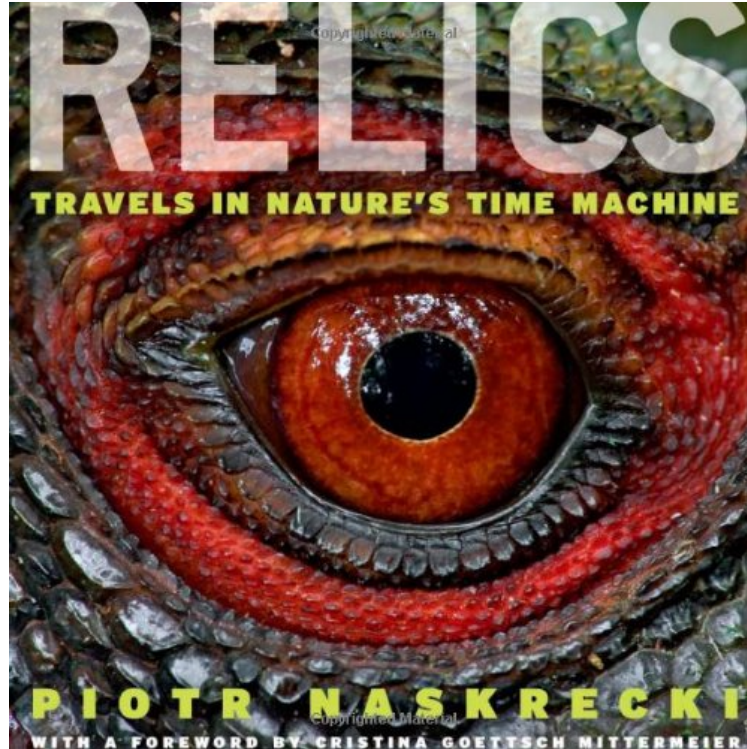


(Download) Relics: Travels in Nature's Time Machine

Relics: Travels in Nature's Time Machine

Piotr Naskrecki

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Piotr Naskrecki : Relics: Travels in Nature's Time Machine before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Relics: Travels in Nature's Time Machine:

11 of 11 people found the following review helpful. Brilliant close-up photography By Rob Sheppard I am a great fan of Piotr's work. He is one of the finest photographers of insects working today. His small critter photography (more than just insects) goes way beyond simply recording interesting critters. He makes them come alive and part of a larger environment. His photos often show the ecology of a situation beyond simply a portrait of the animal. The text is very interesting, though a bit academic (which is somewhat surprising because Piotr is a very funny guy when you hear him speak -- he seems to be trying hard to be the scientist rather than letting that part of his personality into the book). 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. One of my favorite books this year... By m. harrison I picked this book up at my library and only got half way through when I decided I had to buy it. It's a beautiful book full of exotic creatures and great stories of traveling to places I've never heard of. It was a real treat to see and hear of new things in a world where I feel like everything has been discovered already. Piotr's photographs of insects are just stunning. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Price was acceptable for taking a chance on some good photography. By Bonnie Beth Abbott Pictures were somewhat disappointing for my purposes as an artist looking more for exotic reptiles Content interesting concerning organisms that have changed little over thousands of years. Price was acceptable for taking a chance on some good photography.

On any night in early June, if you stand on the right beaches of Americas East Coast, you can travel back in time all

the way to the Jurassic. For as you watch, thousands of horseshoe crabs will emerge from the foam and scuttle up the beach to their spawning grounds, as they've done, nearly unchanged, for more than 440 million years. Horseshoe crabs are far from the only contemporary manifestation of Earth's distant past, and in *Relics*, world-renowned zoologist and photographer Piotr Naskrecki leads readers on an unbelievable journey through those lingering traces of a lost world. With camera in hand, he travels the globe to create a words-and-pictures portrait of our planet like no other, a time-lapse tour that renders Earth's colossal age comprehensible, visible in creatures and habitats that have persisted, nearly untouched, for hundreds of millions of years. Naskrecki begins by defining the concept of a relic creature or habitat that, while acted upon by evolution, remains remarkably similar to its earliest manifestations in the fossil record. Then he pulls back the Cambrian curtain to reveal relic after eye-popping relic: katydids, ancient reptiles, horsetail ferns, majestic magnolias, and more, all depicted through stunning photographs and first-person accounts of Naskrecki's time studying them and watching their interactions in their natural habitats. Then he turns to the habitats themselves, traveling to such remote locations as the Atewa Plateau of Africa, the highlands of Papua New Guinea, and the lush forests of the Guyana Shield of South America—a group of relatively untrammelled ecosystems that are the current end point of staggeringly long, uninterrupted histories that have made them our best entryway to understanding what the prehuman world looked, felt, sounded, and even smelled like. The stories and images of Earth's past assembled in *Relics* are beautiful, breathtaking, and unmooring, plunging the reader into the hitherto incomprehensible reaches of deep time. We emerge changed, astonished by the unbroken skein of life on Earth and attentive to the hidden heritage of our planet's past that surrounds us.

"*Relics* is an exciting, adventure-filled, and scientifically important presentation by one of the world's best naturalists and photographers."