Bushmaster: Raymond Ditmars and the Hunt for the World s Largest Viper (Hardback)

By Dan Eatherley

Skyhorse Publishing, United States, 2015. Hardback. Condition: New. Language: English . Brand New Book. The amazing story of one man s obsession with an enigmatic and deadly reptile. Raymond Ditmars (1876--1942), the first curator of reptiles at New York s famous Bronx Zoo, brought cold-blooded animals to public attention as never before. Through wildly successful books and movies, he inspired a generation of zoologists with his fascination for snakes, insects, and other misunderstood creatures. Ditmars was among the most celebrated naturalists in America. His reptile-collecting trips for the zoo spawned newspaper headlines across the world. Although a serpent lover, he was all too aware of the devastating effects of snakebites and was instrumental in the development of antivenom. His films and writings brought him fame, but he remained a devoted zoo employee, doing what he loved most: caring for animals. Bushmaster tells the story of this remarkable man and what became an obsession with the mysterious bushmaster of the South American rainforest. Measuring up to thirteen feet in length, this is the world s largest viper, and its scientific name, Lachesis muta, translates as silent fate. Despite numerous expeditions to jungles from Honduras to Brazil, Ditmars could never capture a...

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