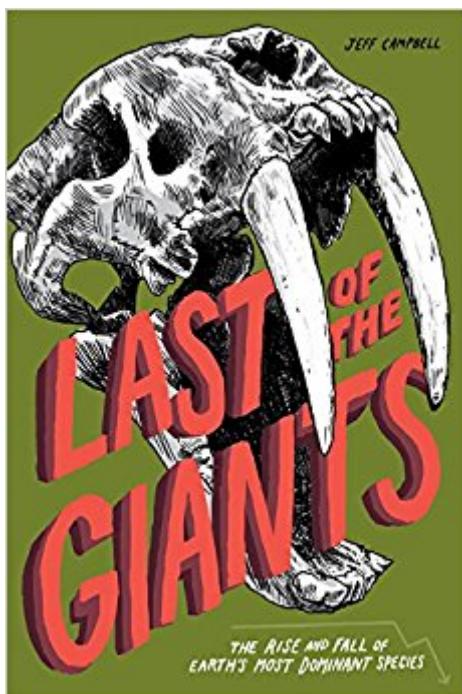


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# Last Of The Giants: The Rise And Fall Of Earth's Most Dominant Species



## Synopsis

Today, an ancient world is vanishing right before our eyes: the age of giant animals. Over 40,000 years ago, the earth was ruled by megafauna: mammoths and mastodons, saber-toothed tigers and giant sloths. Of course, those creatures no longer exist, due to the evolution and arrival of the wildly adaptive human species, among other factors. Many more of the world's biggest and baddest creatures - including the black rhino, the dodo, giant tortoises, and the great auk - have vanished since our world became truly global. Last of the Giants chronicles those giant animals and apex predators who have been pushed to extinction in the modern era.

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: 1180 (What's this?)

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Age Range: 12 and up

Grade Level: 7 and up

## Customer Reviews

Gr 9 Up  •The extinctions of giant (both in size and number) species at the mercy of nature and humanity turn out to be a fascinating and jarring lesson for our present. Chronicling the fates of aurochs, moa, passenger pigeons, and sea cows, alongside the unresolved destinies of today's lions and tigers, this work gazes back at evolutionary history through a retrospect that, with the aid of Campbell's humorous and scientific tone, is truly 20/20. Thankfully, the text's explorations of these annihilated species are complex and perceptive and go beyond the usual worn conclusion of human-wrought woe. Mixing geology, ethnography, history, zoology, biology, industry, and

sociology, Campbell demonstrates how interconnected Earth's species and societies—human and nonhuman—are. By examining the complex web of evolution through the misfortunes of these lost species, the author drives home that our present is not a final, linear result of history but rather an ever-evolving system that needs care and attention. To that end, a "Call to Action" section laden with resources for the aspiring activist appears at the end; though there is no index, an extensive list of works cited illuminates a path for those who wish to read further. VERDICT Required reading for the budding naturalist and a good pairing for a STEM or history curriculum, too. —Chelsea Woods, New Brunswick Free Public Library, NJ

"These timely, important, and fascinating stories will encourage readers to save all life, no matter its size."—Booklist (starred review) "[Campbell's] explorations of these annihilated species are complex and perceptive and go beyond the usual worn conclusion of human-wrought woe. . . Required reading for the budding naturalist and a good pairing for a STEM or history curriculum too."—School Library Journal (starred review) "These timely, important, and fascinating stories will encourage readers to save all life, no matter its size."—Booklist (starred review) "These timely, important, and fascinating stories will encourage readers to save all life, no matter its size."—Booklist (starred review) "[Campbell's] explorations of these annihilated species are complex and perceptive and go beyond the usual worn conclusion of human-wrought woe. . . Required reading for the budding naturalist and a good pairing for a STEM or history curriculum too."—School Library Journal (starred review) "Expertly chronicles those giant animals and apex predators who have been pushed to extinction in the modern era. Very highly recommended for school and community library children's books collections."—Children's Bookwatch "The amount of research that went into this book is evident. Included are the stories of thirteen species; some are long extinct, and others (in a much smaller form) are still with us. The chapters on each animal are well written, full of facts, and engaging."—VOYA

This is not an actual review per se as much as it's a "heads up" for the Kindle edition: I do not have an actual Kindle device, but rather use the Kindle app for my phone, tablet and computer. On this app, this book WILL NOT enter night mode nor does it allow any resizing of the text. Also, it appears to be missing several words and paragraphs; a page will end on one paragraph but begin the next page apparently midway through another paragraph. Since it can't enter night mode, this is a battery killer of a book, and if you're trying to read this on a phone the text is impossible to see and cannot

be resized. The Kindle highlighting mode that I've learned to love does not operate on this either. The content of the book itself is beautifully arranged and honestly very interesting, but some of the pages are out of order - for instance, page 27 does not continue onto page 28 but rather page 29.

Very sad. These animals become more than a name and a picture as you get to know their habits, lifestyle, and sometimes even something about their personalities. And just as you start to love them, you get to lose them all over again. It hits you hard that extinction is so much more than death. That no member of that genetic family will ever walk the earth again.

The font on my Kindle display was extremely small and all font adjustment functions were disabled. I've read many books on my Kindle without any font issues so my impression is that this particular book has some formatting/programing issues. I was unable to read this book due to the issues.

I found the subject matter interesting but the formatting of this book makes it impossible to read on my Kindle. Pages open up with a typeface some 1 or 2 points. Zooming in results in a great deal of tedious scrolling. I gave up trying to read the damn thing. This is the first time I have seen something so squirrelly for Kindle.

If you purchase this book to read on a Kindle forget it. The text will not resize and it is mosquito size as other have said in previous reviews. I abandoned reading it

You get essentially, pictures of each page, unreadable on a kindle, barely readable on a bigger I Pad. Don't understand how can do this!!

The font cannot be changed for this book! so I removed it from my Kindle. font enlargement is why I read on a kindle

Terrible, no font adjustment available, stuck with super small font, don't buy it, unless this problem is fixed.

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