the fossil in the blue-grey rock.

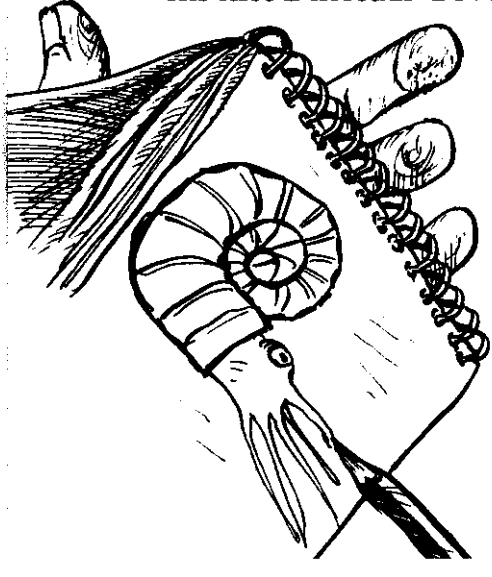


'AMMONITE,' Jamie read. *'A FOSSIL SHELL FROM A PREHISTORIC SEA CREATURE, COMMON IN ROCKS FROM DINOSAUR TIMES; CAN BE FORMED OF FOOLS GOLD.'*

He flipped the lid shut.

'Well,' Jamie said to his discovery, 'I don't care that you're common, or that you're not real gold. You come from dinosaur times, and I'm the first person ever to see you. So you're still treasure to me!'

He pulled his goggles off, took out his new T-Rex notebook and began to sketch his first Dinosaur Cove discovery.



He added in the squid-like tentacles and big eye that the creature would have had when it was alive.

Suddenly, an unfamiliar voice shouted,

'BOO!'

A freckly face popped up from behind the rock. 'Gotcha! You didn't hear me coming, did you?' The boy stood up. His T-shirt and safari shorts were plastered in mud. 'Is that the new Fossil Finder?'

Jamie smiled and patted the lid. 'Latest software and everything.'



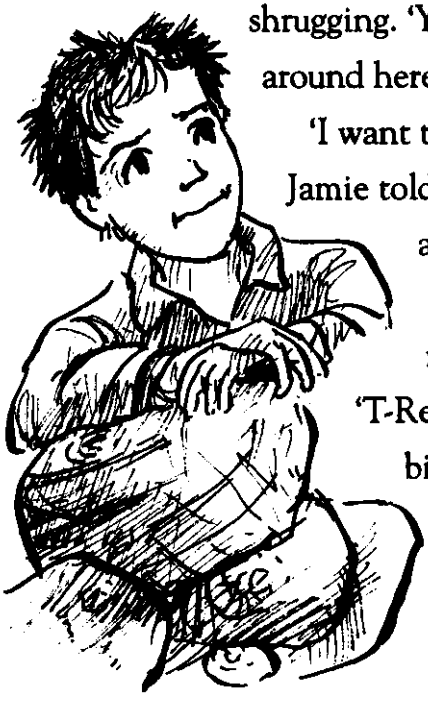
The boy pushed his curly red hair behind his sticky-out ears. 'I'm Tom Clay,' he said. 'I'm learning to track animals and I'm going to be a wildlife presenter on TV one day. Who are you?'

'Jamie Morgan,' said Jamie, 'I want to be a scientist.'

'You're new, aren't you?' Tom said.

Jamie nodded. 'I just moved here. Look! I found an ammonite.'

'Oh, ammonites,' said Tom, shrugging. 'You'll find loads of those around here.'



'I want to find a dinosaur bone,' Jamie told him. 'Dinosaurs are awesome!'

Tom looked at Jamie's notebook and laughed. 'T-Rex rules!' He put his binoculars to his eyes.



'Sometimes I pretend I'm tracking dinosaurs . . . ' His binoculars flashed in the sunshine as he turned them on Jamie.

Tom grinned. 'Hey, do you want to know a secret about Dinosaur Cove?'

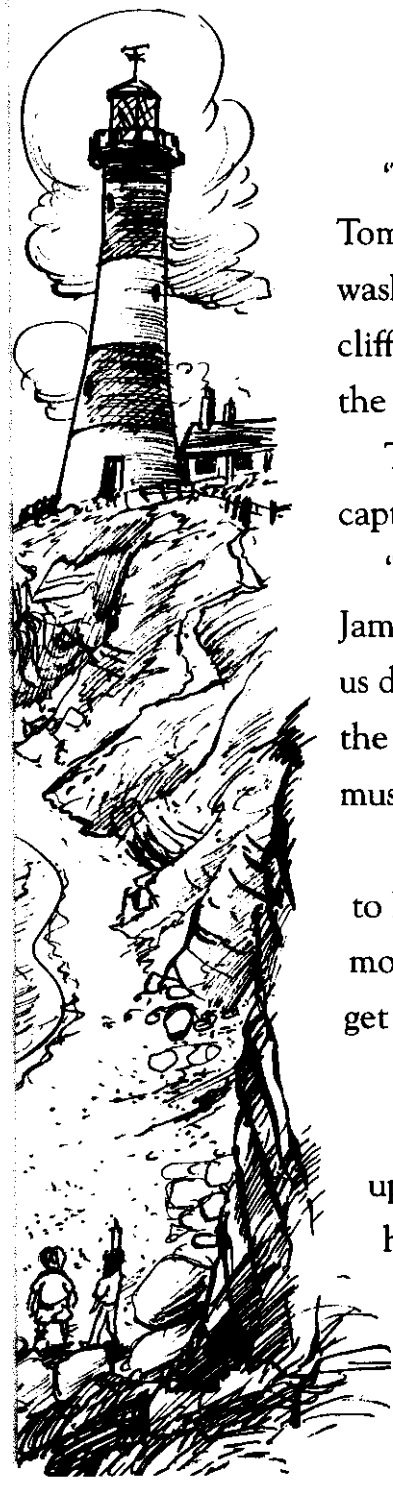
'You bet!' said Jamie.

'Then follow me. We have to be quick!' Tom set off across the beach.

Jamie stuffed his fossil-hunting gear into his backpack and ran after his new friend. 'Why are we hurrying?' Jamie asked.

'The path up the cliff gets cut off at high tide,' Tom said. 'So we'll have to get back before then.'

Tom led Jamie onto a narrow path up a cliff and at the highest point on the path, Jamie stopped to look at the view. He could see Grandad fishing down on the beach.



'That's my house,' Jamie told Tom, pointing to the tall white-washed tower at the top of the cliffs on the opposite side of the beach.

Tom looked surprised. 'The captain's lighthouse?'

'The captain is my grandad,' Jamie explained. 'My dad moved us down here and he's turning the bottom floor into a dinosaur museum.'

'Cool!' said Tom. He turned to look at the huge pile of mossy boulders. 'We've got to get up there.'

'I love climbing!' Jamie said.

Together the boys clambered up the boulders. Once Jamie had hauled himself onto the

huge stone at the top he asked, 'So, where's the big secret?'

'Right behind you,' Tom told him.

Jamie spun round. Behind the boulder and hidden from the bay was the gaping mouth of a cave.

'A secret cave!' Jamie gasped.

