



The Story of Life in 25 Fossils: Tales of Intrepid Fossil Hunters and the Wonders of Evolution

By Donald R. Prothero

[Download now](#)

[Read Online](#) 

The Story of Life in 25 Fossils: Tales of Intrepid Fossil Hunters and the Wonders of Evolution By Donald R. Prothero

Every fossil tells a story. Best-selling paleontology author Donald R. Prothero describes twenty-five famous, beautifully preserved fossils in a gripping scientific history of life on Earth. Recounting the adventures behind the discovery of these objects and fully interpreting their significance within the larger fossil record, Prothero creates a riveting history of life on our planet.

The twenty-five fossils portrayed in this book catch animals in their evolutionary splendor as they transition from one kind of organism to another. We witness extinct plants and animals of microscopic and immense size and thrilling diversity. We learn about fantastic land and sea creatures that have no match in nature today. Along the way, we encounter such fascinating fossils as the earliest trilobite, *Olenellus*; the giant shark *Carcharocles*; the "fishibian" *Tiktaalik*; the "Frogamander" and the "Turtle on the Half-Shell"; enormous marine reptiles and the biggest dinosaurs known; the first bird, *Archaeopteryx*; the walking whale *Ambulocetus*; the gigantic hornless rhinoceros *Paraceratherium*, the largest land mammal that ever lived; and the Australopithecus nicknamed "Lucy," the oldest human skeleton. We meet the scientists and adventurers who pioneered paleontology and learn about the larger intellectual and social contexts in which their discoveries were made. Finally, we find out where to see these splendid fossils in the world's great museums.

Ideal for all who love prehistoric landscapes and delight in the history of science, this book makes a treasured addition to any bookshelf, stoking curiosity in the evolution of life on Earth.

 [Download The Story of Life in 25 Fossils: Tales of Intrepid ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online The Story of Life in 25 Fossils: Tales of Intrep ...pdf](#)

The Story of Life in 25 Fossils: Tales of Intrepid Fossil Hunters and the Wonders of Evolution

By Donald R. Prothero

The Story of Life in 25 Fossils: Tales of Intrepid Fossil Hunters and the Wonders of Evolution By Donald R. Prothero

Every fossil tells a story. Best-selling paleontology author Donald R. Prothero describes twenty-five famous, beautifully preserved fossils in a gripping scientific history of life on Earth. Recounting the adventures behind the discovery of these objects and fully interpreting their significance within the larger fossil record, Prothero creates a riveting history of life on our planet.

The twenty-five fossils portrayed in this book catch animals in their evolutionary splendor as they transition from one kind of organism to another. We witness extinct plants and animals of microscopic and immense size and thrilling diversity. We learn about fantastic land and sea creatures that have no match in nature today. Along the way, we encounter such fascinating fossils as the earliest trilobite, *Olenellus*; the giant shark *Carcharocles*; the "fishibian" *Tiktaalik*; the "Frogamander" and the "Turtle on the Half-Shell"; enormous marine reptiles and the biggest dinosaurs known; the first bird, *Archaeopteryx*; the walking whale *Ambulocetus*; the gigantic hornless rhinoceros *Paraceratherium*, the largest land mammal that ever lived; and the Australopithecus nicknamed "Lucy," the oldest human skeleton. We meet the scientists and adventurers who pioneered paleontology and learn about the larger intellectual and social contexts in which their discoveries were made. Finally, we find out where to see these splendid fossils in the world's great museums.

Ideal for all who love prehistoric landscapes and delight in the history of science, this book makes a treasured addition to any bookshelf, stoking curiosity in the evolution of life on Earth.

The Story of Life in 25 Fossils: Tales of Intrepid Fossil Hunters and the Wonders of Evolution By Donald R. Prothero **Bibliography**

- Sales Rank: #319476 in Books
- Brand: Columbia University Press
- Published on: 2015-08-25
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 9.10" h x 1.30" w x 5.90" l, 1.50 pounds
- Binding: Hardcover
- 408 pages



[Download The Story of Life in 25 Fossils: Tales of Intrepid ...pdf](#)



[Read Online The Story of Life in 25 Fossils: Tales of Intrep ...pdf](#)

Download and Read Free Online The Story of Life in 25 Fossils: Tales of Intrepid Fossil Hunters and the Wonders of Evolution By Donald R. Prothero

Editorial Review

Review

Donald R. Prothero is one of the most talented science writers of his generation?as a paleontological writer, he has no peer. This is an engaging, attractive book!

