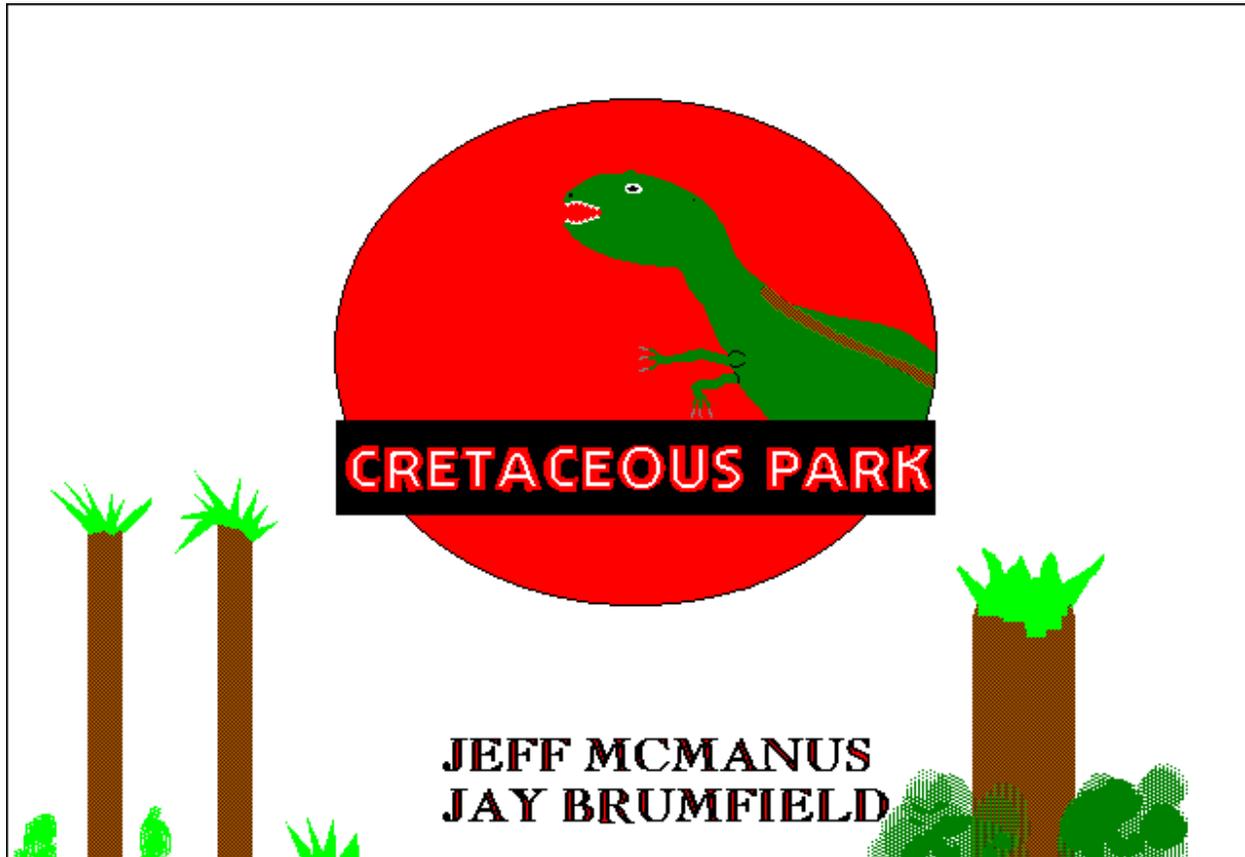


The Annotated



Annotations by Jeff McManus

FOREWORD

On June 11, 1993, the movie Jurassic Park hit theaters and revolutionized blockbuster motion pictures to perhaps a greater extent than any other movie besides the original Star Wars and Steven Spielberg's own Jaws. Nine days after the movie's release, I turned ten years old. Not unusually for a child of that age, I loved dinosaurs. I was totally caught up in the (much deserved) hype around the movie. My parents were a little on the overprotective side, and at first they weren't sure whether they would let me see the movie. As I recall, it was around six months after the release date when I finally got to have that experience (yes, it was in a movie theater; movies had much longer theatrical runs in those days). That wait didn't stop me from being JP-crazy. Amusingly, that summer when I was at a bookstore thinking about buying the junior novelization of the movie, my dad suggested I could get the real book, Michael Crichton's novel on which Spielberg's film was based, instead. I did so, and thus I read (and re-read) the far more violent and gory book before I ever saw the comparatively tame movie.

My best friend at the time, Jay, was also crazy about dinosaurs. That fall we started the fifth grade together. We decided that we would like to create our own sequel to Jurassic Park, and we proceeded to do just that. Through much of that school year, we visited each other's houses, taking back and forth a 3.5" floppy disk containing an ever-growing document and working on it together on each of our two family's computers. That document was a story called Cretaceous Park. Clever children that we were, we picked the name Cretaceous Park because the Cretaceous Period was the period that followed the Jurassic Period in the Mesozoic Era during which dinosaurs lived. Thus it was only logical as a name for the sequel.

We strived to create our own original story that followed on where Jurassic Park left off. Perhaps not surprisingly, we did not really manage to do this, the "original story" part, that is. The premise of our story was that John Hammond, the creator of Jurassic Park, decided to make another dinosaur park despite the spectacular failure of his first, and that he once more invited Drs. Alan Grant and Ellie Sattler and his grandchildren Tim and Lex Murphy to tour his new park. From there, things go in a strikingly similar way to the original story. The overall plot and most of the big moments in the story are a nearly note-for-note copy of Jurassic Park. Hey, we were only in fifth grade.

Revisiting the story as an adult is, for me at least, a very entertaining experience. And I know that I'm not the only person to find it entertaining – in August 2006 I shared the story with my, at the time, new best friend Cara, and she thought it was absolutely hilarious. I actually read the whole book aloud to her during our trip to Washington, D.C. (she had to do all the driving because I had just broken my arm). Looking back, it was a great bonding experience for the two of us. But anyway, despite the unoriginal nature of most of the plot elements, I believe there is a great deal of entertainment value in this story, for several reasons. More than anything, it's just funny. That's because a lot of the things that happen and lines that people speak are really silly-sounding when viewed from an adult perspective. It's also an interesting insight into how children's minds work.

Children's minds are similar to adults' in many ways but are also very different in many ways, and this story provides something of a demonstration of that concept. What's more, despite all the silliness, this story was quite an accomplishment for a pair of fifth graders. It's over 14,000 words in length, 33 pages of single-spaced 12 point Arial font, and the quality of the writing? Well, for fifth graders, I think it's pretty good. (One thing that's striking to me is that the writing toward the end of the story, although still certainly far from "good" by adult standards, is noticeably better than the writing toward the beginning of the story.) Plus, there are a few ideas we came up with that were genuinely clever and not just copies of the original story.

Inspired by the release of the latest blockbuster movie in the series, this summer I re-read my old, tattered copy of Crichton's novel for the first time in many years, and then proceeded to re-read the sequel that Jay and I wrote so many years ago. And then a thought came to me – it would be fun to go through the story and make detailed annotations (in the form of footnotes) of all the reactions that I, as an adult, have to this story that my friend and I wrote when we were kids. Many of the annotations are things that Cara and I talked and laughed about back in 2006, and I also go into a lot of detail about what went into the making of this story and how it relates to the Jurassic Park film and novel.

Jay and I were very proud of Cretaceous Park. Reading the story as an adult, it's silly, it's hokey, it's a blatant ripoff of its predecessor – but despite all that, I think our feeling of pride was well-earned. So now, I'd be honored if you'd join me on a journey to the past – a journey back to 1993.

Jeff McManus, August 2015

1. LIZARD ATTACK

One hot, humid, rainy night in New Guinea a dark shadow crept into a house. It let out a screech and attacked a sleeping woman. Then the lights came on, and her husband grabbed a shotgun and fired away. But his wife was dead. Then he called the police. When they got to the house they looked at it¹ with surprise. It looked like a ten foot long lizard with huge claws. It was light brown with a little green here and there. But its back legs were much longer than its front.

They sent it to the New Guinea Science Institution. The scientists were puzzled. Then one day Dr. Eaton came in and said, "That looks strangely like a dinosaur. But I can't figure out what kind. I know a paleontologist working in Montana. I'll mail it to him."

Meanwhile, in the badlands of Montana, Dr. Alan Grant was excavating an Albertosaurus, a large carnivore that lived in the area during the Cretaceous period. Dr. Ellie Grant² was looking at a big package that was addressed to Alan. "Alan," she called.

"Just a moment," he called. "Yes?" he said, stepping into the trailer.

"This package is for you," said Ellie.

"Hmm, it's awfully big," said Alan as he opened it. "What the!" he said. "This looks strangely like a velociraptor, but it's bigger. Must be a deinonychus.³ Well don't tell me Hammond's at it again!" he almost shouted.

"Oh no!" Ellie said. "Hmm, it's from New Guinea. Wait a minute! Don't you think that would be an ideal environment for dinosaurs?"⁴

They identified it as a deinonychus and sent back the information.

1 Right here in the first paragraph is, to me, one of the funniest parts of the story. We clearly intended the pronoun "it" to represent the dinosaur that attacked the sleeping woman. However, just as clearly, the antecedent of the pronoun "it" as the text is written is "the house." Throughout the rest of the first paragraph, and even the second paragraph, every time the word "it" appears one can imagine that "it" means "the house."

2 In this continuity, Ellie Sattler married Alan Grant in between *Jurassic Park* and our sequel. The film *Jurassic Park* and Michael Crichton's novel had some major differences, and we followed the film on some points and the novel on some others. For instance, Ellie and Alan were romantically involved in the film but not in the novel. (Strangely, in Crichton's novel, despite being "Dr. Sattler," Ellie is also described by Alan as still being in school and as being his student. I guess she went back to school for another degree after getting her Ph.D.? Or more likely Crichton didn't understand the difference between grad students and post-docs.)

3 The deinonychus was a larger relative to the velociraptors that *Jurassic Park* made famous. In reality, velociraptors were smaller than those portrayed in the movie. The velociraptors of the movie were more like the deinonychuses of reality. We didn't want our sequel to be a total rehash of the original, of course – so we replaced the main villain dinosaurs with another species that was functionally identical! And we did the same thing for the T-rex, replacing it with another large carnivore, allosaurus. Oh, and also, the concept of mailing the complete carcass of a ten foot long dinosaur from New Guinea to Montana is pretty amazing. This is similar to something that happens in Crichton's novel, but there, Dr. Grant is sent a fax of an X-ray of a dinosaur specimen that was found in Costa Rica.

4 Cue ominous music.

2. CRETACEOUS PARK

Next morning at 8:30 the phone rang. Alan answered. “Hello,” the voice said. Hmm, thought Alan. That voice sounds familiar.

The voice said, “I’ve made another one of my biological parks, and I would like you to come check it out.”

“So it’s YOU, Hammond. And we’ve kind of figured out that you made another park. YOU’RE CRAZY!!” Alan shouted into the phone.

“Well I’ve taken extra safety precautions, and it’s not as dangerous this time. And, I’ve named it Cretaceous Park. I figured calling it Jurassic Park would bring bad luck,” said Hammond.⁵

“Oh, fine, we’ll check it out. But I still think you’re crazy.” said Alan.⁶

“My plane will come at 5:00 this afternoon.”

At 5:00 the plane landed next to the camp.⁷ Alan and Ellie stepped into the plane. “Hello,” said Hammond⁸, a man in his late 70s.⁹ “Glad to see you again.”

“Yes,” said Ellie “But are you sure this park is as safe as you say it is?”

5 Seems reasonable.

6 Wow, you would think it would at least take a little more convincing after what happened last time. (Okay, you would more likely think that there’s no possible way the Grants would agree to visit another dinosaur park, but the rapid convincing seems exceptionally lazy.)

7 I guess the Grants got a runway installed next to their dig site? (In the *Jurassic Park* film Hammond landed at their site in a helicopter; in the book he did not come to the site in person and they drove to an airport to meet him.)

8 There is something I find interesting here in how characters are referred to by their first or last names. Notice how John Hammond is “Hammond,” whereas the Grants are “Alan” and “Ellie.” In Crichton’s novel, the kids Tim and Lex Murphy are typically referred to by their first names alone. All the adult male characters are typically referred to by their last names alone. But all the adult female characters (Dr. Ellie Sattler being the only major one, but there are a few others as well) are typically referred to by their *first* names, like the kids. I have noticed the same convention (male characters referred to by their last names, female characters by their first names) in some other books I’ve read. This strikes me as rather strange and vaguely sexist. In our book, however, we did not follow this male vs. female convention. The kids are referred to by their first names, but both Ellie *and* Alan Grant get first name status, while all the other adults, including the vet Christine Jackson, get last name referrals. Why did Dr. Grant go from “Grant” in Crichton’s text to “Alan” in ours? Perhaps it was simply because, with Alan and Ellie married, we had two characters named Grant.

9 Keep this in mind throughout this story: Hammond is “a man in his late 70s.” Obviously, as fifth graders, our characterizations weren’t on the same level as a professional author’s, but with Tim and Lex, and Alan and Ellie, you can at least see how we were trying to portray the same characters from *Jurassic Park*. With Hammond, on the other hand, I’m somewhat startled by how the guy in this story bears absolutely no resemblance whatsoever to the Hammond from either the book or movie of *Jurassic Park*. One example is that our Hammond knows a lot more about the various dinosaurs and the workings of the park than the original Hammond ever did. With the things that Hammond says and does in *Cretaceous Park* it almost seems like we couldn’t even conceptualize writing an elderly person.

"I wouldn't make it if it weren't safe," said Hammond.¹⁰

"I hope you're right," said Alan, as the plane roared into the sky.

