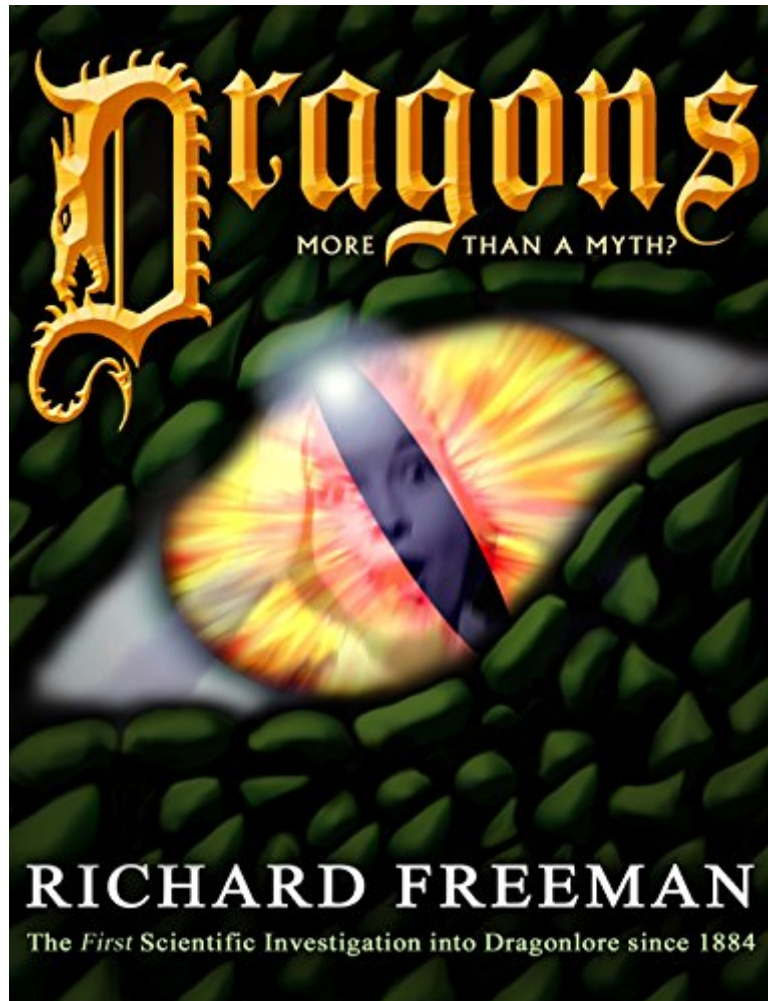




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Dragons: More Than A Myth



Synopsis

Four teenage boys are dragged to their deaths by a reptilian monster that emerges from a fog-bound sea off the coast of Florida. In the north-east of England, a shadowy cult is rumoured to have sacrificed human victims to a dragon-god well into the 20th century. In New Guinea, giant lizards with huge teeth and claws kill dozens of villagers and send the natives into a panic. In the Gambia, an enraged dragon smashes a bridge, tipping people to their doom. These all sound like the scripts for horror films or novels, but they are all alleged to have actually happened - and furthermore, well within living memory. From our earliest childhood, we are taught that dragons are imaginary beasts; the stuff of myths and legends, yet these most ancient of monsters are still being reported from all corners of the globe in this, the age of reason. Could the dragon legends have a basis in fact? Richard Freeman, cryptozoologist, author, explorer, adventurer, and Zoological Director of the world's largest mystery animal research organisation, follows this uber-monster right across the globe, from prehistory to the present day. He tracks it from the steamy jungles of the Congo, to the desolate lakes of eastern Siberia. The dragon rears its scaly head in every culture on Earth; from the Indians to the Australian Aborigines, and from the Vikings to the Pygmies. The inescapable conclusion is that there are very real beasts at the core of these fantastic stories. The dragon has its teeth and claws deep into the collective psyche of mankind, and it's not about to let go. Our most ancient fear still stalks the earth today. Beware. This is no fairytale! When your parents told you that there were no such things as dragons, they lied!

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Customer Reviews

This book is quite possibly the best source of information one could come across concerning the idea that dragons were, and are, real creatures. Richard Freeman discusses old dragon tales as well as dragon encounters throughout the ages including, most significantly, in modern times, and offers a number of explanations as to what reality lies behind the "myth" of the dragon. Some dragon traditions arose from findings of fossils of prehistoric creatures (often interpreted as "dragon bones" by a number of old cultures). Others came from encounters with giant sized crocodilians, lizards and snakes. Some dragons could be undiscovered large "reptilian" creatures. And finally, it could even be that there are some dragons that are "paranormal" things like thought forms and interdimensional entities. Overall, *Dragons: More than a Myth?* is both an exciting and informative read. I was particularly intrigued by the reports of strange flying creatures, by the reports of sea serpent encounters and by the indications that the Loch Ness Monster might in fact be "supernatural".

Nevertheless, I do have a few criticisms. For instance, Richard Freeman is quite skeptical of the idea that any non-avian dinosaurs could have survived into the present due to a lack of recent fossils. Concerning the saurian-like cryptids Freeman suggests that these are instead creatures other than dinosaurs (he, for instance, proposes that the sauropod-like Mokele-Mbembe of the Congo is a giant, long-necked, omnivorous monitor lizard). I'd like to say that I do not share Freeman's skepticism in this regard. Absence of evidence is not evidence of absence, and as such the lack of recent fossils does not prove that there are no saurian survivors. My own view on the matter of living non-avian dinosaurs is that they may well exist, though at the same time I won't dismiss Richard Freeman's claims of the existence of non-dinosaur creatures of saurian appearance. Freeman's criticism of claims of surviving non-avian dinosaurs also extends to the ideas of surviving pterosaurs, plesiosaurs, pliosaurs, thalattosuchians and so on. Again, he proposes that the sightings reminiscent of these prehistoric creatures were in fact sightings of different creatures that merely bore some resemblance to the above mentioned. While I personally have no problems with prehistoric survivors, I'm open to Freeman's idea that there are other non-prehistoric creatures involved in the sightings. Unfortunately, Richard Freeman only rarely gives any suggestions to the identity of the prehistoric-looking creatures in question. Aside from these minor criticisms of mine,

the book was an excellent read and I would highly recommend it to anyone with an interest in dragons, cryptozoology or just mysteries in general.

Arrived Safely

Really fascinating book about cryptids. The books is divided ...Really fascinating book about cryptids. The books is divided by waht dragons could be from surviving dinosaurs, giant reptiles, unknown creatures and even paranormal creatures. The author even give the explanation that the "dragons" could be tulpas. For those who don,t know a tulpa is a creature of the mind that the mind could give life to. The bibliography is really interesting for further reading.

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