

WHEN I WAS SIX YEARS OLD, I FOUND A PLASTIC DINOSAUR IN A BOX OF CEREAL.

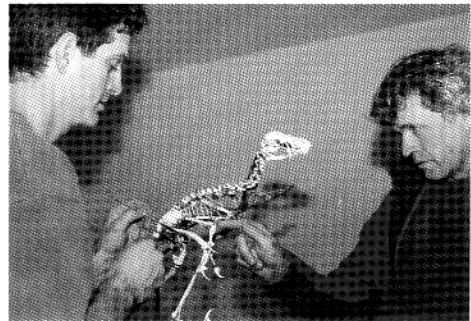
What a fateful day that was! That model fired me up so much I went on to collect more plastic dinosaurs, and read everything I could about those remarkable animals. Eventually, it led me into a career of collecting and studying dinosaur fossils. Today, I work in a wonderful facility, The Royal Tyrrell Museum of Palaeontology in Drumheller, Alberta, Canada, in the badlands where dinosaur fossils are abundant.

I have many opportunities to work with creative people who portray dinosaurs in different ways. Among all of the artists, cartoonists, film makers and writers I have worked with over the years, one of my longest and most fruitful associations has been with Brian Cooley and Mary Ann Wilson, the authors of this book.

Brian's artistic ability, knowledge of dinosaur anatomy and attention to detail have made him one of the world's top dinosaur sculptors. He is the ideal person to guide you through the process of creating your own dinosaurs.

Even with all my training and experience, I still learn a lot when Brian asks me how the bones of a skeleton actually go together. Often we end up pulling bones out of the Museum's collections so we can consider how they fit together and how the muscles were attached.

Most people can learn more by building models than by just looking at museum displays and books. If you wish to make your dinosaurs as accurate as possible, there are many resources to help. It's also fun



Brian Cooley, on left, with Dr. Philip Currie

to create dinosaurs from your imagination. You can use your artistic talents to make them esthetically pleasing or to strike terror into the hearts of your friends.

More than anything else, always have fun as you embark on your project!

Philip J. Currie
CURATOR OF DINOSAURS
Royal Tyrrell Museum
of Palaeontology

Brian Cooley and Mary A. Wilson. 2000.
Make a Saurus.
Annick Press.