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Opening extract from

Dinosaur Cove: The Cretaceous Chase

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For Alex Dingwall, age 7, who loves Dinosaur Cove!

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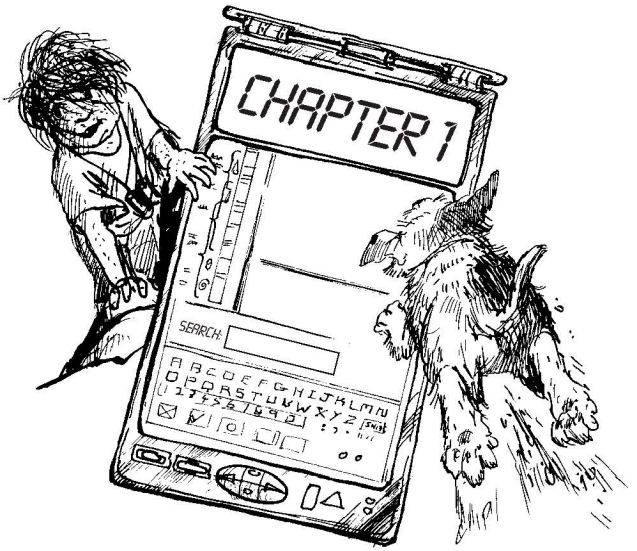
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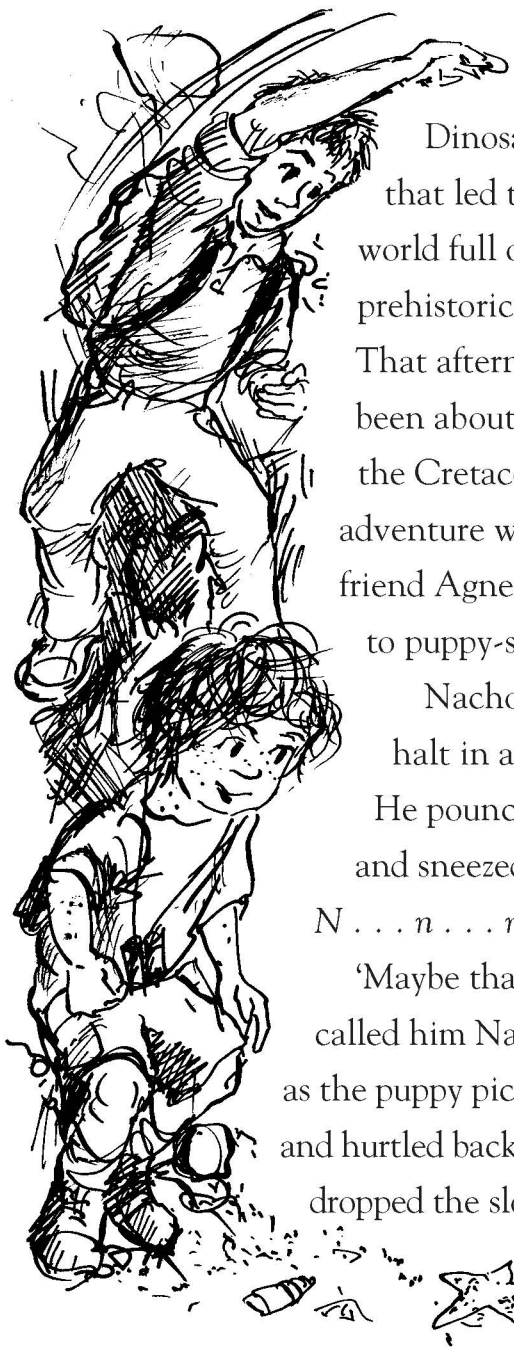


'Nacho, fetch!' Jamie Morgan yelled, pitching a tennis ball along the sandy beach of Dinosaur Cove.

The shaggy Old English sheepdog puppy yapped joyfully as he raced after it.

'Nacho's faster than a speeding dino!' Tom Clay declared.

Tom and Jamie grinned at each other. The two friends knew just how speedy dinosaurs could be—because they'd been chased by real live ones! They'd discovered a secret cave in



Dinosaur Cove that led to an amazing world full of awesome prehistoric creatures. That afternoon, they'd been about to go back to the Cretaceous for another adventure when Grandad's friend Agnes had asked them to puppy-sit.

Nacho skidded to a halt in a shower of sand. He pounced on the ball and sneezed.

N . . . n . . . nach-oh!

'Maybe that's why Agnes called him Nacho,' Jamie joked as the puppy picked up the ball and hurtled back to them. He dropped the slobbery, sandy ball

at Jamie's feet and gazed at him with his head cocked to one side.

