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- ▶ Das Hörbuch zur Lektüre und die Tracks zu den Übungen stehen als kostenloser MP3-Download bereit unter: [www.hueber.de/audioservice](http://www.hueber.de/audioservice)

## Author's note

Most of the facts about the dinosaur fossils in this book are true, but nobody has found a Giganotosaurus in Australia ... yet.



## The private collection

The Collector looked out on Sydney Harbour. It was a warm, sunny spring day. His mansion had the best view in Sydney. The Collector was a billionaire. He owned the newest cars, the fastest boats, a private jet, a huge castle in the Swiss Alps, an island in the Caribbean – the best of everything.

His phone buzzed. He picked it up and listened. Then he said, 'Send him in.'

A tall man with short, silver hair came into the Collector's private room.

'Ah, Mr Lynch,' the Collector said. 'Do you have it?'

Mr Lynch didn't say anything. He just gave the Collector a small box.

The Collector held it for a minute. Then he walked to the window and slowly opened the box. A huge diamond shone in the sunlight. The diamond was unique. It was priceless. And now he owned it. The Collector smiled.

'Well done, Mr Lynch! So, that museum in New York now owns a very large piece of glass. Is that right?'

'Don't ask, sir,' Mr Lynch said, smiling.

The Collector never asked Mr Lynch any questions. When the Collector wanted something, he asked Mr Lynch and then gave him a lot of money. Mr Lynch could find anything, anywhere. Mr Lynch always found the things the Collector wanted for his private collection. In a huge room under the mansion there were lots of unique, priceless items. Most of them came from museums. A few items came from other collectors. The Collector bought some items, but when he couldn't buy an item, he called Mr Lynch. No questions.

## Smoke!

Craig Drummond, the station owner, was riding in the next paddock. Two stockmen were riding with him. They were moving some cattle from one paddock to another.

One of the stockmen shouted, 'Look, boss. Smoke!'

They all saw the thick black smoke. Craig Drummond cried, 'Come on!'

They soon saw the fire. Then they saw Jake standing next to the fire. They saw Henry and a woman sitting under a tree, drinking water. Then they saw the car in the gully. One of its windows was smashed and the boot was open.

Jake saw the men riding towards them. 'Henry! It's Mr Drummond! Look!'

'Hello, boys,' Mr Drummond said. 'What's going on? Are you okay?'

'We had to smash the car window to get the water and the matches out of the car after we got out of the boot, Mr Drummond,' Henry said. 'We're okay, but Mum's going to be angry about her car.'

'Thanks, Henry,' Mr Drummond said. Then he looked at Jake. 'Tell me the story, Jake.'

Jake quickly told Mr Drummond and the stockmen about Mr Lynch and Tina.

Mr Drummond nodded. He told one stockman, 'Johnno, you stay here. Look after young Henry. And this woman. She mustn't get away.'

'I won't move,' the woman said.

'We'll go after this Lynch,' said Mr Drummond. 'Poor Tina must be very scared.'

Jake said, 'Tina's brave. And smart. She's taking him away from the dig site.'

'You're all brave and smart, you three kids,' said Mr Drummond. 'Jake, do you want to come with us? You can ride Johnno's horse.'

'Oh yes, please!'

'They went this way,' the second stockman said.

'Good work, Ned! We'll ride behind you. We'll be quiet, so Lynch won't hear us coming,' Mr Drummond said.

'We'll be back soon,' Jake said to Henry.

'Go get them!' Henry said.

Jake, Mr Drummond and Ned rode west. They didn't speak. Ned went in front. He looked down at bushes and at the red dirt. He kept nodding and riding west.

After about ten minutes, Jake saw Mr Lynch and Tina. 'There they are!' he whispered to Mr Drummond.

Mr Lynch and Tina were walking slowly. Jake, Mr Drummond and Ned quietly rode close to them.

Mr Lynch was shouting, 'I think you're lying, girl! You're taking me the wrong way!'

