



The Jurassic World

The Land, that Time Forgot

by Zinnia Ahmad



MILLIONAIRE John Hammond took his two grand children and fossilists Alan Grant and Ellie Sattler to a lonely island in Central America. The purpose of this was to witness the dream he had at last fulfilled.

The helicopter that brought them there landed at the foot of a beautiful waterfall. From there, Hammond and his companions boarded the waiting car on which was written 'Jurassic Park'. Yes, 'Jurassic Park' was the dream that Hammond had cherished in his mind for so long. They had extracted the DNA of dinosaurs from a blood sucking insect found stuck on amber, and then using the genes techniques they had made dinosaurs. Those same dinosaurs which had disappeared from the face of this earth millions of years ago.

The dinosaurs eggs-called dino—were hatched in the laboratory, then set free in the conserved forest in Jurassic Park. With an overwhelming eagerness to see those amazing creatures of the pre-historic era Hammond's companions set out in search of the dinosaurs.

It seemed as if they had gone millions of years back by time-machine, to the ancient world. They saw gigantic tyrannosaurus upsetting cars full of people, dilophosaurus spitting poisonous substances, hunting in groups. Steven Spielberg's recent film Jurassic Park, like Spielberg's other famous sci-

ence-fiction films, Jurassic Park also has the mixed atmosphere of fear, apprehension and amazement, along with the wonderful application of the latest technology. As the alien in 'E.T.' makes one shiver and the gigantic whale in 'Jaws' makes one blood freeze, the dinosaurs in 'Jurassic Park' are enough to take away the audience's breath. There was nothing Spielberg failed to show.

Spielberg had to take the help of many world famous fossilists in order to make 'Jurassic Park' based on the well known novel by Michael Crichton. He was helped chiefly by animator and dinosaur-lover Phil Tippett and famous fossilist

Jack Horner. The 4kg heavy and 12m long tyrannosaurus model by Stan Winston scared even Horner, who later admitted that it really looked like a live dinosaur.

But how was life induced into these dinosaur models? The technique used was ILM (Industrial Light and Magic). Here the latest computers were also put to use. The only difference between live dinosaurs and Stevens dinosaurs is that the machine based creatures never get weary. According to Mark Dipp, in-charge of the visual effects of ILM, the computer directed creatures can do anything that a real creature can do. After watching Jurassic Park there is no



way one could disagree with Dipp.

Of course, the expenses behind all these were quite high too. An estimated amount of 65 million dollars. But Universal its producer was quite certain that they would get the money back from the film. They were absolutely right. They huge profits amounted not only from the audience but also from various souvenirs from T-shirts to video games-based on a thousand things shown in Jurassic Park. 'MacDonalds' had also sold free dinosaur posters to 7 million students in March. And so, the dinosaur-fever spread to all corners of the world.

It's not that there was never a film produced on dinosaurs or pre-historic creatures. 'The Lost World', 'One Million BC', 'The Beast from 20,000', 'Fathoms', 'Gorilla', and 'Gurty' the Dinosaur are also similar films. But Jurassic Park was an outstanding work among them. Spielberg had succeeded in giving life to those dinosaurs, he had created an effective awareness about dinosaurs among people from all walks of life. There

is no doubt that we shall forever remain grateful to Spielberg.

The 'mesozoic era' or the period of rule by the reptiles may be divided into 3 distinct periods: triassic, jurassic and cretaceous. This era of 160 million years started 225 million years ago and ended 67 million years ago.

Triassic lasted 30 million years. Jurassic was a period of 55 million years and cretaceous was 66 million years. It is during the triassic era that dinosaurs had only come to being, while in the other two periods they spread to all parts of the world. There is absolutely no similarity between the jurassic world and today's world. At that time, Greenland and North America had only started moving west away from Euro Asia. South America was joined with Africa instead with North America as the present time. Antarctica and Australia had only started separating. North India had just separated from Africa, while the rest of India was formed a lot later.

