



***Small and tall tales of extinct animals* - Hélène Rajcak and Damien Laverdunt**

Published by Gecko Press, RRP \$36.99

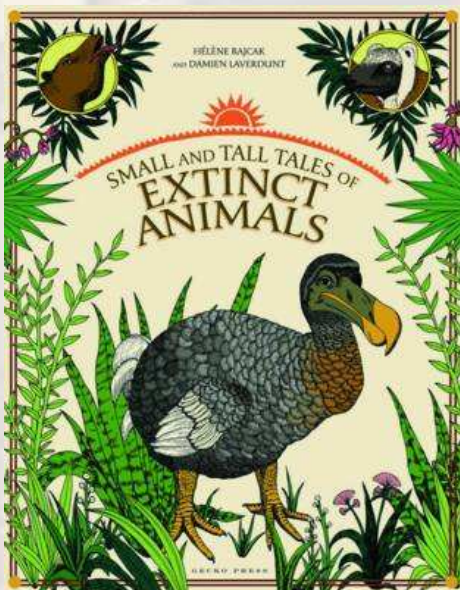
A superb, hardback book full of fascinating facts and stories about some of the world's extinct animals.

The author and illustrator take us back in time to learn about species that no longer exist. Readers are introduced to weird and wonderful creatures such as the trratratra, elephant bird and Megatherium.

There's a range of creatures from all over the world: The Americas, Africa, Eurasia and Oceania. Although it's not something to be proud of, two of New Zealand's extinct species are included; the moa and the Haast's eagle. Each double-spread highlights different species and covers the legends, lives and demise of the creatures. Of course, humans were often involved in their loss. The well-researched illustrations and text bubbles include a wealth of detail without information overload. Creative comic strips add humour, interest, and a clever mix of fact and folklore. The naturalist drawings reflect the work of early explorers and artists.

This is a large format, quality publication with eye-catching illustrations, a clear typeface, maps and diagrams. Readers of all ages could spend hours absorbed in the stories associated with the selection of extinct animals.

Reviewed by children's book author, Jean Bennett



Hélène's website: www.helenerajcak.net

Promoting the enjoyment of children's literature.