(David J. Bottjer, University of Southern California)

There is no other book that brings together such diverse fossils and tells their unique stories in a way that is both accurate and approachable.

(Xiaoming Wang, curator of vertebrate paleontology at the Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County)

The Story of Life in 25 Fossils shows the reader the joys of paleontological discovery as well as the stories behind some of the most important fossils. I loved reading it, and I suspect that most paleontologists, and many members of the general public, will feel the same way?the text is lucid, extremely easy to read, and highly informative. Anyone interested in ancient life-forms and the fossil record would be well served to buy this book.

(Bruce S. Lieberman, University of Kansas)

Prothero, an outstanding paleontologist and skilled communicator, has written the best up-to-date account of the history of life as revealed by the fossil record that I have ever had the pleasure to read. His lucid prose brings these long-dead organisms back to life, while painting a picture of how all life has been interconnected through evolution. I was especially struck by the inclusion of field outcrops, as well as museums, where one can go to see these fossils. I will keep Prothero's book handy as a core reference for years to come!

(Niles Eldredge, author of *Eternal Ephemera: Adaptation and the Origin of Species from the Nineteenth Century Through Punctuated Equilibrium and Beyond*)

A guide to museums where the original fossils or high-quality reproductions are housed and more than 150 illustrations accompany Prothero's lively account of the science and politics that shaped the rich history of these discoveries.

(*Kirkus Reviews*)

Engaging and accessible.... Ideal for anyone interested in the origins of life on earth.

(*Library Journal (starred review)*)

An accessible, well-done book that will better enable general readers to understand the fossil record and how paleontologists interpret it.

(*Publishers Weekly*)

Prothero's careful description of 25 fossils... offer[s] an overview of the progression of plants and animals in the last 3.5 billion years.

(Ashley Yeager *Science News*)

[Prothero] pays attention not just to the fossils themselves but to the continuing quest to uncover and understand how life has been changing since it first came into existence on Earth. Sure, *The Story of Life in 25 Fossils* includes snakes with legs, giant dinosaurs, walking whales and extinct primates whose existence confirms that our own species is a variety of modified ape. But most chapters also introduce us to the researchers who labored to pull back the curtain on lost worlds.

(Brian Switek *Wall Street Journal*)

Ideal for all who love prehistoric landscapes and delight in the history of science, this book makes a treasured addition to any bookshelf, stoking curiosity in the evolution of life on Earth.

(Ian Paulsen *The Birdbooker Report*)

Prothero brings erudition and expert perspective to the material, but animates it in an entertaining and accessible manner. It reads like a fun conversation with a learned friend.

(Nathan H. Lents *The Human Evolution Blog*)

Written with bright enthusiasm... [*The Story of Life in 25 Fossils*] is a wonderful primer.

(Rob Hardy *The Commercial Dispatch*)

Chock full of excellent and interesting illustrations.... [Prothero] writes excellent, readable prose, and vigorously makes connections between evolutionary questions and evolutionary data.

(*Greg Laden's Blog*)

A thoroughly enjoyable, highly readable, and entertaining book. Prothero is a masterful communicator of science and a lover of paleontology, and these traits have combined to produce one of the best books on the history of life I have read. If you want an introduction to the history of life on Earth, get this book.

(Jason S. Anderson *BioScience*)

A great introduction to the history of life on the planet Earth... A solid primer on why evolution is true.... A

fun read with lots of tales of paleontological adventure and derring-do.... I recommend this book without hesitation.

(John Dupuis *Confessions of a Science Librarian*)

A magnificent journey through life's story told in such loving detail.... Highly recommended.

(*Choice*)

[The book], written with bright enthusiasm and describing clearly how the fossil record shows evolution to have occurred, is a wonderful primer about what paleontologists do.