The other passengers were Tim and Alexis Murphy. Tim was 14 and Lex was 10. They were Hammond's grandkids. The final passenger was Todd Smith, a lawyer.¹¹

After 13 and a half hours they stopped in Honolulu, Hawaii to refuel. Then it was 9 hours to Port Moresby, New Guinea¹², where they got off. Then they took a chopper to Indo Nublar, a small uninhabited island in Indonesia.¹³ As they landed, they saw a herd of mononykuses running across a field. They looked like normal dinosaurs, except they had feathers. "Wow!" said Alan excitedly. "That proves my theory that dinosaurs evolved into birds."¹⁴

But Todd Smith was not so happy. He said worriedly, "Are you sure this place is safe? I don't like the idea of gigantic lizard beasts walking all over the place. What were those guys we saw anyway? They look like bird lizards and they're tiny. Since when can dinosaurs run so fast? Are you sure you didn't screw up?"¹⁵

"Yes, I'm sure," said Hammond. "Not all dinosaurs are huge, and they certainly aren't slow and stupid, unless the dinosaur is Barney."¹⁶

They got into two jeeps, one with Alan, Ellie, and Hammond and the other with Smith, Tim, and Lex.

"There better not be any tyrannosaurs," said Lex. "Remember what happened last time, Timmy?"

10 Oh, okay! I'm glad you cleared that up!

11 One aspect of book, rather than movie, continuity we followed was that Tim was the older of the two Murphy children. On the other hand, Hammond being alive after the events of *Jurassic Park* was only true in the film, not the novel. This was also the case for Ian Malcolm, or at least heavily implied to be the case, although Crichton decided to bring Malcolm back anyway for his book sequel. For whatever reason, we did not bring Malcolm back, nor did we attempt to have a Malcolm-like character. We did have a lawyer join the group, as in *Jurassic Park*, where the lawyer Donald Gennaro is visiting the park as a representative of some major investors. We didn't explain the reason for lawyer Todd Smith's presence; our thought process seems to have been, "There was a lawyer in *Jurassic Park* so we should have a lawyer too."

12 The geography nerd in me must point out that New Guinea is an island, and part of that island is the country Papua New Guinea, of which Port Moresby is the capital. The fact that we used the real name of the capital city but not the full country name is a little curious to me.

13 In *Jurassic Park* the island was called Isla Nublar which is, roughly speaking, Spanish for "cloudy island" (well, technically "nublar" is a verb meaning "to obscure" or "to cloud" so it's a little weird to use that form of the word, but bear with me...). We thought, since it was in Indonesia, it would make sense to just replace the Isla part with Indo! Cute, huh?

14 The mononykus was a dinosaur that was big in the news around this time because it was discovered to have feathers. We were very interested in the idea, now widely accepted, that modern-day birds are descendants of a line of dinosaurs. Obviously, our understanding of what would be considered "proof" for a scientific theory was a little lacking...

15 Man, we really wrote the lawyer Todd Smith as a complete buffoon. This is just the beginning. The lawyer in *Jurassic Park*, Donald Gennaro, was ignominiously killed by a T-rex while sitting on a toilet in the movie version, but was portrayed as more competent in the book and even made it out alive in the end. We, though, *really* had it in for our lawyer character.

16 Yeah, that's right, a man in his late 70s just laid down an absolutely sick burn on Barney the dinosaur. We despised Barney, naturally, as most kids older than about six did at that time, with the whole "us being dinosaur fanatics" thing only adding to our hatred. This isn't the only reference to Barney in the story.

“Yep,” said Tim “Of course. How could I forget?”

3. DODGSON

The Honolulu airport was not very crowded. Joe Rogers was waiting worriedly for Lewis Dodgson, because Rogers's flight to Port Moresby was scheduled for 5:25, and it was 5:15 now.¹⁷ Finally he showed up. Rogers said, “You got the money?”

Dodgson said, “ Yeah, sure, whaddya think? See, here's 2 million in cash you'll get for the DNA samples. You can carry them in this here Coke can.¹⁸ It has a secret compartment in the bottom.

Rogers examined the secret compartment and then said, “ Gotta go.” His flight left in 3 minutes.

Dodgson yelled, “ Meet the boat at 9:15 PM tomorrow!”¹⁹

4. VISITOR CENTER

Driving along a road on a field the people at Indo Nublar watched for dinosaurs. “Look, Look,” yelled Lex. Ahead were three dark blue ultrasaurs. The ultrasaurs' necks lifted high above the tree tops.

“Wow,” said Alan “Ultrasaurs.”²⁰

“They're-re, uh,” Smith said.

“Plant eaters.” said Hammond. “You can get out if you want to.”

“That's OK.” said Smith.

“Sure,” said Alan. Tim, Ellie and Lex agreed. Hammond also got out. The ultrasaurs had a pleasant expression on there²¹ faces.

“Look,” said Lex. “He's happy.”

Suddenly the ground shook “Oh no!” said Lex “Not him again!” Out from behind a clump of trees came another ultrasaur. “Whew!” said Lex. “Hi, Mr. Dino.”

Then they went back to the jeeps and drove to the visitor center.

17 With 10 minutes left before the departure of a flight, two characters, one of them taking said flight and the other one not taking it, are having a meeting in the airport? Ah, those halcyon pre-9/11 days.

18 The manner of speaking we gave Lewis Dodgson, one of the higher ups at a rival biotechnology firm to Hammond's (and the same guy who hired computer programmer Dennis Nedry to steal embryos in *Jurassic Park*), is amazing. I guess we thought he's a criminal and that's how criminals talk?

19 It's amusing how perfunctorily we went through certain parts of the setup, this scene most of all.

20 There are a whopping 12 different instances of someone saying “Wow” in this book in reaction to something they see. All 12 are in the first half of the book... before things go wrong.

21 All typographical, spelling, and grammar issues are retained from the original text. One mistake we repeatedly made was using “there” for “their.”

At the visitor center they were greeted by James Brown, the game warden.²² Before entering the visitor center they looked at the lodge. There was a swimming pool with ferns by it, but fortunately they weren't poisonous this time.²³

The visitor center was a white building with palm trees around it. There was a sign that said Welcome to Cretaceous Park in red letters. Next to the visitor center there was a helicopter pad. Hammond said, "That's the emergency copter pad."

The game warden said, "Nice, isn't it?"

They went inside. "No raptors, I hope." said Ellie.

"No," said Hammond. "But we do have-

"I know," Ellie interrupted.

"And no tyrannosaurs," said Lex.

As they continued through the visitor center, they saw an ultrasaur skeleton. There was a man looking at it. "Boy, it sure is big," he said.

His name was Justin Ages. He was the park's doctor.

Lex said, "Wow! That looks like those nice dinosaurs we saw."

"Maybe that's because it's the skeleton of one," said Tim²⁴, who was very interested in dinosaurs.

Hammond said, "The park is extremely safe, so don't worry. All the fences around the dinosaur's padlocks²⁵ are electrified."

Todd Smith said, "What if the electricity goes off?"

"Don't worry," said Hammond. "There are stun guns in every shed in the park, we have semi-automatics stored in an underground shelter, and every park employee carries tranquilizers each time they go into the park.

They went upstairs as Hammond said, "I am quite sure you'd enjoy seeing our control room."

"Not really," muttered Alan.

"Say what?" said Hammond.²⁶

"Nothing," said Alan. "Do I have to look at these dumb computers?" he whispered to Ellie.

"You can stand it," she said.

22 JAMES BROWN, THE GAME WARDEN. Yes, I'm pretty sure we did know who James Brown was and no, I don't remember whether it occurred to us that giving one of our characters a famous celebrity's name might seem funny. Brown is our equivalent to the Muldoon character from *Jurassic Park*, but he doesn't get to play nearly as interesting a role.

23 In Crichton's novel, Ellie notices that some plants around the visitor center are a poisonous species. It's an early indication that the people who made the park didn't fully know what they were doing.

24 Oh snap!

25 We confused the word "paddock" with the word "padlock," and mistakenly used "padlock" on several occasions (be on the lookout!), making for some amusing imagery.

26 "Say what?" Totally a thing that someone born during Woodrow Wilson's presidency might say.

5. VISITOR CENTER TOUR

They saw two people sitting at the computers. One stood up. "Hello, I am Robert Arnold, and this is Joe Rogers. We designed the computer system here at Cretaceous Park." he said.²⁷

"Wow!" said Tim. "Those computers are cool!"

"If you sit down I'll show them to you." Arnold said.

Alan sat down with a grimace. He hated computers but there was nothing he could do.²⁸

"This system allows us to see all the dinosaurs in the park." Arnold explained. "So if one of the dinosaurs does escape, which is very unlikely we can know exactly where it is."

"Can we see one now?" said Tim excitedly.

"How 'bout kentrosaurus?" said Arnold.

"Sure," said Tim. Arnold pressed a few buttons and the screen switched to a small field. Munching on some ferns was an eight foot long relative of a stegosaurus.

"Interesting," said Alan.

"He looks nice," said Lex. "The things on his back looks pretty."

"Those are plates," said Tim. "They are like solar panels. They gather heat from the sun."²⁹

"Neat! Like a built-in furnace," said Lex.

"I guess you could call it that," Tim replied.

Then Arnold said, " Our computer can track every animal at all times. Wanna see where the-

"How 'bout those guys with feathers?" said Lex.

"OK. The mononykus group is at the jungle near the river right now," said Arnold.

"Want to see them?"

"Sure," said Lex.

The picture of mononykuses flashed onto the screen. "Incredible," said Alan.³⁰

"I'm sure you want to see the rest of the visitor center," said Hammond.

"Can we see the babies?" asked Lex.

"Not quite yet, Lex," said Hammond.

A man came into the room. "Hello, my name is Henry Ming. I am one of the scientists here at Cretaceous Park,"³¹ he said. "I will show you the laboratory." They

27 In *Jurassic Park* there is a single character, Dennis Nedry (Wayne Knight in the movie), who was in charge of designing the computer system. Rogers is our equivalent to Nedry. Arnold is more like the equivalent to *Jurassic Park*'s chief engineer Ray Arnold (Samuel L. Jackson in the movie). I don't know why we decided to use the same last name for our new character.

28 Oh, the unbearable pain of having to... look at a computer! We took Alan's technophobe nature, established in *Jurassic Park*, and exaggerated it to an amusing extent here.

29 BEEP BOOP. I AM TIM MURPHY, WALKING DINOSAUR ENCYCLOPEDIA.

30 He seemed to turn around quickly on the whole "looking at a computer" thing.

31 *Jurassic Park*'s lead scientist (also appearing in the latest sequel movie *Jurassic World*) was named Henry Wu. I guess we decided scientist = Chinese guy named Henry?

walked into a large room with orange rocks on shelves all over the walls.

“Amber,” said Tim.

“How do you know about amber?” asked Ming, smiling.

“Uh. . . I just do,” said Tim.

“What I want to know is how you made dinosaurs out of this rock,” said Smith.

“I’ll explain,” said Ming. “Years ago a mosquito sucked the blood of a dinosaur.”

The lights in the room went off and a picture of a flying mosquito went on a screen. “Then the mosquito landed on a tree,” Ming continued. “But it got stuck in a sap from the tree. It was covered in the sap and it turned into a fossil, preserving the blood of the dinosaur. Millions of years later Cretaceous Park scientists dug up the sap, now called amber.” The screen acted out what Ming had just said and the lights went back on.

“How does that work?” asked Smith.

“The dino blood has DNA in it. We can make dinosaurs with their DNA by putting together DNA strands to make the dinosaur. We had to substitute some DNA from other animals, but that doesn’t mess it up because 90% of all DNA is the same.” said Ming.³²

“What other kinds of DNA did you use?” asked Alan.

“Well, we used ostrich DNA and alligator DNA,” said Ming.

Just then another man walked into the room. “I’m the other scientist at Cretaceous Park, and my name is Michael Michaels,” Michaels said.³³

“Lex said, ‘C’mon, I wanna see the babies.’”

“Okay, let’s go,” said Michaels.

They went down to the nursery, where a mononykus baby was running around on a shelf with dirt and ferns planted on it. When they opened the door it leapt down to the floor and tried to get out. Lex grabbed it just in time.³⁴ “Aww, he’s cute,” she said. The mononykus squeaked and rubbed Lex’s neck. “Aww, he likes me,” she said.

“Actually it’s a she,” said Michaels. “All the dinosaurs at Cretaceous Park are female, we make sure of it.”

“Oh,” said Lex.

“Why do you make all the dinosaurs female?” asked Smith.

“To prevent breeding, of course,” Michaels replied.

Just then a very small beaked animal ran up a fern and looked at the people.

“That’s a leptoceratops,” said Michaels.

It made a chirping sound.

“I like her,” said Lex.

“Oh, I’m shocked,” said Tim.

“You are?” said Lex.

“I was being sarcastic,” Tim said.

“I’m getting sleepy,” Lex said, and yawned.

It was already 10:00. “I suppose you kids should be getting to bed,” Hammond said.

32 This is a very simplified version of a similar explanation from *Jurassic Park*.

33 Okay, two things here. “I’m the other scientist.” So there are, in total, just *two scientists*? And his name is *Michael Michaels*??

34 Amazing security systems they have, what with a 10-year-old being the only obstacle preventing a baby dinosaur from escaping.

"I'm ready too," said Smith.

"See you all in the morning," said Michaels.

"Alan , Ellie come here," said Hammond.

"Yes?" said Alan

"The tour will begin at 3:00 tomorrow," said Hammond. "But don't worry, we have been very careful. I do not believe there will be any problems."

"We hope not," said Ellie.

