

Peter and Tara Interview

Originally, I had the BBC arrive as a result of Peter and Tara's dinosaur find on the beach. I changed it so that the book starts with the BBC interviewing Dr Simmons. I think this sets the scene better and leads into Peter and Tara's discovery.

We walked across the car park and saw a woman holding a microphone and a man carrying a large camera. When they spotted us, they rushed over.

"I'm a reporter from the BBC," the woman said excitedly. "Are you Peter and Tara?"

"Yes," we replied, looking at each other puzzled. The BBC! What was going on?

"And you found the dinosaur fossil?" the reporter continued.

"Dinosaur!" I exclaimed, turning to Mary. She smiled knowingly at me.

The reporter glanced at her notebook and continued, "Dr Simmons, from the Heritage Centre has just informed me that the fossil is a rare dinosaur from the Jurassic Period, approximately 150 million years old."

That was why there were so many people here! We had found a dinosaur! A rare dinosaur fossil!

"Can you come and stand by the fossil, please," the reporter asked, "I'd like to interview you for a piece on the evening news tonight."

We walked through the crowd of people. I felt proud and excited that we were going to be on TV but nervous

PETER AND TARA INTERVIEW

too. Everyone was looking at us expectantly as we walked over to the trailer with the reporter. I glanced at Tara. She looked excited and smiled back happily.

“Good luck,” Mary whispered as the reporter began her piece to the camera.

“I’m here on the beach at Seatown,” she began, “on the Jurassic Coast in Dorset. With me are two young fossils hunters who have just made an astonishing discovery.”

She turned to us, “Peter, Tara, can you tell me how you found the fossil.”

“We...” I began. My mind went blank! I could not think what to say! Tara came to the rescue.

“We went to look for fossils on the west beach and discovered there had been a large rock fall,” she said clearly into the camera.

She seemed so calm and composed! She carefully explained what had happened and how, with Sparky’s help, we had discovered the fossil.

“Can you tell me how long you’ve been collecting fossils?” the reporter asked Tara.

“I started looking for fossils a few years ago, with my dad,” Tara replied. “We used to come to the Jurassic Coast on holiday.”

“And what about you, Peter,” the reporter continued, turning to me.

“I started collecting fossils this summer,” I replied, feeling less nervous now, “when I moved here and met Tara.”

“Have you ever found anything like this before?” the reporter asked me.

I shook my head. “We mostly found ammonites – but once we found a shark tooth.”

“Thank you, Peter and Tara,” the reporter said, “and let me wish you every success in your fossil hunting careers!”

JURASSIC ISLAND DELETED SCENES

As we moved away from the trailer, I whispered excitedly to Tara, “You were brilliant!”

“Thanks,” she said smiling.