(*The Dispatch*)

About the Author

Donald R. Prothero has taught college paleontology and geology for almost four decades at the California Institute of Technology, Columbia University, Occidental College, Vassar College, and Knox College. He is adjunct professor of geological sciences at California State Polytechnic University at Pomona, adjunct professor of astronomy and earth sciences at Mt. San Antonio College, and research associate in vertebrate paleontology at the Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County. He is the author of more than thirty-five books, including *Bringing Fossils to Life: An Introduction to Paleontology* and the best-selling *Evolution: What the Fossils Say and Why It Matters*. He has also published more than 300 scientific papers. In 1991, he received the award for Outstanding Paleontologist Under the Age of 40. In 2013, he was awarded the James Shea Award by the National Association of Geoscience Teachers for outstanding writing and editing in the geosciences.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Norman Williams:

Why don't make it to be your habit? Right now, try to ready your time to do the important behave, like looking for your favorite publication and reading a reserve. Beside you can solve your short lived problem; you can add your knowledge by the guide entitled The Story of Life in 25 Fossils: Tales of Intrepid Fossil Hunters and the Wonders of Evolution. Try to the actual book The Story of Life in 25 Fossils: Tales of Intrepid Fossil Hunters and the Wonders of Evolution as your buddy. It means that it can to become your friend when you experience alone and beside that course make you smarter than previously. Yeah, it is very fortuned for yourself. The book makes you far more confidence because you can know everything by the book. So , let us make new experience as well as knowledge with this book.

Pearl Dyson:

Book will be written, printed, or illustrated for everything. You can realize everything you want by a guide. Book has a different type. As we know that book is important thing to bring us around the world. Adjacent to that you can your reading skill was fluently. A publication The Story of Life in 25 Fossils: Tales of Intrepid

Fossil Hunters and the Wonders of Evolution will make you to be smarter. You can feel considerably more confidence if you can know about every thing. But some of you think that will open or reading any book make you bored. It's not make you fun. Why they can be thought like that? Have you trying to find best book or suitable book with you?

Gary Jensen:

The Story of Life in 25 Fossils: Tales of Intrepid Fossil Hunters and the Wonders of Evolution can be one of your nice books that are good idea. All of us recommend that straight away because this reserve has good vocabulary that will increase your knowledge in words, easy to understand, bit entertaining but nevertheless delivering the information. The copy writer giving his/her effort to set every word into delight arrangement in writing The Story of Life in 25 Fossils: Tales of Intrepid Fossil Hunters and the Wonders of Evolution however doesn't forget the main place, giving the reader the hottest along with based confirm resource details that maybe you can be among it. This great information can easily drawn you into new stage of crucial considering.

Mary Scruggs:

You can get this The Story of Life in 25 Fossils: Tales of Intrepid Fossil Hunters and the Wonders of Evolution by visit the bookstore or Mall. Just viewing or reviewing it might to be your solve difficulty if you get difficulties for ones knowledge. Kinds of this e-book are various. Not only through written or printed but can you enjoy this book by e-book. In the modern era just like now, you just looking because of your mobile phone and searching what their problem. Right now, choose your own ways to get more information about your book. It is most important to arrange yourself to make your knowledge are still change. Let's try to choose proper ways for you.

Download and Read Online The Story of Life in 25 Fossils: Tales of Intrepid Fossil Hunters and the Wonders of Evolution By Donald R. Prothero #UOBL760MTWQ

Read The Story of Life in 25 Fossils: Tales of Intrepid Fossil Hunters and the Wonders of Evolution By Donald R. Prothero for online ebook

The Story of Life in 25 Fossils: Tales of Intrepid Fossil Hunters and the Wonders of Evolution By Donald R. Prothero Free PDF d0wnl0ad, audio books, books to read, good books to read, cheap books, good books, online books, books online, book reviews epub, read books online, books to read online, online library, greatbooks to read, PDF best books to read, top books to read The Story of Life in 25 Fossils: Tales of Intrepid Fossil Hunters and the Wonders of Evolution By Donald R. Prothero books to read online.

Online The Story of Life in 25 Fossils: Tales of Intrepid Fossil Hunters and the Wonders of Evolution By Donald R. Prothero ebook PDF download

The Story of Life in 25 Fossils: Tales of Intrepid Fossil Hunters and the Wonders of Evolution By Donald R. Prothero Doc

The Story of Life in 25 Fossils: Tales of Intrepid Fossil Hunters and the Wonders of Evolution By Donald R. Prothero Mobipocket

The Story of Life in 25 Fossils: Tales of Intrepid Fossil Hunters and the Wonders of Evolution By Donald R. Prothero EPub

UOBL760MTWQ: The Story of Life in 25 Fossils: Tales of Intrepid Fossil Hunters and the Wonders of Evolution By Donald R. Prothero