Hammond led Alan, Ellie, and the kids to an above-ground walkway that led to the lodge. Alan and Ellie slept in the same room, and Tim and Lex did too.³⁵

Just before she went to sleep, Ellie thought, "I guess it is safer this time. What could go wrong?"³⁶

6. DEINONYCHUSES

Alan Grant woke up at 8:00 a.m. Ellie had already left the room. He sat up and got dressed. As he went out of his room into the hall he saw Tim walking down it. "Hello, Mr. Grant," he said.

"Good morning, Tim," he said, " Ready to see more dinosaurs?"

"I haven't gotten tired of them," he replied.³⁷

"Good," said Alan. "Because we're going to see them again."

They met Hammond, Ellie, Smith, and Lex in the dining room eating pancakes and bacon. "Hello, you two," said Hammond happily.

"Good morning," said Ellie.

"Where's everybody else?" asked Alan.

"They're on the job already," Hammond said.

"This food is delicious!" Lex said, gulping down another pancake.

"I definitely agree," said Tim.

After everyone had finished breakfast they went outside. Hammond said, "Do you want to see the deinonychuses?"

"OK," said Tim.

They went over to the holding pen, which was enclosed by an electric fence, and was visible from the visitor center. They saw eyes looking at them from behind some trees and bushes. Behind some jungle they could faintly see a pond, but not very well because it was very misty around it.

"The deinonychuses are extremely intelligent and strong," Hammond said. "If the

35 This makes it sound like Tim and Lex shared a room with Alan and Ellie. I'm pretty sure that's not what we meant.

36 This is a little literary device I like to call "foreshadowing."

37 "I mean, they did nearly kill me on multiple occasions at a park strikingly similar to this one three years ago, but nah, I'm not tired of them."

fences were not electrified, they could easily escape.”

“I can't see them,” said Lex.

“You will in a minute,” said Hammond. A shape suddenly moved through the dense jungle inside the pen.

“Look!” said Lex.

“I can't see anything through the mist,” said Tim.

“The deinonychuses like the mist,” said Hammond.³⁸

“Eeek!” shouted Lex.

A dark green deinonychus ran out of the mist and leapt at the fence. ZZZZZ! Sparks flew everywhere. The deinonychus hit the ground and turned black. “Hey! It's a chameleon!” Lex shouted.

Then it turned to a light green.

Hammond said, “The deinonychuses are like chameleons. It is very strange. The reason that the deinonychus turned black is because they turn black when they are shocked³⁹ or angry.

Suddenly two more leapt at the fence. This time a claw slashed out of the fence.

“Ahhh!” shouted Smith. He hit the ground.

Hammond started laughing. “Ha ha ha ha ha ha ha ha!” he laughed.⁴⁰

“I don't think it's very funny!” shouted Smith.

“The deinonychuses don't either,” giggled Lex.

The deinonychuses picked themselves up and ran off into the mist.

“Amazing,” said Alan. Just then a man came running up.

“Are you all right?” he said.

“We're fine,” said Hammond “Thank you, though.”

The man walked off into the jungle.⁴¹

“Why are the deinonychuses kept so near the visitor center?” asked Alan. “What if they escape?”

“So we can go to them fast if anything goes wrong,” said Hammond.⁴²

“Cool,” said Tim. “Those deinonychuses are neat.”

Then Smith went over to Hammond and said, “ Hammond, I need to talk to you about something.”

Hammond grumbled and said, “Oh, all right.” Then he said, “ I guess you kids can go inside and look at the exhibits. We really do have some neat stuff. I guess you two will want to go with Tim and Lex,” he said, looking at Alan and Ellie.

The kids raced to the visitor center, as Alan and Ellie walked behind. Smith and Hammond walked to the lodge to have their meeting.

Alan, Ellie, Tim, and Lex walked into a room filled with exhibits about dinosaurs.

38 This was one of my favorite lines in our book. To this day, sometimes when I encounter particularly misty or foggy conditions, the phrase “The deinonychuses like the mist” echoes in my head.

39 Was the double meaning for the word “shocked” intended? I don't remember. Incidentally, the chameleon-like abilities were observed briefly on juvenile raptors in Crichton's book. Then they played a more prominent role on a different dinosaur in his sequel.

40 This has to be one of the greatest lines of dialogue ever.

41 ...never to be seen or heard from again.

42 Seems reasonable.

“Wow, real maiasaur eggs!” Tim said, pointing to a glass case with a nest filled with fossilized eggs.”

Lex was interested in some paintings. She particularly liked one with some sauropods eating leaves in it. “These paintings are cool!” she said.

Meanwhile, in the lodge, Smith said, “Are you sure we’ll make a lot of money with this park?”

“Sure we will,” Hammond said. “People everywhere love dinosaurs, and they’ll come to see them even if it does cost 2 thousand dollars a day.”

“Well, I guess they would,” said Smith. “But this park cost 10 million dollars⁴³, so we still might not make much.”

“Of course we will. In the first month chances are about a thousand people will come.”

“Okay, I guess.”

Back in the visitor center Ellie was looking at a display on prehistoric plants (she was a paleobotanist). Alan was interested in a deinonychus skeleton. “I’m getting hungry,” said Lex.

It was already 12:20. Just then Hammond and Smith walked in. “Do you want lunch now?” Hammond said.

“Sure!” both kids said at the same time.

Everyone headed into the dining room. There they had hamburgers and French fries.

“Yum, that was delicious!” said Lex after they finished eating.

“You think everything is delicious,” retorted Tim.

“No I don’t!” yelled Lex. “I hate lima beans and spinach!”⁴⁴

“Now kids,” said Hammond. “Don’t start fighting.”

“Meany,” said Lex under her breath.

Just then James Brown, the game warden came in. “Hello, everybody!” he said. “It’s time for the tour, so get ready,” he said.

“Yea!” said Tim, jumping up from the table. “Lets go!”

43 Did you know that children often don’t have a very good concept of money?

44 I want to give us credit here. I think this is actually a very realistic exchange of dialogue for a pair of bickering siblings. In the sea of laughable dialogue that is this book, it stands out as both amusing *and* true to life.

7. THE TOUR⁴⁵

Alan, Ellie, Tim, Lex, Brown, and Smith went to the cars. Alan, Ellie, and the kids got in one car. Smith and Brown got in the other. Hammond said, "I hope you enjoy the tour. I will be watching you from a computer screen in the control room. The cars are powered by electricity, so they won't pollute the island. So long!"

"Let's go!" said Tim excitedly.

The cars started moving ahead.

A voice said, "Welcome to Cretaceous Park, a place where dinosaurs from millions of years ago roam the earth again. The first dinosaur on our tour is coelophysis. You might see them in the trees. These predators are 10 feet long. They are not very big."

"Look, there's one!" said Lex.

It was tan with an orange mark on its back. It had a very long neck. It was about 4 feet tall, and it had a slim body. It looked like an agile creature.

"These dinosaurs lived in the Triassic period, when dinosaurs first appeared," said the speaker.

They saw two packs of coelophysises. One was in a group of trees with lush green leaves on the thick branches. The other was running across a field towards the far side of the padlock. One of the dinosaurs in the pack in the trees was bigger than the others and seemed to be the leader. There were also a few little babies running around on the branches.

"Coelophysis means-

"Hollow form," Tim said at the same time as the speaker. The large coelophysis looked at the people and growled.

"They don't love visitors," said Brown on the radio.

"He's in a bad mood," said Lex.

"The coelophysis is a dangerous dinosaur for its size," continued the speaker.

"Amazing," said Alan. "They act so much like birds," The cars started moving as they approached a river. "They're terrific!" exclaimed Ellie.

"Glad to hear you like them," said Hammond through the radio.

But the only thing Lex said until they reached the river was, "Do they keep cats here?"⁴⁶

They moved across a field until they reached the river. They went across a bridge and were instantly in a jungle. Just then an animal ran across a tree and disappeared

45 There are 19 chapters in this book, but this chapter, in which the characters ride around the park looking at various dinosaurs, takes up a full 25% of the book's length. In the novel *Jurassic Park*, there were 15 species of dinosaur, but several never appear in the book beyond being listed on a computer screen. In our book, there are 17 species, and every single one is seen by the characters. The tour, which actually doesn't reach its (untimely) end until chapter 10, three chapters beyond this one, ultimately goes past every single one of those 17 species except for deinonychus (already visited in the previous chapter), with an accompanying description from the cars' speakers for each species. Did I mention we really liked dinosaurs?

46 This seemingly random comment finally receives an explanation seven chapters later, so don't forget it!

into the jungle. Then they saw some tiny heads peeking through branches in some trees.

“The dinosaurs you now see are leptoceratops. They are a very small relative of the triceratops. They are one of the smaller ceratopsians. They like to play in the trees, where they live most of the time,” the speaker said.

They saw a brown body with a few orange spots here and there.⁴⁷ It had a parrot-like beak and it was about 6 feet long and 2 feet tall. It had a slender build.

The speaker then said, “Leptoceratops means slender horned face. They are very agile because of their small size and slender build.”

Just then a young leptoceratops jumped from one branch to the next.

“I like him,” said Lex. “He looks like that baby in the visitor center.”

Just then a lepto⁴⁸ jumped off a branch and walked on its hind legs close to the fence.

“Neat!” said Tim.

“He’s funny!” laughed Lex. The cars started again and they went into deeper jungle.

“We now ask you to roll up your windows,” continued the speaker. “Because the next dinosaur we see on the tour will be the dilophosaur.”

“Huh?” said Smith. “How come?”

“Oh boy!” said Tim.

“The dilophosaur is a venom spitting dinosaur that paralyzes and blinds its prey before it kills it.” said the speaker.

Just then they saw a movement through the trees. A green head with two crests on it poked through the trees. Then it moved back into the jungle. The people didn’t catch a glimpse of the whole body.

The jungle became less dense, and then they came to a gently sloping hill with a field on the top. The side of the hill was covered with trees.

“Look, dilophosaurs!” Tim shouted.

Then everyone spotted some dilos roaming around through the trees. One looked at the people and showed its teeth. It was dark green with a few lighter patches here and there. It looked to be about 20 feet long, and 10 feet tall. Just then a soft hooting sound was heard from the dilo. A frill came out around its neck and it spat at the cars. The venom hit the fence and sparks flew everywhere.

“Hey, it looks like that stuff is melting on the fence!” said Lex.

The speaker said, “The crests were used to attract mates. The frill was used to warn any animals that might be thinking of attacking it, but eventually they just showed their frill whenever they were about to spit at something.”⁴⁹

On top of the hill, on the field they saw two dilos standing.

The cars started moving again and they were in dense jungle again. They heard soft hooting as they moved on.

47 For some reason we really liked “here and there” as a descriptive phrase; it shows up five times.

48 It seems we also really liked using shortened forms of dinosaur names.

49 Don’t ask me how they would know this, although granted, it’s quite plausible that the tour narration would pass off a speculation regarding animal behavior as fact.

“Are you sure those things were safe?” criticized Smith in the front car.

“Well-” started Brown.

“Of course we're sure!” said Hammond over the radio.

In the back car Alan asked Tim, “You having a good time yet?”

“Of course!” said Tim. “I'm having a lot better time than last time.”

“No wonder!” laughed Lex.

“Be quiet!” Hammond muttered over the radio.

“Huh?! There was a last time? I never heard about this,” Smith said.⁵⁰

“Uh, yeah, and it was a real adventure,” said Hammond.

“Well, I'm glad you liked it,” said Smith. “But why didn't Tim like it?”

“Well, back then I guess I was a little scared of dinosaurs,” Tim said.

The car moved on⁵¹, and suddenly Lex said, “Wow, that sure is some bird in that tree!”

Just then the speaker said, “The animals you now see are mononykuses, an amazing dinosaur with feathers. Mononykus means single claw, because they have only one claw on each hand. They like trees, which is more proof that dinosaurs evolved into birds.”⁵²

The “bird” that Lex had seen was really a mononykus. It was about 1 foot tall and 3 feet long. It had a long neck and long tail, but the front arms were extremely short. It was mostly covered with feathers, and the skin showing was a shade of beige.

“Amazing!” said Alan.

“You've said that a lot.” said Lex.⁵³

“That's because they're amazing,” said Alan.

“He's right!” said Ellie. She was watching a mononykus eating an othnelia. “Wait a minute!” she exclaimed. “That mononykus is eating an othnelia!”

“What!?” shouted Smith.

“Huh?” said Alan.

Brown quickly whipped out a tranquilizer and fired at the mononykus. It fell off the branch and hit the dirt. Brown pulled out a little box and pressed a button on it. A door on the fence opened and Brown hopped out of the car. He walked in the padlock. He grabbed the othy and the mononykus and left the padlock.

“What happened?!” said Hammond over the radio.

“How'd he get in there?” said Lex.⁵⁴

50 The lawyer, who presumably represents the park's investors in some way, *does not know there was a last time?* Amazing.

51 Taken together, the phrases “the car moved on” and “the cars moved on” appear nine times. Well, they had a lot of moving on to do, what with all the dinosaurs they were visiting!

52 Uhhhh... seems reasonable...

53 Wow, we actually show some self-awareness here! This was the third time Alan called something “amazing”; there would be one more.

54 Here's another point where I want to give us credit. In the original *Jurassic Park*, there are problems with the park that the park's creators were unaware of, and the characters discover more and more about these problems as they spend more time on the island. Although our book is largely a rehash of the original, here we devised a *new* problem distinct from those that occurred in the original, and we set it up as a little mystery that the characters eventually solve by observing several pieces of evidence and putting that evidence together over a

"I don't know," said Alan.

"Weird!" said Ellie and Tim at the same time.

As the car moved on, Lex said, "Hey, what's that hole by the side of the road doing there?" said Lex.

There was a hole, and it came up on the other side of the fence in the mononykus padlock.

"Well, that explains how the othy got in, but how did the hole get there and how did it get out?" said Brown.

