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Visions Of A Vanished World: The Extraordinary Fossils Of The Hunsrück Slate

Visions of a Vanished World

The Extraordinary
Fossils of the
Hunsrück Slate

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Synopsis

About four hundred million years ago earthquake activity and possibly major storms caused sudden movements of large quantities of muddy sediment along the seafloor. Animal communities in the path of these sediment-laden flows were instantly engulfed, the inhabitants "frozen" in the last moment of their lives. Amazingly, many of the creatures lost in this ancient catastrophe were almost perfectly preserved through the eons, fossilized in a thick series of muds now known as the Hunsrück Slate west of the Rhine Valley in western Germany. Excavations there have yielded the most diverse and surpassingly beautiful collection of marine fossils of the Devonian period ever discovered. This book pays tribute to the exquisite fossils of the Hunsrück Slate. Large full-color photographic plates display fossil sponges, brachiopods, clams, starfish, sea lilies, trilobites, worms, sea spiders, sea stars, crustaceans, corals, and many other species. An accessible commentary recounts the discovery of the fossils and explains how the slate was formed, how the animals are preserved, the significance of the fossils, and the controversies that surround them. A special presentation in every way, this book makes an exceptional contribution to the fascinating history of life on Earth.

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Customer Reviews

This was another book on Hubby's "Wish List" that I bought him for Christmas, and he's been happily poring over its pages. The layout is great, the pictures sharp and wonderfully mysterious.

The Hunsrück Slate is one of the world's outstanding fossil formations, with preservation of soft

parts rarely found elsewhere. The fossils are early Devonian. This is a fine picture book, showing numerous museum grade specimens, including species not found anywhere else.

a great photo log, could've had some more species covered

A truly exceptional book focusing on the extraordinary fossil of the Hunsrück of Germany.

Photography is excellent as well as the presentation.

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