



# Footprints of Thunder

*James F. David*

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When a freak natural phenomenon dissolves the boundaries between yesterday and today, the world is transformed into a patchwork mixture of the present and the distant past. Entire cities are replaced by primeval forests. Prehistoric monsters stalk modern city streets, hunting for human prey.

While ordinary men and women struggle to survive in this strange new world, the president and his advisers search for a way to undo the catastrophe. But the solution may be more devastating than the dinosaurs....

## **Footprints of Thunder Details**

Date : Published July 15th 1997 by Tor Books (first published 1995)

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Author : James F. David

Format : Paperback 512 pages

Genre : Science Fiction, Animals, Dinosaurs, Fiction, Time Travel, Fantasy

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## From Reader Review Footprints of Thunder for online ebook

### ?Lynn? says

What a fun book! A bit too scifi at some parts, but I really enjoyed this a whole lot. Read over half of it by the pool today.

Probably won't read the second or third book though. They sound a bit silly. A T rex on the moon? Really? Ugh.

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### Matt Garcia says

"Footprints of Thunder" has everything you could ever want in a sci-fi thriller. Great action scenes, fast tempo, a multitude of different perspectives and characters to get acquainted with and enough science to keep you interested without leaving you quizzically holding the book saying "What did I just read?" The dinosaurs were heavily detailed and broadcast a wide scope of the creatures alive during the Cretaceous period. Stellar novel with plenty of literary "eye-candy" to dive into. The boisterous nature of this novel is quite amusing. Very fun read.

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### Montzalee Wittmann says

Footprints of Thunder (Paperback) by James F. David is a long but good sci fi about time waves that that were caused by things like large explosions. These time waves caused places, people, things to appear and disappear. When the big event happens, there are large cities gone replaced by forest, swamps, and things that live in them...prehistoric things. The story follows several people during the book and how they deal with it all. Very interesting!

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### Wanda says

Thoroughly enjoyed this adventure, where a time distortion brings bits of the Cretaceous (and other ages) to the present and sends bits of the present off to who-knows-when. People start digging out their children's dinosaur books to identify that creatures wandering down the street. Those who are unlucky enough to be in rural areas when the distortion takes place practice their running-and-hiding skills.

There are a lot of (human) characters to keep track of--I had been reading a chapter or two on my lunch hour, but finally had to take the book home & finish it off to get smoother, less jerky sense of what was going on. I would recommend the more continuous read. But that was me, not the book.

I thought the dinosaur behaviour was well depicted. I loved the nesting pleisiosaur, the apatosaurus that some ship-wrecked folks cling to and the general variety of dinosaurs that show up. It has made me wonder exactly how effective modern guns would be when dealing with large carnosaurus? They have pretty tiny brains and I wonder how useful head-shots would be? But, for the sake of the story, I was willing to suspend any questions that I had on that matter.

This would have been a four-star book except for two complaints. 1) The Cretaceous areas that appear in our time have GRASS in them. [We are children of the grasslands, our ancestors having stood at the forest-edge, peering out onto the savannahs and wondering what life would be like out there--but grasses didn't appear until the Paleocene. Dinosaurs didn't eat them. We can barely imagine life without them]. 2) At one point, an injured theropod falls to its "knees." Dinosaurs, like modern birds, have legs in different proportions than mammals. What looks to us like a knee, is actually the ankle, bending the opposite direction of the knee. A theropod falling to its knees would actually be falling on its face, not what the author intended in the scene.

Still, I enjoyed the book very much, despite my quibbles above. Three bloody, scary stars.

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### **Karl Ljungberg says**

I quite enjoyed this book but it's not for everyone. If you can't turn a blind eye to dodgy science and need your books to have a deep meaning, then this simply isn't the book for you. On the other hand, if all you want out of the book are dinosaurs, people running (and failing to run) from said dinosaurs and some brief glimpses into the lives of the people affected, then this book is probably one of the better ones out there. It's written well enough to never get in your way and the format works really well to build up the tension between chapters. Some stories did feel less relevant than others (I hope we see some of the same people in the sequel) and most didn't intersect in any meaningful way, some being completely isolated. And the ending was rather... abrupt. Not bad, it was built up well enough through 370+ pages but the wrap-up felt... too short and not particularly satisfying. Knowing there's a sequel put some of my mind at ease but consider the two books are ten years apart, if I read this back in the day I'd probably be a bit more upset.

Still, I'm currently trying to chase down the sequel as we speak so clearly I liked it enough. And who knows, you might too!

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### **Charles says**

This one gets a four for concept and a three for execution. It was pretty good but I kept wanting a bit more from the characters and story.

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### **Veronica says**

Couldn't bring myself to finish this.

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### **Tasula says**

A time rift brings sections of earth from the Cretaceous into the modern world- while sections of the modern world disappear. Those left in our world face dinosaurs, and gaps in communications, food distribution, etc. Story follows a few groups: a loner who believes the world will end, a group trying to predict strange occurrences (like corn falling from the sky), a family out on a sail, 3 teenagers whose evening out turns into a survival game, an old woman in NYC who befriends an Iguanodon. Very very good- gripping, tragic.

### **Greg says**

Too much set up, too little carnage. The characters were mere sketches, and I never could really relate to them. Stick to Crichton!

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### **Jmswtsn says**

Good page turner, although the ending was a bit abrupt.

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### **Kristin says**

A fun dino romp bogged down by padding, paper-thin characters, and an abruptly vague ending. David can't bear to kill off major characters, so he generates suspense with a running sub-plot about \*sexual assault\*. The only dinosaur books that should make you feel this dirty are self-published erotica.

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### **Sue Beckley says**

THIS BOOK IS OUTSTANDING SCIENCE FICTION WITH AN INTERESTING AND BELIEVABLE (?) PREMISE.

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### **Tommy says**

Obviously, if you like Jurassic Park, you'll probably like this. I think I enjoyed it every bit as much. Which is a lot, because I really love gigantic rampaging dinos and constant mortal peril. FOOTPRINTS OF THUNDER deals with bizarre time displacement theories, and a "time quilt" effect. There were a lot of characters to keep track of, but I didn't find it too difficult because each group of characters ends up in very different circumstances, faced with different terrain and different beasts. David does a good job of creating characters you care about, both human and saurian. But don't get too attached, because some really brutal things happen. Almost enough to push this book into the horror genre. Some of the scenes were pretty horrific, and that's what I was hoping for. LOTS of action, lots of unexpected twists and turns. Now I can't wait to read the sequel, and then the third book. I'm in!

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### **Katherine says**

I absolutely loved it. Another success from browsing the clearance shelves of Half Price Books. The writing is amazing and he clearly looked up details to all the science in the book. It was smart, interesting and something that I could not put down.

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## Jeff Powers says

Footprints of Thunder was an enjoyable read, filled with what it promised, modern humans dealing with dinosaurs. James David, takes the tried and true elements of Jurassic Park and explodes them to a global scale. This is post apocalyptic fiction, where the apocalypse is the emergence of Dinosaurs. It started off fast paced and delivered on the action. It gets extra points just for being dino scifi, but it does tend to bog down a bit in the middle, suffer from a few too many characters and a limited grasp of a big picture plot. But this isn't that kind of story, this is more about how this event effects a few lives, rather than how a few people manage to fix the event. It does lose points for me for falling into the tiresome gang of post apocalyptic rapists trope . We have man eating dinosaurs around and we still need the biggest threat to the female characters to be sexual assault? Apart from that, it was enjoyable enough to be a passable summer scifi thriller, a bit beyond the norm if you really like dinosaurs .

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