"I don't know," said Alan.

They were then interrupted by the voice of the speaker. "The next animal we will see on the tour will be the oviraptors," it said.

"The tour is going great," said Hammond back in the control room.⁵⁵

"I'm worried," said Dr. Ages. He was in the control room with Arnold, Rogers, and Hammond.

"Why?" asked Hammond.

"These are the first visitors we've ever had in the park," Ages said. "I mean one of the kids could freak out."

"Tim and Lex are very calm children," Hammond said. "Tim is an expert on dinosaurs and Lex knows a lot about them too."⁵⁶

"I have to fix a few bugs," said Rogers. "There are a few flaws in the system."⁵⁷

"OK," said Hammond. "But hurry up."

Back in the cars the speaker said, "The oviraptor is a small carnivore. Their main food is other dinosaur's eggs, but they also scavenged some and might of eaten small lizards and early mammals. Oviraptor means egg stealer. They are very quick creatures. The crest you see on their head was used to attract mates, but at Cretaceous Park it is useless because they can't breed."

"Wow, oviraptors!" said Tim.

A group of animals ran across a field into a forest. They were about 5 feet long, and 3 feet tall. Most of the body was a pale blue, but around the arms and neck it was a pinkish shade. The crest was a bright blue.

Lex said, "Their crest is pretty."

They moved on and came to some woods where they saw a few oviraptors chasing some lizards. One lunged forward and grabbed a lizard. It brought the lizard up to its mouth and then a crunching sound was heard.⁵⁸

series of scenes. The way it's portrayed is hokey, sure, but for something written by fifth graders? I think it displays a fairly advanced level of creativity and reasoning skills.

55 "The tour is going great," Hammond says immediately after the visitors observed that one of the park's dinosaurs had gotten into a place it wasn't supposed to and was getting eaten by another dinosaur. Okay? I guess the information on what had just happened was never actually relayed to the control room?

56 In the original (both book and movie) there was no indication that Lex knew a lot about dinosaurs. I guess we assumed that after nearly getting eaten by them, she would have done some reading on the subject, or something like that.

57 Welp, that doesn't sound suspicious in any way.

58 We used this sort of phrasing a lot: instead of the characters hearing or seeing something, something "was

The car moved on to a small forest, where a few duckbilled dinosaurs were seen eating.

The speaker came on. "The dinosaurs you see are maiasaurs." it said. "The maiasaur is a primitive hadrosaur, also called "duckbills," referring to its duck bill like mouth."

The maiasaurs were orangish-red and black with a tannish stomach. They were about 30 feet long. One maiasaur turned to the people. It honked at the people and cocked its head. Then it went back to eating.

As the cars moved on the speaker said, "The maiasaurs are plant eaters, mainly eating leaves."

"Cool!" said Tim.

"Maiasaurs were first found with a nest of baby maiasaurs and a mother maiasaur skull near the nest," said the speaker.

The car moved to a field with a lagoon in the middle. There were some trees around the lagoon. A herd of maiasaurs was eating and playing in the water.

"Want some action?" asked Brown.

"Sure!" said Tim.⁵⁹

A tyrannosaur roar was heard.

"Uh-oh," said Lex.

"Don't worry, it's a recording," said Brown.

Suddenly loud honking was heard. The maiasaurs started running. Clouds of dust were everywhere. Then the maiasaurs realized that there was no danger, and they resumed eating.⁶⁰

The car moved on.

"Hey, is that an othnelias running across the road?" Tim said.

"It looks like it," said Alan.

More othnelias were spotted on the road. When they saw the cars they ran through some holes back into their padlock.

"What the heck is going on here?!" shouted Brown.

"The only two possibilities are that you left some holes under the fences, or that othnelias can dig," said Alan.

"What, are you sure you saw othnelias running across the road?" said Hammond incredulously.⁶¹

"Yes, we know it," said Alan.

heard" or "was seen."

59 Uh, that didn't sound right...

60 In the *Jurassic Park* novel, Hammond meets his demise when, near the end after things are back under control, he is startled by the sound of a T-rex roaring, and he falls down a hill and hurts his leg, which leads to him being killed by compsognathuses (small scavengers). The sound was actually a recording played over the park's loudspeakers, triggered by his grandchildren messing around in the control room.

61 In fourth grade, the previous year of school for us, every day we learned a different vocabulary "Word of the Day." "Incredulous" was one such word.

The car kept moving, and the speaker said, “ We will now see the othnelias.”⁶²

They came to a field with a small forest in the middle. On the other side of the road there was another field with a few groups of trees here and there. They saw a few dinosaurs in the trees and three feeding on shrubs near the forest.

“Why does that one side look so empty?” asked Lex.

“I can bet why,” said Ellie. Just then two othnelias ran out of a hole under the fence on the side that looked empty.

“Holy cow!” shouted Tim.⁶³

“Do they eat meat?!” said Lex.

“No,” said Alan. “But we've got to catch them.” Brown jumped out of the car and grabbed one but it cut him with its claws.

“Ow!” he shouted. It jumped to the ground and ran off into the forest on the other side of the road.

“You OK.?” asked Alan.

“Yeah, I guess,” Brown replied.

The cut had dirt on it.

Ellie said, “ Well, that dirt must have been on the othnelia's claws, which means that they can dig!”⁶⁴

The speaker said, “ Othnelias are very fast, and they also like to climb trees.”

The othnelias were about 2 to 3 feet long, and 1 foot tall. They were light brown with a few black stripes running down their back.

“I don't believe this!” yelled Hammond back in the control room. “How could the othnelias be able to escape so easily?”

“Shouting isn't going to solve any problems,” said Dr. Ages calmly.

“Arnold!” said Hammond angrily. “I want a camera search on the double.” “And Doctor,” he continued. “Send a few teams out to find the othnelias that escaped.”

Meanwhile, back at the cars, Lex said, “ What's next, what's next?”

The speaker answered her question by saying, “The next dinosaur on the tour is protoceratops.”

They saw a group of protoceratopses eating ferns in a small forest. Lex yelled, “Hey, they look like big calico cats with frills!” They were colored like calico cats, with patches of orange, black, tan, and white.⁶⁵ They were about the size of a big pig. They resembled leptoceratops except they didn't have a slender build. They had a frill around their neck, and tiny traces of horns above the eyes.

The terrain was mostly rocky, with a few small fields here and there. In the forest there was also a pond, where a protoceratops was drinking.

One approached the fence, but then it scurried back to the forest as the speaker

62 “Othnelia” is actually a misspelling of “othnielia.” We consistently used the misspelling throughout our book. Considering what dino fanatics we were, this is surprising.

63 A 14-year-old exclaiming “Holy cow!” I love it.

64 Mystery solved!

65 My coauthor Jay had a calico cat named Callie. We really liked cats. As I recall, another story that we started writing, but didn't get very far on, was about a pet detective agency led by Callie.

came on and said, "Protoceratops means first horned face. These small dinosaurs were the first true ceratopsian. The protoceratopses are supposed to be very good mothers and fathers, but of course they aren't at Cretaceous Park."

4 baby protoceratopses were playing on the rocks.⁶⁶

"They're silly!" laughed Lex.

"Hey! Those are babies!" said Alan.

"Let's see here. Oh, we released new protoceratopses last week," said Hammond.

Ellie was watching a tree. A juvenile proto was sitting in it watching the people. Suddenly a juvenile proto ran up the tree, and another juvenile chased it. They started dashing around on the low branches, and then the other juvenile joined in the game.

"Cool! The juveniles are playing like squirrels," said Tim.

"Amazing animals!" said Alan.

The cars started again, and they moved into a very rocky terrain. Suddenly Tim shouted "Look, volcanoes!"

"Wow!" shouted Lex. A large mountain in the distance with a crater at the top was gushing out hot lava.

"Out of the many volcanoes we have here only a few are active," said Brown.

"I see," said Ellie.⁶⁷

"The next dinosaur we will see on the tour is ankylosaurus," said the speaker.

The cars came to a stop near a large pond surrounded by rocks. "I don't see any dinosaurs," said Lex.

"The ankylosaurs are very territorial dinosaurs," said the speaker. "Only a male a female and their young live in one area, but at Cretaceous Park only a female lives in one area. Each area touches the lake, so they won't go thirsty. If an ankylosaur entered another's area the other ankylosaur would try to drive it off."

"I still can't see anything," Lex complained.

Then a large shape moved out from behind some rocks and went over to the lake's edge. The ankylosaur was about 25 feet long and 5 feet wide. It was covered with armor with spikes sticking out on the sides and a club on its tail. The dinosaur was reddish brown.

The speaker said, "Ankylosaurus is one of the biggest and best-known ankylosaurs.⁶⁸ It was probably more than a match for large predators with its heavy armor."

The ankylosaur took a drink, turned its head to look at the cars, and then scurried surprisingly quickly behind a boulder.

The car started moving again. They came to less rocky terrain and a thick jungle.

"If you look to your right you will see a few dinosaurs called iguanadons. They were the first dinosaurs discovered and the second dinosaur named. Iguanadon

66 The juxtaposition of this line with "of course they aren't" "good mothers" is striking. Seems pretty disrespectful toward adoptive parents! (Unintentionally, no doubt.)

67 Probably one of my favorite dialogue exchanges.

68 This might seem confusing or like it's a mistake, so an explanation: "Ankylosaurus [the specific type of dinosaur they have in the park] is one of the biggest and best-known ankylosaurs [the family of dinosaurs that shares the same name as its best-known member]."

means iguana tooth, because the first fossils of it found were teeth that the discoverer thought looked like teeth from a huge iguana.”

“Look at that huge spike on its thumb!” Lex shouted.

“Wow!” Tim said.

The iguanadons were forest green with brown patches. Three of them were munching on lush green plants, and a group of four moved out of a jungle toward a lake. They were about 15 feet tall and 25 feet long. Some were on all fours and some were only on two legs. The group of four started drinking from the lake, then it moved towards the jungle. The other three saw them and started growling. One from the group of four jumped at one from the other group. They growled and started trying to stab each other. The other iguanodons⁶⁹ joined in the fight. They started stabbing at each other with their thumbs. One iguanodon was hurt from the group of three, who realized that they were overmatched and dashed into the jungle. Lex said, “I didn’t like that.”

Then the cars moved on. The cars came to a river and they crossed a bridge. As they came to the other side the cars stopped. Suddenly a shadow fell over the cars.

“Whoa!” shouted Tim. A giant winged reptile with a wingspan of 50 feet swooped next to the fence and dove at a small animal in the trees.

“Huh?” said Brown. “It isn’t feeding time.”

“Probably an othy,” said Ellie.

“The animals you now see are quetzacoatluses,” said the speaker. “Not a dinosaur, but a winged reptile. They are usually scavengers, but also attack animals that are not too hard to catch.”

Another quetzalcoatlus swooped at an animal and missed.

“I saw one of those in a books spearing fish,” said Lex. “The books must be wrong.”

“Actually,” said Tim. “Those in the book were pteranadons.”⁷⁰

“Well *excuse* me,” said Lex.

The speaker said, “ You may have noticed that the quetzacoatluses look like huge bats. They have fur and leathery wings, like bats. They are also warm-blooded, like dinosaurs and bats.”

“Well, all I can say is move over Big Bird!” Lex said.

Then Tim said, “Speaking of Big Bird, what did Barney evolve into?”

“Big Bird, I guess,” Lex said.

“Ha Ha, that’s funny,” said Alan. “Barney is a stupid impostor of a dinosaur, so he would have evolved into a stupid impostor of a bird.”⁷¹

“The next dinosaur on the tour is struthiomimus,” the speaker said.

“Cool!” said Lex. “They’re my favorite!”

69 Here we finally spell “iguanodon” correctly after misspelling it three times in a row.

70 Moments like this are a good example of how Tim, although a few years older than us, functioned as an author insert.

71 Amazing. Just, amazing. We were pretty proud of our joke! As an adult I have a generally positive view of Sesame Street, but as a fifth grader I lumped it in with Barney, although even then I definitely considered Barney worse.

“Even after that experience?” asked Tim under his breath.

“Those were gallimimuses,” said Lex. “Not struthiomimuses.”

“Big dif,” said Tim.⁷²

The cars came to the top of a hill, and at the bottom of it was a small river. By the river was a small jungle. On some of the trees there was fruit. About 7 struthiomimuses were drinking from the river. One turned to the jungle and grabbed some fruit in its beak. The struthiomimuses were 7 feet tall and 12 feet long. They were light green and brown. Their beaks were bright yellow.

The cars went down the hill. A struthiomimus looked up and said, “Squawk, squawk!”⁷³

The other struthiomimuses looked up and started running. They went up the hill.

“Geez, those guys are fast! Dinosaurs aren't supposed to be so fast,” said Smith.

“Actually, struthiomimuses are about the second fastest dinosaurs. But still, *NO* dinosaurs are slow and sluggish. Where have you been, you dumb lawyer?!” Alan shouted.

“Yeah!” said Tim, Lex, and Ellie at the same time.⁷⁴

“Stop fighting,” said Hammond over the radio.

“The next animals we will see on the tour will be compsoognathuses,” said the speaker.

The cars came into a jungle.

“I can't see any dinosaurs,” said Lex.

“The compsoognathuses, nicknamed compys at Cretaceous Park, are the smallest dinosaurs ever discovered,” said the speaker. “The compys are poisonous dinosaurs that put their victims to sleep when bitten.”

“Cool,” said Tim.

Slowly, a small lizard like dinosaur emerged from the jungle. It was about one foot long. It walked on its hind feet and had a long neck. It was dark green with brown stripes down its back. When it walked it bobbed its head up and down slightly like a bird. Suddenly it let out chirp and ran off into the jungle.

“Wow! They're so much like birds!” said Alan.