The level of land at that time

was very high while in northeast Europe and west America the land was below sea level. The weather was hot and humid, and it rained a lot. The land had dense forest supplying food to the roaming dinosaurs in land, water and air.

In Spielberg's Jurassic Park where the DNA of dinosaur was found in a blood-sucking insect, and Michael Gicton, the writer of the novel from which the film was made, is not totally wrong in his theory, either which proves dinosaurs can be brought back. It is true that scientists are trying to bring back extinct animals.

In 1984, a group of scientists in the university of California had extracted the DNA of a donkey-like creature that had gone extinct in 1983. The DNA was found in the skin of a dead carcass. The scientist are now trying to use the PCR (Polymerase chain reaction) technique to make this creature. As its DNA is a lot similar to the living donkey, scientists believe it will take only 20 more years to bring back this creature to the earth.

Source Ananda mela



The Transition Period

by Moin Ghani

WALKING down the streets of Dhaka you are certain to come across young teenage boys or girls (which is what they like being called by) with long hair and cigarettes in their hands. They usually walk down the streets in a gang or drive around in cars with blasting music. The way they act it seems that their dads have just bought the roads and given it to them as a birthday present. This is such a common sight that most of the people have come to accept this as normal. However, is this what the picture should look like?

Teenage, the transition period from childhood to adulthood is probably one of the most difficult periods to cross in a level-headed manner. Teenagers are easily influenced by others and most of the times they are coaxed into doing wrong things. Smoking, is just one of the many alarming traits found in many teenagers of today. Alcohol is being secretly sold to many of the teenagers who are barely sixteen or seventeen. Drugs have also gripped many of our teens. The dire consequences of these addictive habits need not be mentioned. Everyone knows just how bad they are. The fact, that the future of this country, lie in the hands of these teenagers, is quite frightening.

Even though there are teenagers who have not picked up smoking, drinking or drugs it can not be said that they are ideal examples of a well brought up teenager. Most teenagers of today spend more time watching televisions,

dancing or partying than they do in reading books. Reading books is considered a bore and exclusively reserved for needs and bookworms.

However, who is responsible for these derailed lives of youths today? The parents are to be blamed just as much as their children. Parents of today are undoubtedly more lenient than those of the past. Teenagers, as a result, are probably given more freedom than they can handle. They need constant advice and a driving force to guide them towards the right path. Parents should keep track of exactly where their children are going, who they are associating with and what they are doing outside their homes. They also should not silently accept arrogance from their children. To put it simply they should make it clear who the boss is. The teenagers should also give their parts the credit of knowing more. It is not right on their part to complain that parents can not understand them because of the generation gap. The generation gap theory is just an excuse the clever teenagers use to escape from their parents.

It is high time that these teenagers are brought back to the right track. They should be taught to appreciate that there is more to life than smoking, drinking and partying. They thus ought to be brought up in a manner which would help them think rationally and be more alert about what they do. However, stating what should be done is easy. Seeing to it that it does ~~not~~ done is quite a different story.

Fun Competition

Here comes another fun competition. Can you imagine what could have possibly happened before this situation, our cartoonist has described, and what is about to happen? Well if you can, then write about 700 words describing the incident.

An attractive award awaits the best entry, however all the stories you'll be sending will be published unless they are rejected. Print your name and registration number and send your entries within two weeks of this publication to The Daily Star office.

Good Luck!

RS Editor.



Murder or War

by Adeeb Z Mahmud

IT had been raining all through the morning and eight-year old Karina was tired of having nothing to do but watch the raindrops splash on the lake behind their house. The showers seemed to get stronger by the moment and whoever up there had turned on the tap, had no intention of closing it in a hurry. Little Karina got up and walked across the room to the balcony where her uncle was comfortably positioned in an armchair with the morning paper in his hand.

"Uncle, I'm bored. Would you tell me a story?" she asked, then after a moment's thought, added, "Please?"

Her uncle looked up from the paper. "How come," he began with false tone of annoyance in his voice, "that the only time you want to hear my stories is when you can't go out to play with your friends or there's no cartoon to watch on TV or you have absolutely nothing else to do?"

