

# Sea Dragons: Predators of the Prehistoric Oceans

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# Reviews

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# SEA DRAGONS: PREDATORS OF THE PREHISTORIC OCEANS



University Press of Kansas. Paperback. Condition: New. 326 pages. Dimensions: 8.8in. x 6.9in. x 1.1in.In the days when dinosaurs dominated the earth, their marine counterpartsevery bit as big and ferociousreigned supreme in prehistoric seas. In this entrancing book, Richard Ellis, one of the worlds foremost writers on the denizens of the deep, takes us back to the Mesozoic era to resurrect the fascinating lives of these giant seagoing reptiles. Working from the fossil record, Ellis explores the natural history of these fierce predators, speculates on their habits, and tells how they eventually became extinctor did they He traces the 200-million-year history of the great ichthyosaurs, plesiosaurs, and mosasaurs who swam the ancient oceansand who, according to some, may even still frequent the likes of Loch Ness. Picture if you will seventy-foot dragons with foot-long serrated teeth, or an animal that looked like a crocodile crossed with a shark the size of a small yacht. With its impossibly long neck, Plesiosaurus conybeari has been compared to a giant snake threaded through the body of a turtle. At a length of nearly sixty feet, Mosasaurus hoffmanni boasted powerful jaws and teeth that could crunch up even the hardest-shelled giant sea turtle. And Kronosaurus queenslandicus, perhaps the most formidable of the lot, had a skull nine feet longmore than twice that of Tyrannosaurus Rexwith teeth to match. The first book about these amazing animals in nearly a century, Sea Dragons draws upon the most recent scientific research to vividly reconstruct their lives and habitats. Their fossils have been found all over the worldin Europe, Australia, Japan, and even Kansasin lands that once lay on the floors of Jurassic and Triassic seas. Along the way, the book also provides intriguing insights into and entertaining tales about the work, discoveries, and competing theories that compose...

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