Then more compsoognathuses came out of the jungle. A large lizard walked through the grass. A compy jumped at it. The lizard started fighting, but a compy bit him. The compys jumped back and started chattering and chirping. The lizard moved a little more and then slumped on the ground. The compys moved in, ripped it to pieces, and ate it up.

The cars started moving. Suddenly an othy ran across the road. It started digging. “Oh no!” yelled Brown. “It's going into the compy paddock!”⁷⁵ We can't have the

72 The stampeding dinosaurs that Tim, Lex, and Alan ran from in the movie *Jurassic Park* were gallimimuses, and struthiomimus was a similar dinosaur. Based on Lex's characterization in *Jurassic Park* the idea that she would even know what a struthiomimus was, let alone that she would consider it her “favorite dinosaur,” seems strange.

73 I adore the way we wrote this. The struthiomimus didn't just squawk. It *said* “Squawk, squawk.”

74 Haha, lawyers are so dumb! Am I right, guys?

75 Hey look, we used “paddock” instead of “padlock”! And we continued to do so for the rest of the book, but we

compys out!”

He got his tranquilizer and quickly shot the othy. Then he put the dirt back into the hole and got back in the car.⁷⁶

“Phew! That was close!” said Tim.

The cars kept moving.

“It’s beginning to get dark,” said Tim.

“And I’m beginning to get hungry!” said Lex.⁷⁷

“That’s funny,” said Tim. “You’re usually hungry 4 hours ago.

“Ha ha,” said Lex.

“We should have started the tour earlier,” said Hammond in the control room. “It’s already 8:00.”⁷⁸

“Dr. Jackson is working on a injured kentrosaurus,” said Arnold.

“That’s the next dinosaur on the tour,” said Hammond.

“Yep.”

“Well, that won’t hurt anything,” said Hammond. “It might actually be interesting.”

8. KENTROSAURUS

The cars moved on. The speaker said, “The next dinosaur is kentrosaurus, an eight foot long member of the stegosaur family.”

Lex said, “Look, look! Over there! There’s a person with a dinosaur.”

Hammond said over the radio, “You can get out if you want. Dr. Jackson, the vet, is working on that kentrosaurus. There’s no danger, it’s tranquilized.”⁷⁹

“Oh boy!” said Tim. “We get to see a kentrosaurus close up!”

The people got out of the cars and Brown took out his gate control. He pressed a button and a gate on the fence opened. The people walked in. They went through a field with tall grass and finally came to the kentrosaurus.

“Hi!” said Dr. Jackson. “You must be our first visitors. Well, I’m working on this kentrosaurus. It seems she broke her leg.”

didn’t go back and fix all the previous “padlock” usages.

76 I love the image of Brown just filling up the hole with dirt using his hands and then returning to the car. And I guess there’s no concern that the othnelias might have dug into the compy enclosure some other time when no one was looking?

77 Lex being hungry a lot appears to be her most defining character trait.

78 Whose bright idea was it to start the tour at 3 pm? I mean, surely this was something they could have anticipated? Incidentally, because Indonesia is basically on the equator, the sun would already have set at around 6 pm (regardless of the time of year), although that isn’t something one would expect fifth graders to know.

79 In the movie *Jurassic Park*, the people leave their tour vehicles to visit a sick triceratops. In the book, they visit a sick stegosaurus. In our book, the dinosaur was injured, not sick, and it was a relative to the stegosaurus, not a stegosaurus itself. See, we were being original!

“Wow! That's cool!” said Lex.⁸⁰ “But she looks sort of strange with those spikes sticking out of her shoulders.”

“Those spikes are extra defense that most stegosaurus don't have. They help it fend off attackers coming from the front. Of course, it also has spikes on its tail, like all stegosaurus,” explained the vet.

The kentrosaur was very light brown with plates running down its back and eight spikes in pairs on the tail. It also had the two spikes right behind its tiny head. The plates on its back were in pairs. The kentrosaurus was pretty small for a stegosaurus, only eight feet long.

The vet put a bandage on the leg. She said, “ Normally if a dinosaur broke its leg it would probably die, but since these are very valuable animals we can't let that happen.”

Lex went over and felt the kentrosaurus. “Her skin feels rough and scaly,” she said.

“How'd it happen?” asked Ellie.

“She stepped in some hole,” said Dr. Jackson.

“They're all over!” said Brown.

“Huh?” said Dr. Jackson. While Brown explained the othnelias to Dr. Jackson Alan went over with Tim to look at the leg of the kentrosaurus.

“It doesn't look to good, does it?” said Tim.

“Nope,” said Alan.

Suddenly they heard Lex laughing. They looked over and saw Lex lying on her back. “She shoved me!” she laughed. Suddenly the kentrosaurus's tail started moving.

“I think we better be moving along,” said Brown.

“Yeah,” said Lex. “I can't even see the fence it's so dark.”

The people walked back across the field, and Dr. Jackson got in her jeep. Brown opened the gate with his control and then everyone got back in the cars.

The cars moved on, and the speaker said, “The next dinosaur on the tour is the ultrasaurus, a giant sauropod that is the tallest and heaviest ever discovered. Only a few other sauropods are longer. It is even larger than a blue whale which, before the discovery of some gargantuan sauropods, like seismosaurus and ultrasaurus, was thought to be the largest animal ever.”

Lex said, “Aren't those the guys we saw when we arrived?”

“Yep, they sure are,” said Tim. “Wow, they're big!”

One huge ultrasaur stood in a field, and then looked at the cars. It walked over to some trees and started eating. Then five ultrasaurus heads poked out of the tree tops. Another smaller ultrasaur munched some leaves on lower branches.⁸¹

“Geez, those guys must be 60 feet tall!” said Smith worriedly.

One ultrasaur stood up on its hind legs which, surprisingly, were shorter than the

80 This is Lex's reaction to being told the kentrosaurus broke its leg? Kind of sadistic, no?

81 I thought it was so dark Lex couldn't even see the fence?

front. It nipped some leaves from the top of a prodigious⁸² tree.

The ultrasaurs were dark blue, about 60 feet tall, and 100 feet long.

“This tour sure is fun!” said Lex.

“Definitely!” said Tim.

The cars moved on.

9. POWER SHUTDOWN⁸³

Back in the control room Hammond said, “Well, I’m glad our visitors are enjoying the tour.”

Meanwhile, Rogers was still at the computer. He typed in Security. The computer went to the security part.⁸⁴ He commanded it to turn off the building security and the outside electricity. Then he said, “I finally fixed the bugs. I have to go to the restroom.” He walked out of the room with a Coke can in his hand.

Rogers went to the DNA room and took a sample for each species. He put the DNA in the bottom of the Coke can. Then he went to the garage and got in a jeep.

Meanwhile at the control room Arnold said, “It sure is taking Rogers a long time. I wonder... He was acting sort of suspicious. I’m going to make sure all he did was fix a few bugs.”

Arnold went over to the computer. A few minutes later he said, “Mr. Hammond, I have bad news. The park’s security systems are off.”

“What?!” shouted Hammond. “That means the dinosaurs can escape!”

“I’ll try to get the power back on, but I think he has some secret code to turn it back on that only Rogers knows.”

“Find him!” Hammond shouted.

“Where did he go?” asked a guard.

“The restroom,” said Hammond.⁸⁵ The guard ran down the steps.

“He shut off the system!” shouted Arnold.

“Where did the cars stop?” asked Hammond

“Oh no!” said Arnold frightfully. “They stopped in front of the allosaur paddock!”

“Here we go again,” said Hammond under his breath.

Rogers jumped into a jeep in the garage. He flicked on the lights and went into the park. Soon he would have a ton of money.

82 “Prodigious” was another “Word of the Day” from fourth grade.

83 Kind of taking away any potential surprise factor with this chapter title...

84 Ah yes, the “security part” of the computer.

85 Of course, the guy who just shut off the security systems would be a reliable source of information on where he was going.

10. ALLOSAURUS

The speaker said, “The next dinosaur is allosaurus, the ancestor of tyrannosaurus, which you have all heard of. This was the most dangerous predator of Jurassic times. The name of these pack hunters means different lizard, because its vertebrae were different from all other dinosaurs' vertebrae. You will not see a pack here, though, because we have only three.”

Lex said, “I'm tired and hungry⁸⁶, and I can't see anything because it's so dark! This isn't one of my favorite dinosaurs, anyway.”

“Be quiet, Lex. I'm looking for an allosaur,” said Tim.

The people waited for an allosaur but none came. 20 minutes later Alan said, “Hey, shouldn't the cars be moving by now?”

“The cars should have been moving 15 minutes ago,” said Brown.

“I'm getting worried,” said Ellie. Suddenly a slight vibration was felt.

“What was that?” asked Lex. Thud, thud, thud. “Oh no!” said Lex. Slowly, a three clawed hand reached out of the jungle. It touched the fence. Nothing happened.

“Oh no!” yelled Tim. “The power's off!”

A giant red head with tiger-like black stripes came through the trees. ROAAARR!!

“Oh gosh!” thought Tim. “That thing's head is as big as me!”

The clawed hand ripped through some of the fence. Then a huge foot kicked the fence and knocked it down. THUD! THUD! THUD! The allosaur walked on to the road.

In the other car Smith was screaming and jumping all over the place.⁸⁷ “Aaaaah, Aaaaaah! Get me out of here!” he said.

The allosaur walked over to the car Smith was in. It bent down and looked in the window.

“Aaaaah!” Another scream was heard from Smith.

Fortunately the Grants and the kids knew to stay still.⁸⁸

The allosaur kept looking into the car, and then it moved closer. It grabbed the car in it's huge jaws. It swung it around in its mouth. It's tail swung around and hit the other car.

“Oh no!” shouted Lex.

The allosaur dropped the car and turned around. “Sorry,” said Lex in a tiny voice.

The allosaur roared and approached the car. THUD, THUD, THUD. The allosaur looked in the sun roof of the car.

86 To be fair, they have been on the tour for about *six hours* at this point.

87 Not only screaming, but *jumping all over the place* inside a car. Oh, that silly lawyer...

88 In the *Jurassic Park* novel, Alan figures out during the T-rex attack scene that the T-rex's vision is based on movement and it can't see you if you stay still. In the movie, it's something he just knows, somehow.

(Apparently it's not thought to have been true in reality.) We, and our characters, assumed the same would be true for allosaurus.

“Don't move and he can't see you,” Alan whispered. The 40 foot long carnosaur looked at the people. Then, suddenly it kicked the car with a roar. The door swung open and Ellie went flying out. Alan screamed. So did Tim and Lex. Ellie landed in the jungle somewhere. The allosaur stopped kicking and followed Ellie into the jungle. In a few seconds a scream was heard followed by a crunch. Alan grimaced. The allosaur reappeared with nothing in its jaws. Ellie might still be alive!

Lex thought, “Hmmm, maybe if I turn on a flashlight and throw it in the jungle it will distract it.”

She slightly opened the door. “Phew, it didn't notice,” she thought.⁸⁹ Then she flipped on a flashlight and threw it out the door. The allosaur followed. “Good,” Lex said quietly.

The allosaur went into the jungle. Suddenly, the door on the other car flew open. A man dashed out. Alan jumped out of the car and shouted, “No!”

He grabbed the other man's shoulder. It was Brown.

Suddenly the allosaur turned around and roared. Alan dove under a car, but Brown wasn't quick enough. The allosaur head came at him. Crunch! The allosaur grabbed Brown in his jaws.⁹⁰ He lifted up his head and went ROAR! Smith screamed and scrambled out the car. He ran into the jungle. The allosaur followed. THUD! THUD! Smith hurried into the jungle. The allosaur continued into the jungle.

Alan went back to the car with the kids. “We've got to leave before it comes back to the road.”

The kids got out. “The allosaur went back into its paddock, so we should follow the road,” Alan said.

The three people did not know they were going away from the visitor center.

Meanwhile, in the allosaur paddock, Smith saw Ellie in a hole. The allosaur could not see him, but it was close behind so he got in the hole. The allosaur approached. “Uh, oh,” whispered Ellie.

The allosaur came closer.⁹¹

11. DILO ATTACK

Rogers drove through the jungle. A pig sized animal with a shield over its neck ran in front of the car. As he drove on he thought of the people on the tour. Well, nothing would happen, probably. He heard the hoot of an owl. Suddenly he saw something move in the dark. It looked about 12 feet long. Then all of a sudden it kicked the car.⁹²

89 We liked to use the word “Phew” as an expression of relief. It shows up seven times.

90 Muldoon, the Jurassic Park game warden, got a really cool, iconic death scene near the climax of the movie, and in the book he made it out alive by being a total badass. Our game warden goes out much sooner and in a much less interesting way. Really, all of our death scenes are pretty quick.

91 We were really proud of several of our cliffhanger scene endings, such as this one.

92 The dilophosaurus ran up and kicked a *moving car*?

“Ahh!” yelled Rogers. The door flew open and he fell on the road.⁹³ The car crashed somewhere in the jungle. He got up. Hoot, hoot. Rogers looked at the dinosaur. It was different shades of green with two crests on its head. It started hopping around. Then it hooted again. Rogers thought it was just playing, but it growled and moved closer. Rogers thought, “Uh, oh” and started running. The dinosaur followed him. He ran through some jungle. Suddenly he saw a familiar looking head looking from behind a tree. A frill came out around it and Rogers felt something wet on his pants. He looked down and then felt something wet on his forehead. It dripped down into his eyes. He felt a burning pain in his eyes. He couldn't see! He tripped and tried to get up, but he couldn't. “That dinosaur must of spit poison on me,” he thought. Then he felt a claw rip through his back. Teeth tore his flesh. Then it was over.⁹⁴

Meanwhile, the allosaur kept moving towards Smith and Ellie. It started sniffing. Then it kept coming. The giant head bent down towards the hole. It kept sniffing. “She knows we're here, but she can't see us,” thought Ellie. The head came down farther. Suddenly Smith shouted, “Aaahhh!” and started running away. The allosaur followed. Ellie got out of the hole. The allosaur kept running, but then came to some thicker trees. Ellie stealthily started walking. She came closer to the giant beast. She could feel the hot breath. Suddenly the head turned. Ellie froze. The allosaur came closer. Its head hit her. “Aaaah!” She fell on the ground. The allosaur's jaws closed in. She could see the huge teeth. She started crawling under the body. The allosaur tried to get her, but it couldn't. Suddenly some compsognathuses ran out from behind some trees. The allosaur spotted them, and that gave Ellie a chance to escape, so she ran towards the road. She burst out of the jungle and onto the road. In the darkness she could see Smith leaning against a car.

