

FOSSIL  
HUNTERS

# A T. REX NAMED SUE

Sue Hendrickson's Huge Discovery



by Natalie Lunis



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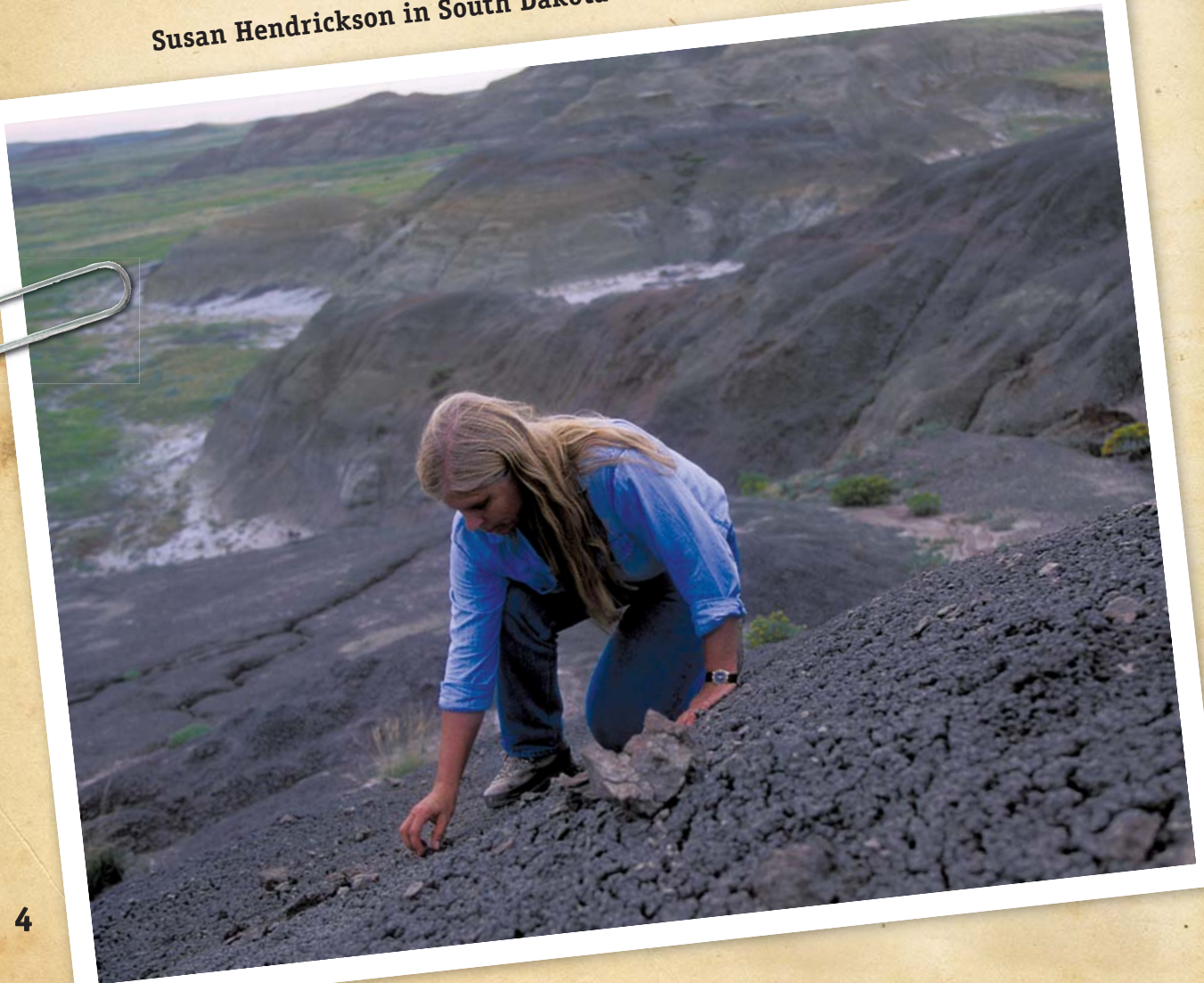
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# One Last Look

Susan Hendrickson searched the dry, rocky ground below the cliff. She knew she didn't have much time. The other members of her team had gone into town to get a tire fixed. Soon they would be back at camp, getting ready to leave South Dakota's **badlands**. The summer was ending, and so was the team's hunt for dinosaur **fossils**.

Susan Hendrickson in South Dakota's badlands





After only a few minutes, Susan spotted some brown pieces of bone at her feet. Then she looked up. Several large bones were sticking out of the cliff. Susan climbed up to get a closer look.

"Wow," she said to herself.



North America's badlands are full of rocks that have been shaped by harsh winds. In some places these lands look like the surface of the moon.

Fossil hunters use clues from the bones they find to learn what **extinct** animals, such as dinosaurs, looked like, how they moved, and where they lived.



# A Fossil Hunter Named Sue

One adventure always seemed to lead to another in Susan Hendrickson's life. By the time she was 20 years old, she had become an expert diver. During a diving trip to the Dominican Republic, she visited the mountains. She saw a piece of **amber** there. Inside was an insect. It was millions of years old, yet perfectly **preserved**.



The insect trapped inside this amber is 45 million years old.

A piece of amber is tree **sap** that hardened and became stone millions of years ago. Sometimes an insect became trapped in it while it was still a sticky liquid.



Susan read all about amber, insects, and **ancient** life. She became an expert on fossils and was invited to join a **dig** in Peru. There she met another fossil hunter. He asked her to join a new dig—this time in the badlands of South Dakota.



Susan and other fossil hunters found this whale skeleton while searching the Atacama Desert in Peru.



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## About the Author

Natalie Lunis has written more than two dozen science and nature books for children. She hunts for fossils at the American Museum of Natural History in New York City.



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**FOSSIL  
HUNTERS**

## **A T. REX NAMED SUE**

**Sue Hendrickson's Huge Discovery**

Sue Hendrickson searched the dry, rocky ground below the cliff. Near her feet, she spotted some brown pieces of bone. When she looked up, she saw several large fossils sticking out of the cliff. Sue climbed up to get a closer look. The bones belonged to a huge dinosaur!

For weeks, Sue and her team uncovered the fossils. They could hardly believe their luck. Had Sue Hendrickson really discovered the largest and most complete *Tyrannosaurus rex* skeleton ever found?

**ENDORSED BY**

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of the  
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of Los Angeles County

**The *Albertosaurus* Mystery**  
Philip Currie's Hunt in the Badlands

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