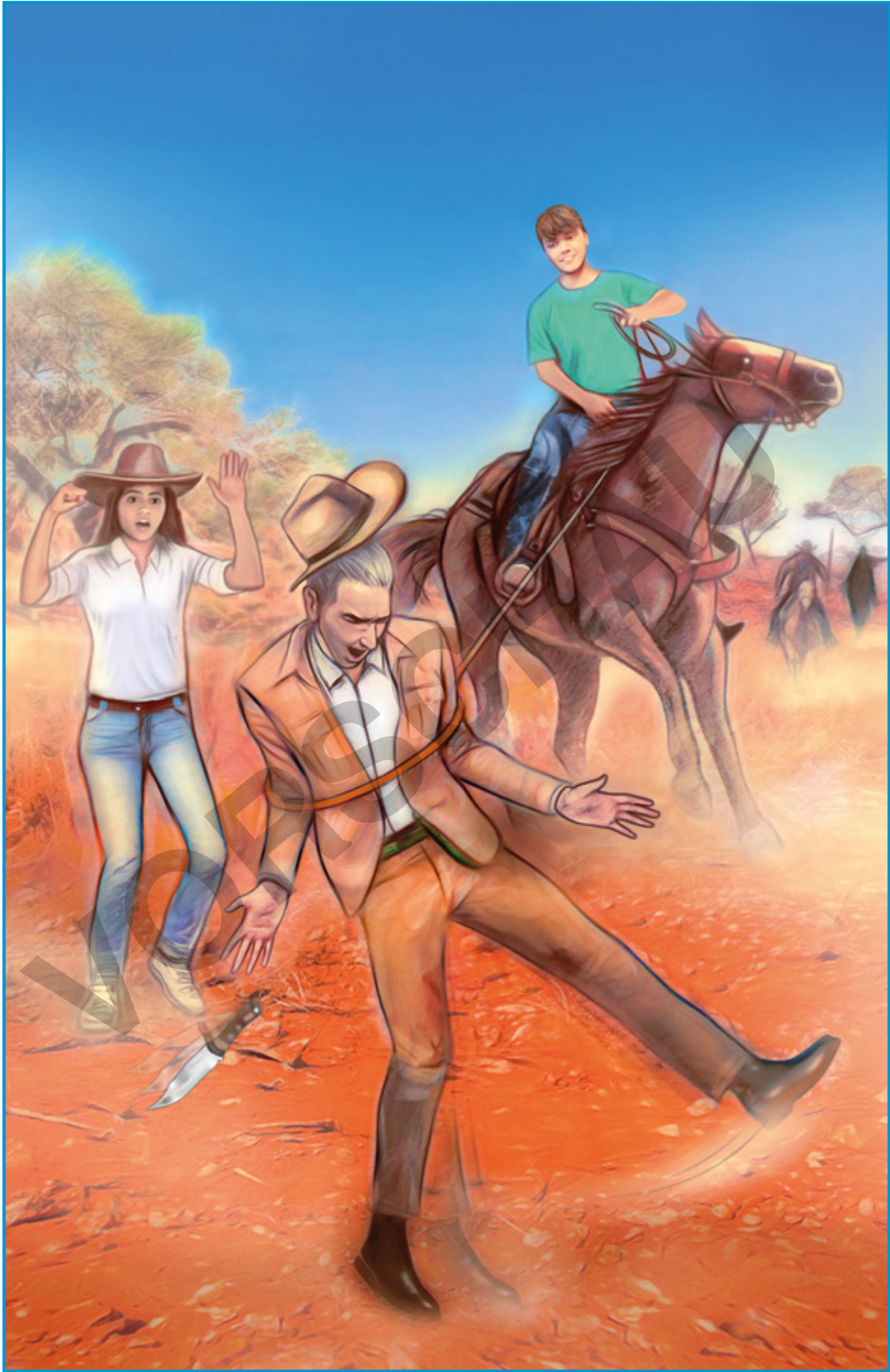
Mr Drummond shouted, 'Stop!' He was holding his rifle. 'Drop that knife!'

Mr Lynch turned around. Tina ran away from him. Mr Lynch didn't drop the knife. He held it up and looked at Tina. 'I'll get you, girl!'

There was a rope on Johnno's horse. Jake grabbed the rope and rode fast towards Mr Lynch.

Jake held up the rope, turned his wrist quickly – and lassoed Mr Lynch.

'Good work, Jake!' Mr Drummond said. 'I've lassoed cattle but I've never lassoed a person! That was a smart thing to do.'



