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## Cover Discussion

- ① Look at the front cover and the title of the book.
  - a Who do you think the people in the picture are?
  - b What kind of place are the people in?
  - c What do you think they are doing there?
  - d What kinds of animals do you see?  
Can you name them?
  - e What do you think the title means?
- ② Read the blurb on the back cover.
  - a What kind of story do you think you are going to read?  
Funny? Scary? Adventurous?  
Sad? Mysterious?
  - b What kind of story do you usually like to read? Why?

## The Plot

London, around 1911. Ned Malone is a young reporter for *The Daily Gazette*, a popular London newspaper. He wants to marry Gladys, the love of his life. But Gladys wants to marry a hero. So, Ned sets out to be one for her.

He asks his editor to let him write a story full of danger and adventure so that Gladys will marry him. The editor agrees to let him interview Professor George Edward Challenger, a famous zoologist, and the "most dangerous man in London".

Challenger dislikes reporters, but after he and Ned have a terrible fight, he comes to like and trust the young man. He invites him on an expedition to the Amazon to help him prove his discovery of prehistoric animals there.

Joining them on the expedition is the famous Professor Summerlee, who does not like Challenger and wants to make him look like a madman. Also on the expedition is Lord John Roxton, a famous explorer.

When they reach South America, they become trapped on top of a plateau formed millions of years ago by a volcanic explosion. There, they must fight for their lives against giant prehistoric animals and a tribe of ape-men.

Will the explorers live to prove Professor Challenger's discovery to the world? Will they ever escape from the plateau and return home?





## The Author



*Sir Arthur  
Conan Doyle*

Arthur Conan Doyle was born in Edinburgh in 1859. Besides *The Lost World*, he wrote the famous Sherlock Holmes stories.

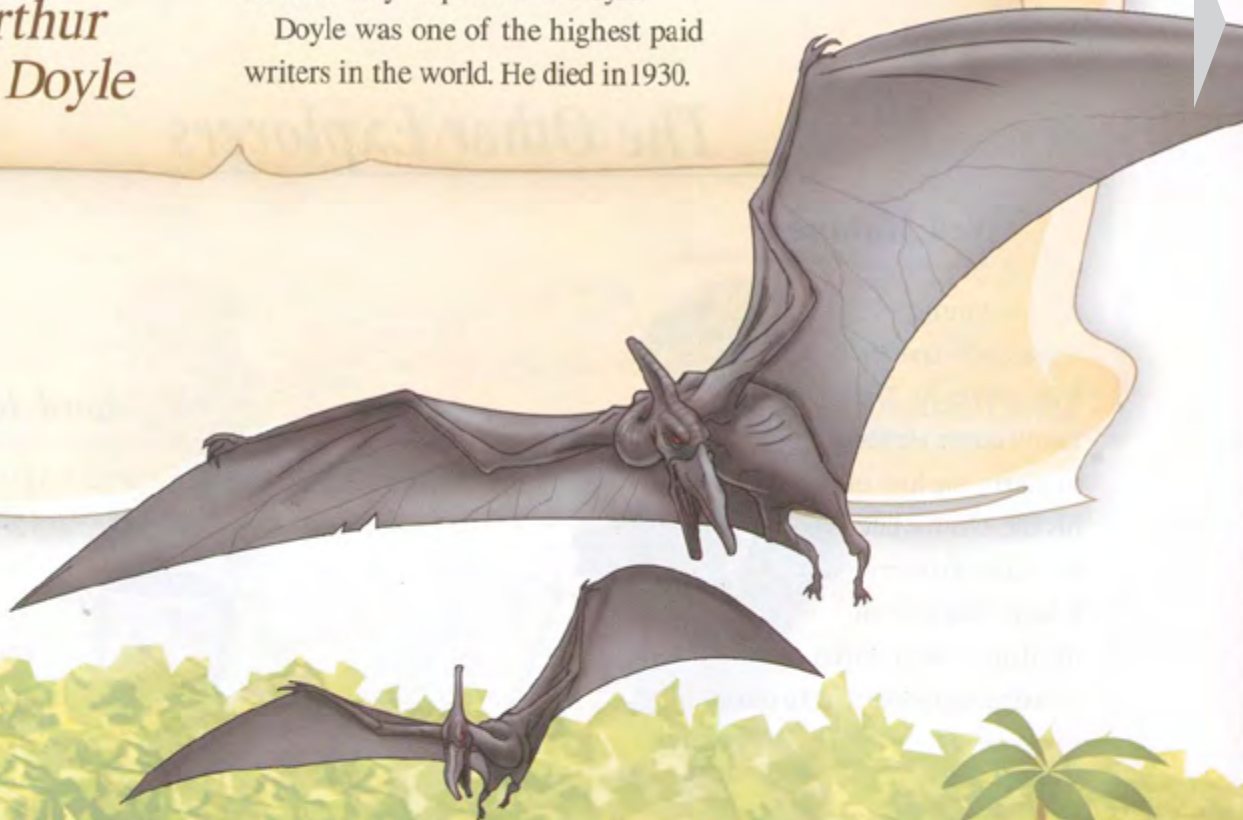
Many of the characters in his stories were a lot like the friends and teachers he had in college.