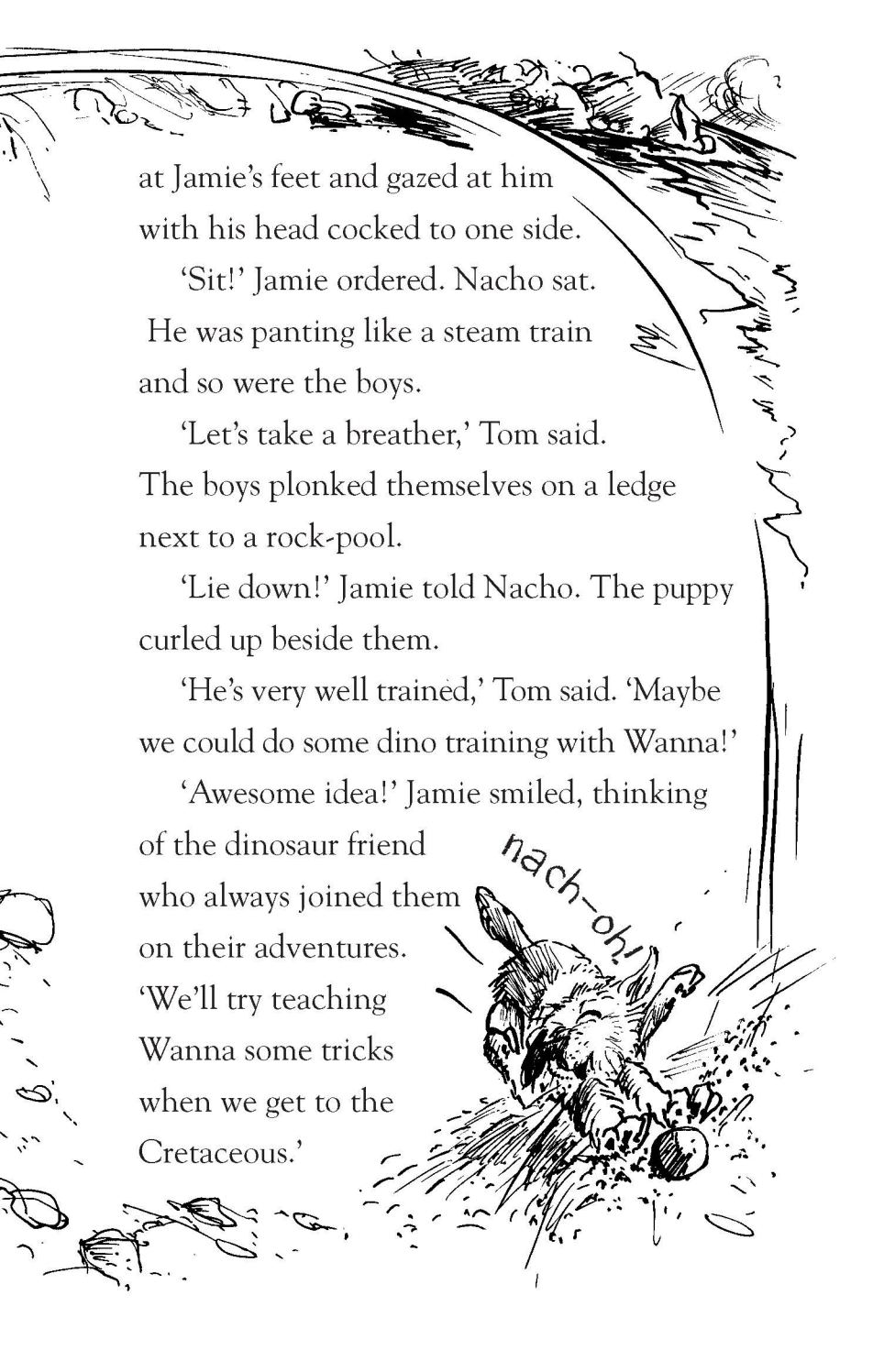
'Sit!' Jamie ordered. Nacho sat. He was panting like a steam train and so were the boys.

'Let's take a breather,' Tom said. The boys plonked themselves on a ledge next to a rock-pool.

'Lie down!' Jamie told Nacho. The puppy curled up beside them.

'He's very well trained,' Tom said. 'Maybe we could do some dino training with Wanna!'

'Awesome idea!' Jamie smiled, thinking of the dinosaur friend who always joined them on their adventures. 'We'll try teaching Wanna some tricks when we get to the Cretaceous.'



Jamie took his notebook out of his backpack and opened it at the page where they'd drawn their map of Cretaceous Dino World.

'Where shall we explore this time?' Tom asked excitedly. 'Fang Rock or Misty Lagoon?'

Out of the corner of his eye, Jamie spotted a sudden movement at the base of the cliffs. Nacho's ears pricked up and he sprang to his feet—landing in the rock-pool.



He bounded through it, sploshing water all over the boys, and took off towards the cliffs.

'Nacho's chasing a rabbit!' Jamie exclaimed, stowing the notebook in his backpack and jumping up.

The boys set off after him. 'Nacho!' Tom shouted at the top of his lungs. 'Come back!'

But the puppy carried on speeding after the rabbit as it zigzagged up the steep cliffside.

