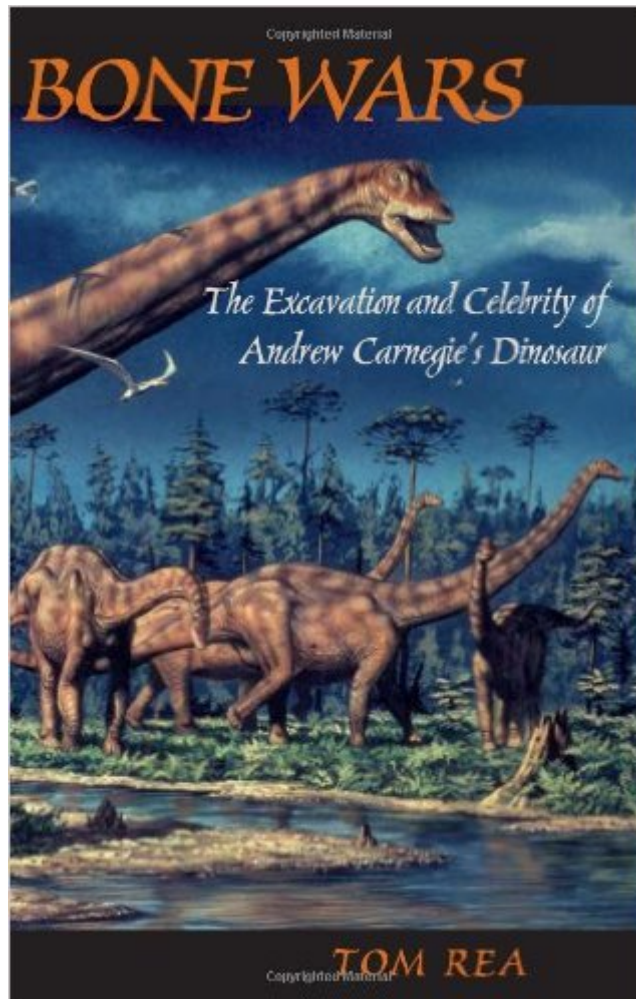


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Bone Wars: The Excavation Of Andrew Carnegie's Dinosaur



Synopsis

Tom Rea traces the evolution of scientific thought regarding dinosaurs and reveals the deception, hostility, and sometimes outright aggression present in the early years of fossil hunting. This book details one of the most famous and notorious dinosaur skeletons ever discovered: *Diplodocus carnegii*, named after Andrew Carnegie.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Where Dead Voices Gather
Nick Tosches
Little Brown and Company
writer: BRUCE MILLER
With his big bushy moustache and sun-weathered skin, Tom Rea looks like one of the tough paleontologists staring out of one of the black-and-white photographs in his book, *Bone Wars: The Excavation and Celebrity of Andrew Carnegie's Dinosaur*. His voice, though, has the soft polite tone of a professional who has worked indoors for the better part of his life. Imagining Rea to be like one of the men he wrote about is probably a tribute to how vividly he portrays the people who made Carnegie's dinosaur such a sensation. Rea is quick to cite the abundance of letters he used as primary source material. "The whole story is filled with interesting characters," says Rea. "The personalities are so strong in those letters. I don't know if it's the line of work that draws strong-minded people to it -- they certainly weren't in it for the money -- but in any case they didn't want other people to get in the way of finding out what the bones could tell them. Sometimes they disagreed quite strongly." Rea comes from a family that knows geology and paleontology -- his uncle is a geologist; his brother is a geologist at the University of Michigan; geology was also his mother's avocation -- but he came to write his book by following a less scientific path. He grew up in Pittsburgh looking at Carnegie's

dinosaur at the Carnegie Museum. After graduating from Williams College in Massachusetts in the early 1970s, Rea spent a few summers visiting his uncle's ranch.

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