“Come on!” shouted Ellie. “The allosaur is distracted!”

“Fine,” said Smith.

“Déjà vu,” said Ellie under her breath.

Christine Jackson drove in her jeep towards the visitor center. She came around a bend and hit the brakes right away. She almost crashed into a car. A car on its side. The other car was on its back. It had teeth marks in the front. “Oh my!” she said. Suddenly in the dark she saw two people walking in her direction. They were Smith and Ellie. “What happened?” yelled Jackson.

“The allosaur escaped!” shouted Ellie. Smith and Ellie got into the jeep and they started to drive. Ellie told Jackson what had happened. Suddenly, a roar split the air. “Drive!” shouted Ellie. But for some strange reason the allosaur was moving the other way.

93 And somehow this caused the door to fly open and Rogers to fall out??

94 We gave Rogers pretty much the same death via the same dinosaur as Nedry in *Jurassic Park*. I'm fascinated by how, despite our efforts to make our own original story, there are so many things we did pretty much exactly the same. It's an interesting insight into the minds of children.

12. IN THE PARK

Alan and the kids walked along the road. Suddenly, THUD! THUD! “Uh, oh. I think the allosaur is coming back,” said Tim.

A roar was heard. “Quick, into the jungle!” shouted Alan. The three people dashed towards the jungle. Then the allosaur came out from behind some trees and ripped down the fence. It went across the road towards the people.

“Hurry!” said Tim.

The allosaur chased them to the jungle. They ran through the trees with the allosaur close behind. Eventually they heard water rippling. The river was nearby. The allosaur was close behind. They soon saw the river. There was a fallen tree across it! They walked across the log. “Good!” said Tim, relieved. “Most of the books say big meat-eaters can't swim.”

“But not *my* book,” said Alan. SPLASH! The allosaur jumped in the river and started swimming across. “I guess most of the books are wrong!” shouted Lex.⁹⁵

The three people started running into the jungle. SPLASH! The allosaur jumped out of the river and moved into the jungle. “Quick, keep running!” yelled Alan.

The jungle soon became thicker. “Good, it'll be slowed down,” said Tim.

The allosaur kept moving through the trees, but soon came to thicker jungle. It bashed down trees, but it was still slowed down.

“Run!” shouted Alan.⁹⁶ Suddenly Lex tripped and fell into the under brush. Tim and Alan followed. A few seconds later the allosaur's head appeared above them. It stayed there for a few minutes, looking around, and then it left. After a few minutes Alan said, “You guys O.K.?”

“Is it gone?” asked Lex.

“Yep,” said Tim. They stood up, and looked around.

“Wait a minute!” said Alan. “How could have we come to the river if we were heading towards the visitor center?”

“We were heading the wrong way!” shouted Tim.

“Well, it's too late to travel for you two,” said Alan. “We should find a place to sleep.”⁹⁷

“I'm all for that,” said Lex, yawning.

“I guess so, too,” said Tim. They started walking.

“This has happened before,” said Lex. She was so occupied with the allosaur she hadn't noticed that she, Tim, and Alan had been in Jurassic Park in the jungle too.

“I know!” said Tim. “If Grandpa makes another one of these dumb parks I'm not coming!”

“I feel the same way!” said Alan. They came to a tree that had been uprooted.

95 This is actually a nice little sequence of dialogue and action, I'd say. And I'm pretty sure we didn't rip these lines off from anywhere, but actually thought them up ourselves. I'm not sure how all of this running through the jungle works at night, though.

96 One. (One what? Just wait, all will become clear.)

97 Uh... presumably there's still an allosaurus somewhere in their general vicinity...

"We could sleep in here," said Alan.

"O.K." said Tim. Lex jumped in. Alan and Tim got in too. Suddenly an othnelia pack ran out of the jungle and started eating some leaves.

"Are they meat eaters?"

"You've asked that before," said Tim. "And why do you think they're eating plants?" asked Tim.

"Well, some are both," said Lex.⁹⁸

"See you in the morning," said Alan.

"See ya'," said Lex.

"See ya'," said Tim.

They went to sleep.

13. RETURN

Meanwhile, Christine Jackson drove a jeep with Ellie Grant and Todd Smith in it. They soon reached the visitor center and got out. Up to the control room they went. When they got in Hammond said, "Phew! We were worried about you. But where're the other people?"⁹⁹

"I don't know. An allosaur attacked us, and we ended up in the jungle. The allosaur started hunting us, but it didn't get us. When we went back to the road they were gone. Then Christine came and picked us up," said Ellie.

"Oh, by the way, that huge beast ate the game warden," said Smith.

"So Alan and the kids are in the park," said Hammond.

"I think we could find them in the morning," said Ellie. They started over to a computer. All of a sudden Ellie stopped. "The deinonychuses are out!" she shouted.

"Oh, their paddock is powered by its own system," said Hammond.

"Smart," said Ellie. She walked over to a computer.

"The system commands are too complicated!" said Arnold angrily.¹⁰⁰

"Well, I'm willing to stay up all night," said Ellie.

"Sir," said Dr. Ages from another computer. "We have received word that a scout team has captured 5 othnelias."¹⁰¹

"Good," said Hammond. "You'll have to de-claw them," he said to Jackson.

"O.K.," said Jackson as she left the room.¹⁰²

Then Arnold said, "I think we should do our routine computer check-up on the dinosaurs."

98 Finally, score one for Lex.

99 If my grandchildren were missing in a dinosaur-filled jungle, I, too, would probably ask about the whereabouts of "the other people."

100 Reminder that the guy saying this line is one of the two computer programmers who designed the system.

101 This line makes me think of something like a *Star Wars* character reporting to his superior officer. It feels so out of place.

102 It is hilarious that Hammond is apparently the one making important decisions regarding animal care.

First a map criss-crossed with lines showing where all the dinosaurs had been recently came up. Of course, some of the lines went out of the paddocks. Then they looked at pictures of some dinosaurs. Then this screen came up:

<u>Dinosaur</u>	<u>No.</u>	<u>No. Expected</u>
Allosaurus	3	3
Ultrasaurus	7	7
Deinonychus	18	10
Dilophosaurus	5	5
Compsognathus	45	45
Kentrosaurus	5	5
Coelophysis	18	18
Mononykus	25	14
Leptoceratops	15	15
Protoceratops	9	9
Maiasaurus	15	7
Iguanodon	6	6
Ankylosaurus	5	5
Quetzalcoatlus	6	6
Othnelia	10	17
Struthiomimus	12	12
Oviraptor	<u>19</u>	<u>19</u>
Total:	223	203

“What?! The dinosaurs can breed?!” shouted Ellie. “I don't believe it! There are 20 more dinosaurs than you made!”¹⁰³

“Actually, 25 more. The computer didn't count the othies we captured,” said Arnold.

Then Ellie said, “There must be frog DNA!”

Then Michaels, who was sitting in the room, said, “I did put some in, but so what?”

Ellie explained, “Some frogs can change gender, so now the dinosaurs with frog DNA can.”¹⁰⁴

103 This scene, with the computer listing all the different species with their expected and actual counts, is based on a similar scene in the original book. In Crichton's book, though, the first time the count is done the expected and actual counts come up exactly the same, and only later, when Ian Malcolm suggests they instruct the computer to increase the number of animals it's searching for, does the actual count exceed the expected count. (Re-reading it as an adult, there are actually some problems with how this is portrayed, such as the supposedly real-time counts being based on motion sensors, which seemingly ignores the fact that dinosaurs, like most animals, *wouldn't be in motion* for much of the time. But still, it was a pretty clever scenario Crichton devised.) In our book, there is nothing like that. We just show the count once, and right away it reveals the shocking news that there are more dinosaurs than there should be. Does this mean that no one had been looking at these numbers for a long time? Or did all the new dinosaurs just appear in the last day? Who knows?

104 This is a very simplified version of the same explanation that was in the original book for how the dinosaurs

14. STAMPEDE

"It's morning already?" Lex said as she woke up. Alan and Tim were already up.

"Well, let's get going," said Alan. "We can follow the river to the road, and after that we can go to the visitor center."

The three people started walking in the direction of the river. Soon Lex said, "I think I can hear water rippling!"

"Are you sure?" asked Tim. "Oh yeah, I can too!"

"Good, we're close to the river," said Alan.

Soon they saw the river. They started following the river. The jungle slowly got thicker. Soon they had to crawl through bushes to get through. Eventually it got so thick they couldn't continue. "Hey, why are you stopping? I can slip through!" said Lex.

"Well, I don't think I can," said Tim.

"No way for me," said Alan. "We'll have to turn back and leave the jungle."

So they went back until it wasn't so thick, and then went out of the jungle to a field. They walked through tall grass. "My legs are tired!" complained Lex.

"I must admit mine are too, but we have to keep going," said Tim.¹⁰⁵

"That's right, Lex," said Alan.

After a few more minutes of walking Lex said, "There are dinosaurs over there! What if they're mean? I'm really tired now, too. We should rest."

Then Alan said, "They look like maisaurs, plant eaters. C'mon, Lex, keep going." The people walked until they came to a clump of trees.

"It's hot," said Lex.¹⁰⁶

"I suppose we could rest," said Alan. The people watched the maiasaur eat and play. "Those are eggs!" said Alan.

"Weird!" said Tim. All of a sudden a baby maiasaur came up to Lex.

"Aww! She likes me," said Lex.

"Actually that's a male," said Alan.

"What!?" said Tim. "How could there be frog DNA in it?"¹⁰⁷

"See if I know," said Alan. Suddenly a maiasaur let out a honk and started to run. Then all of a sudden all of the maisaurs started running.

could breed. (I'm not sure, really, how plausible it is.) In the movie, there was just a little throwaway scene with the explanation "life finds a way." In the original book, the fact that the dinosaurs could breed was a major plot element and really played into the theme of how the park's creators didn't have the control over the system that they thought they did. In our story, it doesn't really have much impact on the plot. Another thing we put in just because it was there in the original story.

105 This line cracks me up, mainly the "I must admit" part. I mean, just imagine someone, particularly a teenager, in this scenario, speaking these words. Tim has an even better line coming up shortly.

106 Lex was kind of whiny in some parts of the original book, but then, she was only "seven or eight." Still, we considered her whininess annoying. We played it up in scenes like this one.

107 Seriously, just take a moment to marvel at this line.

“RUN!” shouted Alan.¹⁰⁸ The people ran towards a tree. Lex jumped onto the nearest branch. Tim tripped on a branch. Alan helped him up. They climbed the tree just as a maiasaur ran below them. Coelophysises jumped towards the maisaurs.

“Phew, that was close!” said Tim.

“Well I’m glad. Now we can get a little rest,” said Lex.

Across the field an immature maiasaur was falling behind. From nearby trees two coelophysises quickly jumped on it’s back. Their claws slashed its flesh and they bit into it to make the kill.

“Ugh, that last part was gruesome,” said Lex.

“Well, the coelophysises were just getting food. They have to survive,” said Tim.

The two coelophysises started eating. Then baby coelophysises ran out from some trees and jumped on the maiasaur. “Hey!” said Lex. “They sound like a bunch of cats!”

The coelophysises were purring like cats, and the babies meowed.¹⁰⁹

Two struthiomimuses emerged from the jungle. One went to the nests and took some eggs. The other watched for maiasaurs and coelophysises. Then they dashed into the jungle.

“C’mon, you two, let’s get going,” said Alan.

“Oh, fine,” said Lex.

They climbed out of the tree and started walking. “Maybe we can find our way back to the river,” said Tim. They went to the jungle.

Suddenly, Lex said, “Something in the trees is watching us!” They were being hunted.

“They’re coelophysises. Get away from them!” said Alan.

The three people ran from the jungle. A pair of coelophysises jumped from some trees.

“Quick, get out of here!” said Alan.

“No. I can do something!” said Lex. She picked up a stone and with a flick of her wrist hit a coelophysis squarely in the stomach. It sprawled over on its back. Then Lex used another stone and sent the other coelophysis flying.¹¹⁰

“Good work!” said Alan. Then the three quickly left where they were attacked and continued towards the river. Finally the people came to the river.

“Look, it’s the road!” said Lex. The road ran into the river.

“But the bridge is out!” said Tim. Sure enough, the bridge was crushed.¹¹¹

“Well, there’s a shed over there, maybe it has a raft in it,” said Alan. “We could take the river,”

“O.K.,” said Tim.

108 Two.

109 Remember way back in chapter seven when the cars were leaving the coelophysis area and Lex said, “Do they keep cats here?” At last, here is the followup explanation to that line.

110 Considering we mostly made Lex whine and/or talk about how hungry she was, it was nice of us to give her her own little hero moment. It’s also a callback to the fact that she liked baseball and had a ball and glove with her in the original book, although the idea of a ten-year-old being able to send a dinosaur “flying” by throwing a stone at it is an interesting one.

111 We never explain what happened to the bridge.

15. THE RIVER

The three people went into the shed. "Look for a raft," said Alan.

