



## Dinosaurs of Darkness (Life of the Past)

*Thomas H. Rich, Patricia Vickers-Rich*

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Dinosaurs of Darkness

Thomas H. Rich and Patricia Vickers-Rich

The discovery of the polar dinosaurs and the world in which they lived.

Dinosaurs of Darkness opens a doorway to a fascinating former world, which existed in Australia between 100 million and 120 million years ago, when Australia was far south of its present location and joined to Antarctica. Over the past two decades, scientists have determined that dinosaurs lived in this polar region.

The way we have come to know about this lost world—so different from any that exists on Earth today—makes for a fascinating story. Thomas H. Rich and Patricia Vickers-Rich, who played crucial roles in this discovery, describe their efforts to collect the fossils indispensable to our knowledge of this realm and the laboratory work that unlocked the secrets of these fossils. And they report on the activities of hundreds of other individuals who helped shape the outcome. Their journey of scientific adventure is full of the ambiguities of life; it begins with one destination in mind and ends at another, arrived at by a most roundabout route, down byways and back from dead ends. *Dinosaurs of Darkness* is a personal account of the way scientific research is actually conducted and how hard it is to mine the knowledge of this remarkable life of the past.

Thomas H. Rich is Curator of Vertebrate Paleontology at Museum Victoria in Melbourne and coauthor (with Patricia Vickers-Rich) of *Wildlife of Gondwana: Dinosaurs and Other Vertebrates from the Ancient Supercontinent* (Indiana University Press).

Patricia Vickers-Rich holds a Chair in Paleontology at Monash University, where she lectures in the Earth Sciences Department.

Life of the Past—James O. Farlow, editor

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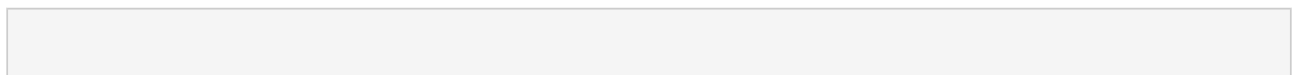
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