## Chapters 3 and 4

### Before you read

A. Look at the picture on page 14 and circle the correct answers.

1. What do you think Mr Lynch has just done?  
a. bought a fossil   b. found a fossil   c. dropped a fossil
2. How do you think Jake and Tina feel?  
a. happy   b. shocked   c. bored

B. Find these words in your dictionary. Use them in the sentences.

smash   laboratory   broom   fossil

1. This \_\_\_\_\_ of a flower is about 40 million years old.
2. Anna is a biologist and works in a \_\_\_\_\_.
3. Don't drop that vase, or it will \_\_\_\_\_ on the floor!
4. This floor is dirty. I'll sweep it. Where's the \_\_\_\_\_?

C. Listen to Track 4 and answer these questions.

1. What did Mr and Mrs Lynch want to see?  
a. everything in the museum  
b. just the fossil preparation laboratory
2. What time of day was it?  
a. lunchtime   b. the end of the day
3. What was Henry doing?  
a. looking at fossils   b. looking at books

### After you read

#### COMPREHENSION

A. Circle the correct answers.

1. What did Mrs Lynch say about the laboratory?  
a. It was amazing.   b. It was just a big shed.   c. It was private.
2. Who stepped over the rope near the fossil preparation benches?  
a. Jake   b. Tina   c. Mr and Mrs Lynch
3. What did Mr Lynch do with the fossil he picked up?  
a. He gave it to Mrs Lynch.   b. He put it back on the bench.  
c. He dropped it.
4. Who did Tina say she was going to call?  
a. the police   b. Caitlin   c. Mrs Cranshaw

# Glossary

*adj.* adjective; *adv.* adverb; *n.* noun; *prep.* preposition; *v.* verb

<b>against</b> /ə'genst/ <i>prep.</i>	gegen
<b>around</b> /ə'raʊnd/ <i>adv., prep.</i>	um, herum
<b>bench</b> /bentʃ/ <i>n.</i>	Bank, <i>hier:</i> Werkbank
<b>billionaire</b> /,bɪljəneə/ <i>n.</i>	Milliardär
<b>bleed</b> /bli:d/ <i>v.</i>	bluten
<b>boot</b> /bu:t/ <i>n.</i>	Stiefel
<b>branch</b> /brɑ:ntʃ/ <i>n.</i>	Zweig
<b>brave</b> /breɪv/ <i>adj.</i>	mutig
<b>broom</b> /bru:m/ <i>n.</i>	Besen
<b>buzz</b> /bʌz/ <i>v.</i>	summen
<b>cable</b> /'keɪbl/ <i>n.</i>	Kabel
<b>can</b> /kæn/ <i>n.</i>	Kanister
<b>cattle</b> /'kætl/ <i>n.</i>	Rind, Rinder
<b>change</b> /tʃeɪndʒ/ <i>v.</i>	wechseln
<b>coelurosaur</b> /sɪ'ljʊərə'sɔ:/ <i>n.</i>	Coelurosaurier ( <i>ein Theropode</i> )
<b>collection</b> /kə'leɪʃn/ <i>n.</i>	Sammlung
<b>collector</b> /kə'lektə/ <i>n.</i>	Sammler, -in
<b>diamond</b> /'daɪəmənd/ <i>n.</i>	Diamant
<b>dig site</b> /,dɪg'saɪt/ <i>n.</i>	Ausgrabungsstätte
<b>driver's licence</b> /'draɪvəz,lɑɪsns/ (Australian/US English) <i>n.</i>	Führerschein
<b>drop</b> /drɒp/ <i>v.</i>	fallen lassen
<b>dry</b> /draɪ/ <i>adj.</i>	trocken
<b>eastern</b> /'i:st(ə)n/ <i>adj.</i>	östlich
<b>everything</b> /'evriθɪŋ/	alles
<b>first-aid kit</b> /,fɜ:st'eɪd,kɪt/ <i>n.</i>	Erste-Hilfe-Set
<b>flat</b> /flæt/ <i>adj.</i>	flach, eben
<b>forget</b> /fə'get/ <i>v.</i>	vergessen
<b>fossil</b> /'fɒsl/ <i>n.</i>	Fossil