"Look, a leptoceratops!" said Lex. "Aww, does she want to play with me?"

"C'mon, look for the raft!" said Tim.

"I wanna play with her. Aww, she's a cute little baby," said Lex.

"Fine, be that way. *I'm* looking for the raft, but you can waste time and play if you want to," said Tim. Then he went through a door to the back room. Alan was already looking in there.

"I haven't found a raft yet," said Alan.

"Me neither," answered Tim. "Wait a minute, I found a raft!"

"Great, let's go!" said Alan.

Alan and Tim carried the raft to the other room and past Lex, but she kept playing. "We can go, already," said Tim.

"Can I take her?" asked Lex.

"I guess so," said Alan.

"Oh, goody! *Now* I can go," said Lex. The people walked outside. Alan put the raft in the river.

"Let's go!" said Tim. The people got into the raft and started floating down stream.

"There's a current!" said Lex.

"There sure is," said Tim.

"Good, 'cause I forgot the paddles!" said Alan.¹¹² The leptoceratops squeaked and chirped.

"She's scared!" said Lex.

"Then let her go," said Tim.

"No!" said Lex. The raft floated into a dense jungle. The leptoceratops suddenly jumped out of Lex's arms and dove into the river. "Oh no!" said Lex.

"It's a wild animal," said Alan. The leptoceratops swam to the shore.

The raft came around a bend and everyone stopped. There, standing on the shore was a dilophosaur. Lex gasped.

"Shhh!" said Tim quietly. The dilophosaur seemed to be watching the tree tops for some reason. Then all of a sudden a leptoceratops ran down a tree. Two more ran down and soon lots were running around. Then they stopped. They saw the dilo. It spat at them. Some scampered on the ground. The dilo spat at the ground a few times. It jumped into the air and snapped at the leptos. Then the raft came around another bend. Some leptos were following the raft on the shore. Then one very curious baby jumped in the river and swam towards the raft. It jumped on.

Lex said, "She came back!"

Then Alan looked at the lepto closely and said, "Incredible! It *is* the same one! I

112 Whomp whomp.

guess she really likes you, Lex.”

The leptoceratops walked over to Lex and sat down in her lap. It happily chirped. Lex said, “I think leptoceratops is my favorite dinosaur now.”¹¹³

The raft continued down the river. Suddenly, the leptoceratops chirped noisily and tried to hide behind Lex. “Hey, what's she 'fraid of?” said Lex. Then she quietly whispered, “Uh-oh. I see allosauruses.”

Alan said, “Stay as still as you can.” Then he thought, “Why don't they see the moving raft? This is queer.”

Then the three people heard squawking. A pair of struthiomimuses ran through the jungle. The allosaurs started chasing, but they were easily outrun. Then the allosaurs moved away from the river.

Dr. Ages and Ellie drove on a field. “Over there's the river,” said Dr. Ages, pointing to the jungle.

“Do you think Alan and the kids could be there?” asked Ellie.

“We could check it out,” said Ages. He drove the jeep towards the jungle but all of a sudden a pair of struthiomimuses ran out of the jungle and behind them were two allosaurs.

“Drive!” shouted Ellie. The struthiomimuses ran on top of the jeep. “They're on top of the car!” shouted Ellie. Soon, though, the struthiomimus got tired of the ride and jumped of. “That was amazing!” laughed Ellie.

“What's that noise?” asked Lex.

“It sounds like a waterfall!” said Tim. Suddenly the raft came around a bend and there in front of the raft was a waterfall!

16. WATERFALL¹¹⁴

“Quick!” Get to the shore!” shouted Alan. He and Tim jumped out and barely made it to the side in time, but Lex shouted, “I have to save her!” She grabbed the leptoceratops but the raft went down the waterfall. Tim and Alan heard screams mixed with loud squeaking, and then nothing but the rush of water.

“C'mon, we have to climb down this cliff to save Lex!” said Alan.

Alan and Tim climbed down the cliff by the waterfall. They went to a pool of water and spotted Lex clutching the baby leptoceratops. They went into the water, which was fortunately shallow, and went over to Lex. Alan said, “Are you okay?”

“I feel fine, but boy was that scary,” said Lex.

Suddenly, ROOAAARRR! “Oh, no! Allosaurs! Run behind the waterfall!” shouted Alan. Everyone ran to the waterfall, with Lex still holding the leptoceratops. When they got behind it Lex said, “Remember last time, Timmy?”

¹¹³ I guess you could say she is a *puts on sunglasses* *leptomaniac* *CSI Miami theme plays*

¹¹⁴ Waterfall!

“Of course I do,” he answered.¹¹⁵

Suddenly, an allosaur head came through the wall of water. It crashed into Lex, who fell to the ground. Another allosaur head came in. The leptoceratops scurried into a cave behind the waterfall. The allosaur heads moved around, sniffing. They were trying to find the people. Alan and Tim slowly moved towards the back. Then Lex got up and ran for the cave. Tim and Alan followed. “Phew! That was close!” said Lex.

Then they heard growls. They turned around and saw mononykuses approaching them, with nests full of eggs behind. The mononykuses attacked and chased the people out of the cave.

They were back at the waterfall! One allosaur head slowly moved around, and then slumped on the floor and out of the opening behind the waterfall. The other quickly moved out and the people heard loud THUDs as it ran away. Tim looked around the waterfall and said, “There’s a dilophosaurus out there eating the allosaur. It must of spit on it. Now compys are coming swimming across the pond and jumping on the allosaur. There’s also a quetzalcoatlus hovering above.”¹¹⁶

Then Alan said, “If we’re careful maybe we can sneak past the mononykuses.”

Lex added, “I hope that lepto’s still in the cave.”

They quietly went in and moved behind some stalagmites. “There she is!” whispered Lex. She picked up the leptoceratops, who was hiding from the mononykuses. They moved through the cave until they came to a back room with lots of maintenance equipment and a jeep. There was a back exit and a lot of mononykuses. Suddenly a mononykus ran at the people. “Oh no!” said Lex. Then suddenly a oviraptor ran in the back exit, but the mononykuses saw it. They attacked it before it could steal any eggs.¹¹⁷

“Run!” shouted Alan.¹¹⁸ The three people and the lepto ran to the car, Alan got behind the wheel, and they were off!

115 In the original book, Tim, Lex, and Alan travel on a river by raft, the raft goes over a waterfall (all three of them, not just Lex, going over with it), and then they go behind the waterfall to evade a tyrannosaurus. So this is another case where we blatantly copied the events of *Jurassic Park*. Also, because Tim and Lex remembered that happening, this is a point where we followed book rather than movie continuity. I believe that scoring it up would result in three points for movie but not book – Hammond is still alive; Alan and Ellie are a couple; Tim, Lex, and Alan ran from stampeding gallimimuses (it was a hadrosaur stampede in the book) – and two points for book but not movie – Tim is older than Lex and the waterfall scene happened. The universe that our book exists in is therefore a weird hybrid of the universes of the *Jurassic Park* novel and film.

116 In Crichton's novel, the big T-rex puts its snout through the waterfall to get at the kids (Alan has gone through a door that locked behind him, separating him from the kids). The T-rex wraps its huge tongue around Tim and starts pulling him toward its jaws. It was a pretty terrifying scene to read as a ten-year-old. Tim is saved when the T-rex is knocked out due to the effects of a powerful tranquilizer dart finally kicking in after Muldoon shot the big carnivore a couple hours prior. We did a very similar thing, but in putting our own spin on it we ended up with the utterly comical scenario of a dilophosaurus choosing to attack a much larger carnivore (rather than any of the myriad herbivores in the park) and somehow *completely incapacitating the allosaurus by spitting on it*.

117 One gets the feeling that our characters bathed in some sort of dinosaur attractant, considering how dinosaurs of all different species keep showing up wherever they go.

118 Three.

17. DEINONYCHUS ATTACK

Back at the visitor center Arnold said, "I'm afraid we'll have to shut down the whole park's power, because it seems Rogers had a secret code to turn back on the power. If we turn it off and then turn it back on then what Rogers did will be erased and we can turn back on the fences."

"O.K., if that's all you can do, I guess we'll have to do it," said Hammond.

Arnold walked over to a box on the wall and turned the combination lock. First right 4 times to 22, then left twice to 33, then right once to 0, and then back to 11. "It didn't work!" he complained.¹¹⁹ Then he turned the lock again and this time it opened. He flipped down 6 switches. The room was plunged into darkness. Then he turned them back up.

Nothing happened.¹²⁰

The jeep drove through the jungle. Tim said, "I thought that scientist said the only other DNA they used was from ostriches and alligators."

"The only possibility is that maybe one day Ming was sick, and the other scientist didn't know not to use frog DNA," said Alan.¹²¹

"Look!" said Tim. "There's the visitor center!"

"Yea!" shouted Lex.

The car pulled up near the visitor center. "It's too bad this happened again," said Tim.

"Yeah, but at least **THEY** aren't out," said Lex, pointing to the nearby deinonychus paddock.

Suddenly, a deinonychus charged the fence. The leptoceratops started to squeal loudly. The deinonychus leapt and hit the fence. It crashed through! There were no sparks when it hit the fence. The deinonychuses' power was off!¹²²

"Quick, get in the visitor center!" said Alan. The three people ran to the visitor center and went in. Fortunately, the deinonychus that broke the fence had fallen, but now the others were pouring through the hole.

After the people got in they rushed up to the control room. "The deinonychuses are out!" they all shouted when they got in.

"Oh, no! Not again!" said Ellie.

"When we tried to turn on the power, a circuit must of broken," said Arnold.

119 If you've ever used this style of combination lock you've probably had times where it didn't unlock because you didn't get the numbers exactly right. This was us trying to add some verisimilitude.

120 We thought this moment was *so cool*. Actually, there is a scene in *Jurassic Park* with the exact same sentence, "Nothing happened," when the attempt to turn the power back on fails. But it wasn't the end of a scene, so ours was more dramatic!

121 Seems reasonable!

122 I'm pretty sure we had in mind that the deinonychuses had started repeatedly attacking the fence as soon as its power went off, and this was the moment they finally broke through, but the way the scene is written makes it seem like we thought the fence would suddenly lose all its physical strength because it was no longer electrified.

"We've had problems with the electrical system before."¹²³

Then a guard said, "I'll go get the semi-automatics." He went down the steps.

"The only way to fix the circuit breakers is in the maintenance shed," said Arnold.

"Well, we'll we to go there," said Ellie. "I volunteer."

"I guess I'll go, too," said Michaels. "It's my fault the dinosaurs can breed."¹²⁴

Hammond started giving orders. "Michaels and Ellie go to the shed. Arnold, you get ready for the power to come back on. Smith, you go find Ming. Tim and Lex, you can go down to the kitchen. I don't think the deinonychuses can get inside."¹²⁵ Me and Alan will stay here." Everyone got to where they were supposed to be.

Alan looked out the window. "Look, there's some deinonychuses down there," he said.

"We're on the second floor," said Hammond. "Don't worry." Suddenly, a crash split the air. The deinonychuses had crashed through the window!

"Run!" shouted Alan.¹²⁶ The people ran for the door. They made it out just in time. The people ran down the hall to the nursery. They got inside just in time. "That was a close one!" said Alan.

Todd Smith walked down the hallway. He remembered which way the lab was, he should check there. He saw the restrooms. All of a sudden a door knob on the woman's started to turn. The door swung open and there, framed in the door way stood a deinonychus. "Ahh!" shouted Smith. "They can open doors!" He ran into the men's restroom and shut and locked the door. Luckily, there were no deinonychuses in there.

"Yum, this food is good!" said Lex.

"I feel like I haven't eaten in years!" said Tim.

They kept eating, when they heard footsteps outside the room. Lex looked out the window and said, "Timmy, there are deinonychuses out there."

Then Tim said, "Hide behind a counter."

They went behind a counter and then they heard rattling. Tim and Lex looked up and saw the door knob was turning. "Oh, no!" said Lex. The door swung open and two deinonychuses entered the room. One raised its head and sniffed the air. It headed towards Tim and Lex. The kids crawled along an aisle. One deinonychus moved around the area where the kids just were. The other went down the aisle on the other side of the kids. Tim moved quickly towards the door but Lex was falling behind. The deinonychuses stopped and sniffed the air. Lex looked at them. They smelled her. One jumped up on a counter and saw her. "Ahh!" screamed Lex. She ran for a walk-in freezer.¹²⁷

"You idiot!" shouted Tim. One deinonychus started at him. The other ran at Lex. Tim ran around the kitchen trying to distract the deinonychus. The deinonychus followed

123 Oh, they've had *problems* with the *electrical system* before? But I thought Hammond said the park was safer this time!

124 Not that the dinosaurs breeding is in any way relevant to the current problems the people are facing.

125 Well, if you don't *think* they can get inside...

126 Four.

127 The kitchen scene was our favorite scene in the movie, so naturally we had to copy it.

him. The other deinonychus walked over to the freezer. It jumped in the freezer. There were shelves in the freezer and Lex started climbing them. Then she spotted some steaks. She grabbed one and threw it at the deinonychus. Then she threw some more. The deinonychus grabbed a steak and started sniffing it. Lex jumped out of the freezer and slammed the door. As the door knob on the freezer began to rattle, Tim met Lex at the door.