"But that's not true Uncle." The little girl tried to sound serious. "My favourite pastime is that word right or should it be timepass — anyway is listening to your stories. It's just that I don't get enough time with so much else to do."

"Oh," her uncle tried to conceal his amusement, "so what shall it be now? Kings, fairies or beasts?"

"Uncle, I'm too old for those stuff," Karina sounded shocked. "I want something more mature — or is the word mature — never mind. I want to hear something like ... am ... let's see ... murder! Yes, that's it uncle, murder!"

"Murder? Let see ... o.k. then, once upon a time, some men having just crossed a large field were ..."

"They were ill looking fellows. I dare say," Karina broke in.

"Not really. On the contrary they were as tall and personable men as you could expect. Anyway, having crossed the field and leaving an old ruined building on their left ..."

"It was at midnight, was it not, uncle?", Karina interrupted again.

"Actually it was a fine balmy summer morning. They moved forward one behind another in a long unbroken line ..."

"As still as death, creeping under the hedges, I assume," put in Karina.

"I can't say so, my dear. In fact they were walking remarkably upright and far from endeavouring to be hushed or still, they were talking loudly and making strange noises with their various instruments."

"But uncle, they would be found out immediately."

"They didn't seem to conceal themselves. They glided in what they were about and moved forward to a large plain where stood a neat pretty village. This village, they set on fire and while it was burning they murdered twenty thousand people."

"Oh come on uncle, you don't really think I'd believe that. Do you mean to say, they all lay still and let those fellows cut their throats?"

"Oh no, they resisted as long as they could."

"How could these men kill twenty thousand people?"

"Why not? The murderers themselves were thirty thousand."

"Oh, now I've found you out uncle. You mean a war," Karina shouted out.

"Indeed I do, my child. I don't know any murder that's half so bloody."

Jokes

"Don't you believe it!" said the barman. They're actually father and son but they're always to drunk to recognize each other."

Irishman: "If God didn't want me to have any more children he wouldn't let me drink on Saturday nights."

"I bet you don't know how

Your seven-year-old sibling

by Z Ahmad

WHILE parents go on complaining to one another about their teenagers with their music world, long telephone conversations and frequent parties. Would anyone care to know about these teenagers' feelings, when the six-year-old sister dances all over the bed singing 'Choli Ke Peeche Kya Hai' or when the six-year-old brother demands to know from them what Norquest is? I seriously doubt that. We, too have our difficult part of life with them.

Teenagers of this generation are said to be getting wild. I, myself, don't totally disagree with that. But, how about throwing the limelight, at least for the time, being on that part of the population whose age group lies between 4 yrs-7 yrs? This species of the homo sapiens, consider themselves the all-too-knowledgeable and unfortunately they aren't that ignorant about life either. If we teenagers look back into our pencil-using days we might as well consider ourselves dumb.

These kids are not only wise guys but brats as well. I don't why, but probably owing to all these recent researches on how to 'develop your baby's mind,' etc type of stuff, kids nowadays are far more naughtier and much more quick-witted.

Their ear-shattering screams, running about the whole place, messing things up and interfering into other people's work not only gets on to the parents' nerves, the teenage siblings, cousins or uncle/aunt also have to bear these kid characteristics. Along with such

physical examples of naughtiness, their understanding capability seems to have taken a gigantic leap.

It was only that day during one of the episodes of 'Kothao Keo Net' that I got a shock listening to 'a conversation between my four and a half years old sister and six-year old cousin.

My sister: Why did Moona come to visit Baaker Bhai in jail?

My cousin: Because they love each other.

My sister: Why do they love each other?

My cousin: Baaker Bhai loves Moona because she is beautiful and Moona loves Baaker Bhai because he is the good 'Maastan'.

My sister: Oh, I see.

Did she? Sometimes I wonder. And I am also often surprised at the seriousness with which she watches movies and dramas and suddenly ask: "Why did the man save the girl?" or "Why did her father spank her for talking to the guy?" — with an air of innocence.