Doyle was not only a writer, he was also a doctor. He worked as one in the South African War (1899-1902). When he returned to England from the war, the King gave him a special honour and he became Sir Arthur Conan Doyle.

He then wrote more Sherlock Holmes stories, including *The Hound of the Baskervilles*.

Doyle was married two times and had a son who died in World War One. After this tragedy, religious matters became very important to Doyle.

Doyle was one of the highest paid writers in the world. He died in 1930.





# The Professors

## Professor George Edward Challenger



... is a great zoologist who has found prehistoric animals on an expedition to the Amazon. But other scientists have laughed at him and called him a liar. This makes him very angry, and he is going back to the Amazon to prove the truth to the world.



## Professor Summerlee



... is a famous old professor who does not like Professor Challenger. He wants to make Challenger look like a madman to the world. He thinks he can prove that Challenger is lying about his work in the Amazon country.

# The Other Explorers

## Ned Malone

... is a young newspaper reporter who works at *The Daily Gazette*. He wants to marry the love of his life, Gladys, but she wants to marry a hero. Ned goes on the dangerous Amazon expedition to prove that he is one.



## Lord John Roxton

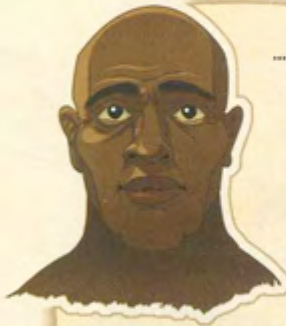
... is an English gentleman. He is a great explorer who has been on many trips to the Amazon. He is strong and fearless and he speaks the language of the natives. He is a very good person to have around in a dangerous situation.



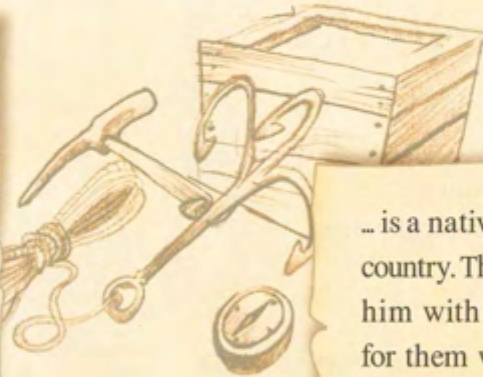


## The Helpers

### Zambo



... is a huge African who carries supplies and equipment for the explorers when they get to the Amazon. He is strong and loyal and always ready to help.



### Gomez

... is a native of the Amazon country. The explorers take him with them to cook for them when they get to the Amazon. He dislikes Lord John who shot his brother three years earlier in Peru.



## The Indians

### Maretas

... is a young Indian chief who begs the explorers to take him and his friends back to their village. Maretas calls them his friends and helps them in a very important way.



### The Old Indian Chief

... is the leader of the Indian village and Maretas' father. He greets the explorers happily and wants them to stay and protect the village from its enemies.

