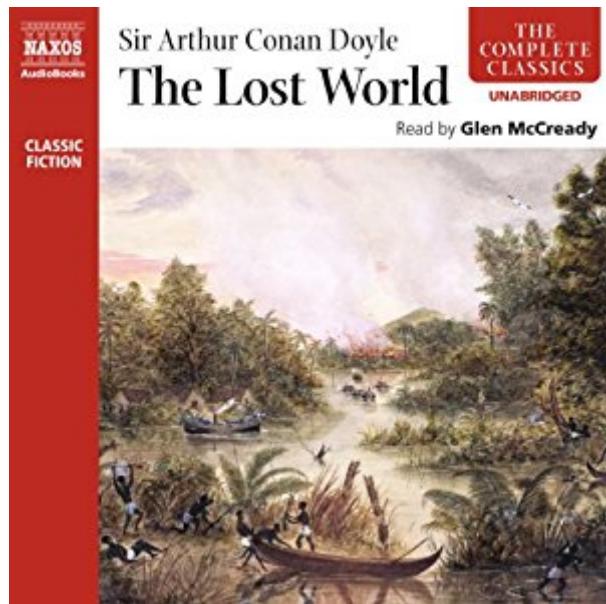


The book was found

The Lost World



Synopsis

Edward Malone, the narrator of *The Lost World*, the novel in which Challenger first appeared, described his first meeting with the character: His appearance made me gasp. I was prepared for something strange, but not for so overpowering a personality as this. It was his size, which took one's breath away — his size and his imposing presence. His head was enormous, the largest I have ever seen upon a human being. I am sure that his top hat, had I ventured to don it, would have slipped over me entirely and rested on my shoulders. He had the face and beard, which I associate with an Assyrian bull; the former florid, the latter so black as almost to have a suspicion of blue, spade-shaped and rippling down over his chest. The hair was peculiar, plastered down in front in a long, curving wisp over his massive forehead. The eyes were blue-grey under great black tufts, very clear, very critical, and very masterful. A huge spread of shoulders and a chest like a barrel were the other parts of him which appeared above the table, save for two enormous hands covered with long black hair. This and a bellowing, roaring, rumbling voice made up my first impression of the notorious Professor Challenger. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

The author's name drew me in. What else did Sherlock's creator write? Turns out the somewhat antiquated style was not an obstacle to enjoying a well-thought-out endeavor. The characters reflected their time and circumstances, a fascinating look backward. The plot itself (no spoiler alerts)

is unique and, even for today's reader, somewhat educational. Doyle's vocabulary was mind-expanding. Overall, a worthwhile and recommended read.

I loved the book. The premise, the adventure, the dialogue, its all amazing. The author really knows how to surprise you. My only issue with book is the cover. I bought the Papercover one, with a big T-Rex on it, which is why I kept expecting a T-Rex to show up. The person who drew the cover obviously never read the book, because sadly no T-Rex appears. Besides that, the book is amazing. The dialogue really is something else!

An enjoyable read - hypothesizing alternative lifelines from the prehistoric until the present.

You don't need my opinion to tell you that this piece of classic is worth every bit of attention you can spare. The premise may sound old and familiar to our senses having seen a more popular movie franchise dealing with a similar concept. But if you attempt to imagine the period in which it is set and which it was written, you would get the level of excitement it may have created back then. This would have been like the Alien or Inception of its day-not completely graspable yet mind blowing. The story is about more than just dinos though. Adventure is peppered throughout the plot, right from journey through a rain forest, to internal tensions, and not to mention an epic battle between humans and....let me just leave that to your imagination. Basically the story doesn't fail to deliver mystery, adventure, comedy or even sheer ridiculousness. Its a must read not just for dinosaur fans.

I really wasn't sure what to expect with this book. I've read most of Doyle's Sherlock Holmes mysteries but had no idea he had written any science fiction. This was quite enjoyable and just as good as anything I've read by Jules Verne or H.G. Wells, at least as far as my memory can recollect. This was the story of an expedition to a high, nearly inaccessible plateau in South America with many living specimens of prehistoric life. It is full of adventure and the science of the times. The main professor's arrogance was both amusing and pathetic. There is nothing particularly profound or thought provoking. It is just a fun adventure story with dinosaurs and "ape-men" and a professor who fancies himself a god.

It starts with a journalist visiting a cranky, aggressive scientist to ask about his most recent trip to

South America. After getting kicked out, and gamely returning for second attempt, the scientist agrees to tell what happened. The journalist believes him, helps him put a four-man expedition together at the gentleman's club, and they steam up the until they find the plateau of the dinosaurs. I say this is a source for Up because of the Fantastic Creature, the South American location, and the way the scientist is disbelieved for lack of evidence when he claims that Fantastic Creature exist. This is a source for Jurassic Park because Dinosaurs, Cranky Scientist (he reminded me of Hammond's character in the book), Big Game Hunter (from the sequel), and Oh Dear God We're Going To Die. The scene about arranging the Expedition reminded me of the set-up in Around the World in 80 Days -- Proper Gentlemen in a Men's Club, Doing Things Properly. Dinosaur nerds will probably pop a vein over the mixing of the eras (there's cavemen), but this is fiction. Accuracy is not as important as an entertaining story. This is primarily an adventure, set in a science fantasy, and the mother-source for the subgenre of Dinosaurs Still Exist In a Remote Jungle Somewhere Tropical. Enjoy the ride.

This truly is a classic. Hard to believe it's over 100 years old

I'm not sure I knew Doyle did rather a lot of stuff other than Sherlock Holmes. I probably should have. He was an author after all, and he did contrive to kill off Holmes at the end of one of his series of stories, probably so he could get on with other things. Then, he did bring Holmes back for another run later on, perhaps because he was more-or-less forced to? I dunno. Whatever, it appears that Doyle wrote a whole series of more-or-less sci-fi books about a guy named Prof. Challenger. This is the first of the series, and likely the only one I'll read. But who knows? I may need another break from Dickens and Willa Cather (or Murakami if I go back to reading dead-tree stuff). In this book, Prof. Challenger claims to have found a lost world deep in the Jungle that is on a plain that is elevated in such a way that no one can either get to it or away from it. But...there are reports of actual dinosaurs in the lost world. Challenger claims to have some vague proof and is hooted down. So, he heads back off there with three other people to prove to the world that he is one of the greatest of living scientists. His companions are a skeptical fellow "man of science", a British peer, big game hunter and general all around adventurer, and a journalist who thinks his engaging in an adventure will convince the woman of his dreams to marry him. So, off they go, have marvelous adventures, almost lose their lives multiple times and so forth. This is a Edwardian adventure yarn, need I say more? It's not the greatest book ever written, nor even a very good one. But it's fast paced, easy to read and fun. Old-fashioned escapist literature. It's kind of weird when I read about

"men of science" in these 100-year old books. In a way, I'm a man of science, but I never see much of any familiarity with these people and their interests and my own. True "men of science", it appears, rather more fancy zoology and botany than they do discharges, small molecules and spectroscopy.

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