That's right. Such stuff are all uttered quite innocently and

often just out of curiosity. They are also ignorant about the meaning of the various slangs and names they pick up from — us? Quite often I hear my kid sister muttering "shit" or "dammit" if she makes mistakes when doing her homework. And instantly I blame myself.

These kids cannot really be blamed for practising punches and kicks, when there are action movies being watched at

tremendously. My favourite lipstick was smudged on to the mirror. The eye-shadow had been used to write her name on the wall and she was just in the act of pouring out the contents of the nail polish! My instant reaction was, of course, to give her a good scolding which made her go home crying.

But I have also noticed that kid brothers and sisters can be really angelic to their teenage siblings as long as we are extremely good to them. Certain examples of such good behaviours, from personal experience include telling them ghost/king-queen stories every night, allowing them to punch us, letting them listen to their nursery rhymes, letting them scribble over the physics copy and, of course, promptly answering the screams for a glass of water at 3 am every night!

Music Corner

- Top -10 Singles
1. Anya — Deep Purple
 2. Angry Again — Megadeth
 3. Runaway Train — Soul Asylum
 4. If I were a carpenter — Robert Plant
 5. Even if my heart would break — Kenny G and Aaron Neville
 6. Cant help falling in love — UB 40
 7. Shape of my heart — Sting
 8. Two princes — Spin doctors
 9. Until you suffer same — poison
 10. Ruby Tuesday — Rod Stewart

- Top -10 Albums
1. Bottle Rages on — Deep Purple
 2. Last action Hero — (Motion picture sound track)
 3. Zooropa — U2
 4. Packet full of Kryptorite — Spin Doctor
 5. Grave Dancers Union — Soul Asylum
 6. Unplugged — Neil Young
 7. Fate of Nations — Robert Plant
 8. Blues alive — Gary Moore
 9. On the night — Dire Straits
 10. Promises and lies — UB40

Courtesy Rainbow

Jonathan's New Radio

by Julian D'Silva

JONATHAN's father bought Jonathan a new radio from Japan. So one day when he was walking down the street he took his radio along with him. While walking he met his friend Cliff. Cliff was a very clever sort of a boy. At once Jonathan started to boast about his new radio. He told Cliff that it was a Japanese radio and it was a very expensive one. What else could poor Cliff say for himself, so he quickly replied "If it is a Japanese radio then how can you understand what it's saying?"



The New Girl

by Naina Ahmad

"CHILDREN, this is Susan," a new girl. She's from Texas, and I want all of you to see that she feels free here. Ally, will you show her about?" Ms. Tilly was introducing a new girl and when she addressed me, I jumped.

"Hum... yes I will," I said. "Good. Take your seat beside Ally, Susan," said the teacher and the class started.

I could not concentrate on my work. How was I going to talk to her? I was so nervous that I began to shake. I am very shy and have no true friends. I avoid all types of public speaking and anything of the sort.

And now I'm stuck with a new girl. Susan. Not a bad name but rather common. I decided to give her a chance. Not that I meant to be her friend, though.

I carefully watched her. Susan is a very pretty girl. She is brunette and quite tall. How old is she? Well maybe fifteen, like me. She has lovely eyes, I must admit, and a very nice smile (not all too bad for a friend-huh?).

Half an hour after Susan was introduced school was over. Susan went home and I invited her over to my house for lunch the next day. (Now, what am I doing?)

And that's how Susan Marly came to my house for lunch on 14th August. After lunch I decided to show Susan our year-book, my exercise copies and text books. I explained all the rules and showed her the routine and lunch schedule when.....

"Do you like me Ally?" asked Susan suddenly.

"A weird question, why shouldn't I? I tried to remain calm...."

"Well..... you seem to be just doing your duty and you're not friendly. I know you think I'm dull and boring because I'm new but give me a chance to fit in!" cried Susan.

Now it was my turn to say something. "Listen, Susan. I'm just a bit shy! Why should you be dull? You can be as interesting as any of us!"

And that was the beginning of our friendship.