“Run!” shouted Tim.¹²⁸

The two kids headed towards the steps to the control room. Tim said, “If we get to the control room we can turn back on the power!”¹²⁹

But then a deinonychus came tearing out of the kitchen with another behind. Tim pulled Lex into the nearest room and slammed the door. He locked it, and then the two surveyed their surroundings. They were in the gift shop. The deinonychuses were roaming around outside, trying to find a way in.¹³⁰

Tim looked at all the displays. A book interested him. It was called The New Illustrated Dinosaur Dictionary. He picked it up. The author was Helen Roney Sattler. He started flipping through the book.¹³¹ He spotted a real weird dinosaur name, *Atlascopcosaurus*, named after the corporation that provided equipment for the dig. He read that it was an Early Cretaceous hypsilophodont found in Australia. It is known from... CRASH! He threw down the book and turned around. A deinonychus had crashed through the window, and the other was coming in. Lex was hiding behind a counter, but Tim was in plain view. A deinonychus was backing him into a corner. He turned around, but there was no where to run. He saw some fossilized bones and picked one up. He hurled it at the deinonychus, who was preparing to pounce. The deinonychus jumped and Tim dove to the floor. Another deinonychus was standing in front of him! He slid right through the deinonychuses legs! The deinonychus fell flat on his face. Tim grabbed the dinosaur book, which happened to be right in front of him, and unlocked the door. He ran out of the gift shop. Then he thought, “Oh no! Lex is in there!”

Lex had been spotted! A deinonychus approached her. She moved farther back. She was by some toys. The deinonychus came closer, and then brushed against a toy. ROAARR! The toy had made a noise! The deinonychus looked around, puzzled. Then Lex ran past it and out the door. She slammed it and saw Tim.

Tim said, “C'mon, let's get to the control room!”

The kids ran up the steps.

128 This doesn't count toward the tally, but you can tell Tim has been hanging around Alan.

129 Let's see, as far as Tim knows, Michaels and Ellie are going to the shed to “fix the circuit breakers” and may or may not have succeeded in doing this, while Arnold should still be in the control room “get[ting] ready for the power to come back on.” How would he know that they should go to the control room to turn on the power? Oh yeah, because that's what they did in *Jurassic Park*!

130 We were aware that our kitchen scene was very similar to the one in *Jurassic Park*, but we were very proud of the even more chilling “gift shop scene” that we added immediately after it.

131 *The New Illustrated Dinosaur Dictionary* is a real book that we made great use of as a reference while writing *Cretaceous Park*. The dinosaur described is a real dinosaur described in the book. This little scene was our tribute to the book and its author. As for what would possess Tim to start reading a book while being stalked by deinonychuses, um... no comment.

18. MAINTENANCE SHED

Michaels and Ellie moved slowly through the jungle. “Up ahead is the shed,” said Michaels.

“Good,” said Ellie. They came to a clearing. In the middle was a small one story shed. Othnelias were running around everywhere, squeaking and chirping. Ellie walked to the door. It was knocked down.¹³² “I don't like this,” said Ellie as she walked into the shed.

It was very dark. “I can't see,” said Ellie.

“Here,” said Michaels. He handed Ellie a flash light. “You take that way,” he said.

“You don't know where the box is!?” shouted Ellie.

Before he could answer Ellie ran down the passage way. She came into another room and looked around. There was a box on the wall. “I bet it has the circuit breakers in it,” she thought.

Then she spotted some coelophysises running around the room. “Uh, oh,” she thought, but the coelophysises were ignoring her.

She opened the box, and there were the circuit breakers. One of the little bulbs had some how come slightly unscrewed. “Maybe the blast of electricity was too much for it,” she thought.¹³³

She screwed it back in and closed the box. The lights came on so she turned off the flashlight. Then she walked out of the room and went to find Michaels. She saw him at the door. “Come on,” said Ellie.

Meanwhile at the visitor center Hammond, Arnold, and Alan went to the lobby near the front of the building. A dead guard's body lay on the floor. “Must of been the one that went for the semi-autos,” said Alan.

Then Hammond walked over to a phone to call the mainland. He dialed 555-4088.¹³⁴ Ring, ring, ring. Then someone answered the phone. Hammond said, “Send some helicopters to Indo Nublar, quick.”

The person on the other end said, “Uh, who is this?”

Hammond said, “This is John Hammond. Send some choppers right away!”

“OK,” said the person on the other end.

“Good!” said Alan. “As soon as Michaels and Ellie get back we can go.”

132 I guess we're supposed to assume that deinonychuses knocked down the door, which seems like it must have been a relatively flimsy door.

133 I'm fascinated by this scene, because I have no idea how we got the idea that circuit breakers were “little bulbs” that could “come unscrewed” if too much electricity ran through a circuit. And yet, there is a very skewed understanding demonstrated of the concept of circuit breakers.

134 This phone number is the standard 555 used for fictional phone numbers plus four digits that were a cross between those from Jay's home phone number and those from my home phone number.

“Let's go get the kids,” said Hammond. They started towards the kitchen. All of a sudden the door for the gift shop swung open and a pair of deinonychuses stepped out. “Run!” shouted Alan.¹³⁵ They ran up the steps.

19. ESCAPE

Dr. Ages and Dr. Jackson walked up the steps towards the lab. “I'm glad the deinonychuses didn't get out,” said Ages.

“So am I,” said Jackson.¹³⁶

Then Dr. Ages said, “I have to go to the restroom.”

They saw the restroom and Ages went over and turned the door knob on the men's. The door didn't open. He knocked on the door. “Aaaaaaahhh!” he heard from inside. “The deinonychuses are coming back!”

“Deinonychuses? What are you talking about? Who's in there, anyway?” said Dr. Ages.

“Phew. I thought you were a deinonychus,” said the person inside.

The door opened and out came Smith. Dr. Ages went in. When he came out Jackson said, “The deinonychuses are out!”

“Well, we'll have to hope they're not nearby,” said Ages.

The three people continued down the hall. Then they heard noises coming from a room. They looked in and there were two deinonychuses! They were eating eggs. Fortunately, they didn't see the people. The next room was the lab. They went in, and there was Ming.

“The deinonychuses escaped,” said Ages.

The four people walked down the hall. Ages said, “Let's split up. I'll look for the kids with you,” he said, looking at Ming. “You two wait for us, and try to find a way to get out of this place.”¹³⁷

The people went their ways. Ages said, “Maybe the kids are trying to turn on the power.”¹³⁸ I guess we could check the control room.”

They walked to the control room. They opened the door and there were the kids. Tim was sitting at the computer.¹³⁹

Meanwhile, Arnold, Alan, and Hammond were running up the stairs. Hammond said, “The passage to the lodge is this way. We can go to the lodge, then climb the fence around it. Well *if* the power is still off. But it's our only hope.”

135 Five.

136 Fools! If only you knew!

137 Those seem like contradictory instructions.

138 Naturally, that's what kids would be trying to do. Maybe Ages had seen *Jurassic Park*?

139 In both versions of *Jurassic Park*, the older of the two children (Tim in the book and Lex in the movie) was the computer expert.

Then the deinonychuses came up the stairs. “Run!” shouted Alan.¹⁴⁰ They went to the door to the lodge.

Christine Jackson and Todd Smith were walking down a hallway. Then they saw three people running, so they started running, too. Then two deinonychuses appeared. One slashed out its claw and got Smith.¹⁴¹ Jackson just dodged the other. Then she and Arnold, Alan, and Hammond went across the passage to the lodge. They slammed the door and stood there, panting.

Michaels and Ellie stepped out of the shed. “Oh my!” said Ellie. A green deinonychus moved out of the jungle. It stood next to the shed and turned gray. It was in perfect range for Michaels tranquilizer. “This is a set up,” said Ellie. Suddenly, two deinonychuses jumped out of the jungle behind them. “What did I tell you?!” shouted Ellie as they ran into the jungle.

The deinonychuses chased them into the jungle. Up ahead was a swamp. It was so foggy around them that all they could see were shapes. And the shapes didn't look very friendly. One was smaller than the others.¹⁴² Michaels whipped out a tranquilizer. Suddenly, he and Ellie slipped and went sliding on their backs. Ellie felt a rush of water but she got her head out of the water in time. Four shapes moved towards her. Suddenly, one jumped where Michaels was. Ellie took a deep breath and dove under water.

Tim typed in SECURITY. A screen came up and he commanded the computer to turn on the fences. “Way to go!” said Ming.

Then Ming, Ages, and the kids walked out of the control room. They went down the stairs and to the front of the building. “Eww!” said Lex.

A dead guard's body was on the floor.

The door knob started turning. “Oh, no!” said Alan. “They can open doors, like the raptors!”

“Huh?!” said Arnold.

“No time to explain,” said Alan, as they dashed down some steps and out the

140 And here is the sixth and final time that the phrase “Run!” shouted Alan' appears in *Cretaceous Park*. All six came over a span of 10 pages of unannotated text. When I shared this book with my (then-future) wife Cara in 2006, out of all the hilarity, the repeated use of this phrase was probably what we found funniest.

141 And down goes our cartoonishly buffoonish lawyer character, in a very quick and understated manner.

142 In case the meaning of this seemingly random sentence is not clear, it's meant to show that one of the deinonychuses is a juvenile.

lodge.

In front of them stood a 25 foot high fence. “That might be too much for my old body,” said Hammond. Then he saw the deinonychuses in the lodge and started climbing.¹⁴³

Alan started climbing right away, but Arnold stumbled. Then he got up on the fence, too. Hammond was already at the top. Alan reached the top when BEEP! BEEP! BEEP! “The fence is going to turn on!” yelled Hammond, who quickly got off.

Alan scurried down just in time, but when Arnold reached the top BUZZZ the fence came on. Sparks flew everywhere and he fell. He landed inside the fence, and the deinonychuses tore him to pieces.¹⁴⁴

Alan and Hammond looked to the emergency copter pad, but no helicopter was there. Then they dashed to a jeep and jumped in.¹⁴⁵

Ellie felt like her lungs were about to explode, but then she was at the other side. She jumped out of the water and ran faster than she ever had before. She came tearing out of the jungle and saw a jeep with two people in it. She jumped in, and the people were Hammond and Alan. Alan stepped on the gas pedal and off they went. Two deinonychuses dashed out of the jungle and starting chasing.

Ming, Ages, and the kids stepped outside. “Let’s get out of here!” said Lex.

“I agree!” said Tim.

“Well, let’s go get a jeep and drive to the copter pad,” said Ages. “It’s the safest place in the park.”

They walked towards a jeep in front of the deinonychus paddock. They got in and Ming started to drive. Suddenly a pair of deinonychuses jumped at the people in the car. SCREEECH! Ming slammed down the brake. One deinonychus jumped at the rear bumper, but Ming swerved the car away from it. Then he floored the gas pedal. The speed needle started rising. 10, 15, 20, 25. The deinonychuses closed in. 40, 45, 50. A deinonychus’s claw scraped against the back of the car, but then the deinonychus fell on the ground. The speed rose to 70 and then 80.¹⁴⁶

“Phew, that was a close one,” said Lex.

The car continued along the road. Then they saw a jeep stopped in front of them. There were huge blue shapes in front of them. They were ultrasaurs. The deinonychuses were coming from behind. The deinonychuses got within one car length, when the last ultrasaur *finally* passed. The jeep in front of them started up, and then

143 And here is the incredible peak moment of all the times in this book that Hammond does things that are totally out of character. In the movie *Jurassic Park* you may recall that the man walked with a cane. Let’s not forget that Hammond was the one who *came up with the escape plan* that involved climbing this 25-foot fence!

144 In the *Jurassic Park* novel, there is a very exciting scene where velociraptors are chewing through metal bars on the lodge’s roof above the skylight of the room where the bedridden Malcolm and some other characters are, and Tim turns on the electricity to the metal bars just in time to save the characters from a gruesome death. In *Cretaceous Park*, Tim turns on the fences just in time to kill Arnold.

145 I just realized that we forgot about Jackson, who was with Alan, Arnold, and Hammond in their previous scene.

146 We did come up with a climactic scene that was both a pretty cool idea and *not* a ripoff of *Jurassic Park*, with our heroes driving to the copter pad with deinonychuses in hot pursuit.

they drove away just in time.¹⁴⁷ Soon a helicopter came into view. The two jeeps stopped in front of the copter and the people got out. Suddenly, Lex shouted, “The deinonychuses!”

The deinonychuses were closing in! Almost everyone was in the helicopter. Tim got in, and then Alan. Alan was about to close the door when a leptoceratops jumped out of a jeep and jumped in. There was no time to get it out, so Alan slammed the door. The helicopter rose up, but a deinonychus leapt into the air. It reached out its hand and the claw scraped the metal. The deinonychus just hung in the air for a second, but then it fell to the ground.¹⁴⁸

“Whoa!” said Lex.

“I do not believe it!” said Tim.

“That was worse than Jurassic Park!” said Ellie.

“Jurassic Park?!” said Ming, Ages, and Jackson simultaneously.¹⁴⁹

Finally everyone calmed down. Then Alan said, “What about the other people?”

The pilot of the helicopter said, “They were picked up at the emergency helicopter pad at the visitor center.”¹⁵⁰

The helicopter kept flying, and then the baby leptoceratops hopped in Lex's lap. Lex smiled and said, “I wonder what my friends will think when I show them my pet dinosaur?”¹⁵¹

147 This was a fairly clever way to provide some additional tension, but it does seem pretty far-fetched that the people would not have been able to drive either around or under the ultrasaurs.

148 Imagine that moment on film. It would be rather exciting, wouldn't it? I mean, good job us, considering we were in fifth grade.

149 Hey, Jackson is back! I guess she teleported from the lodge to the helicopter pad.

150 I wonder if this includes the mystery man from chapter 6 who came running up by the deinonychus paddock, asked if everyone was all right, and then walked off into the jungle.

151 Awwwwwwwwwwww.

APPENDIX

After completing the book, we took pictures in my backyard with our toys to create “scenes from the film adaptation.” Here are the pictures. The dinosaurs and action figure are Jurassic Park toys; the vehicles are some other random toys we had. Top: the allosaur attack. Bottom: the climactic helicopter escape.

