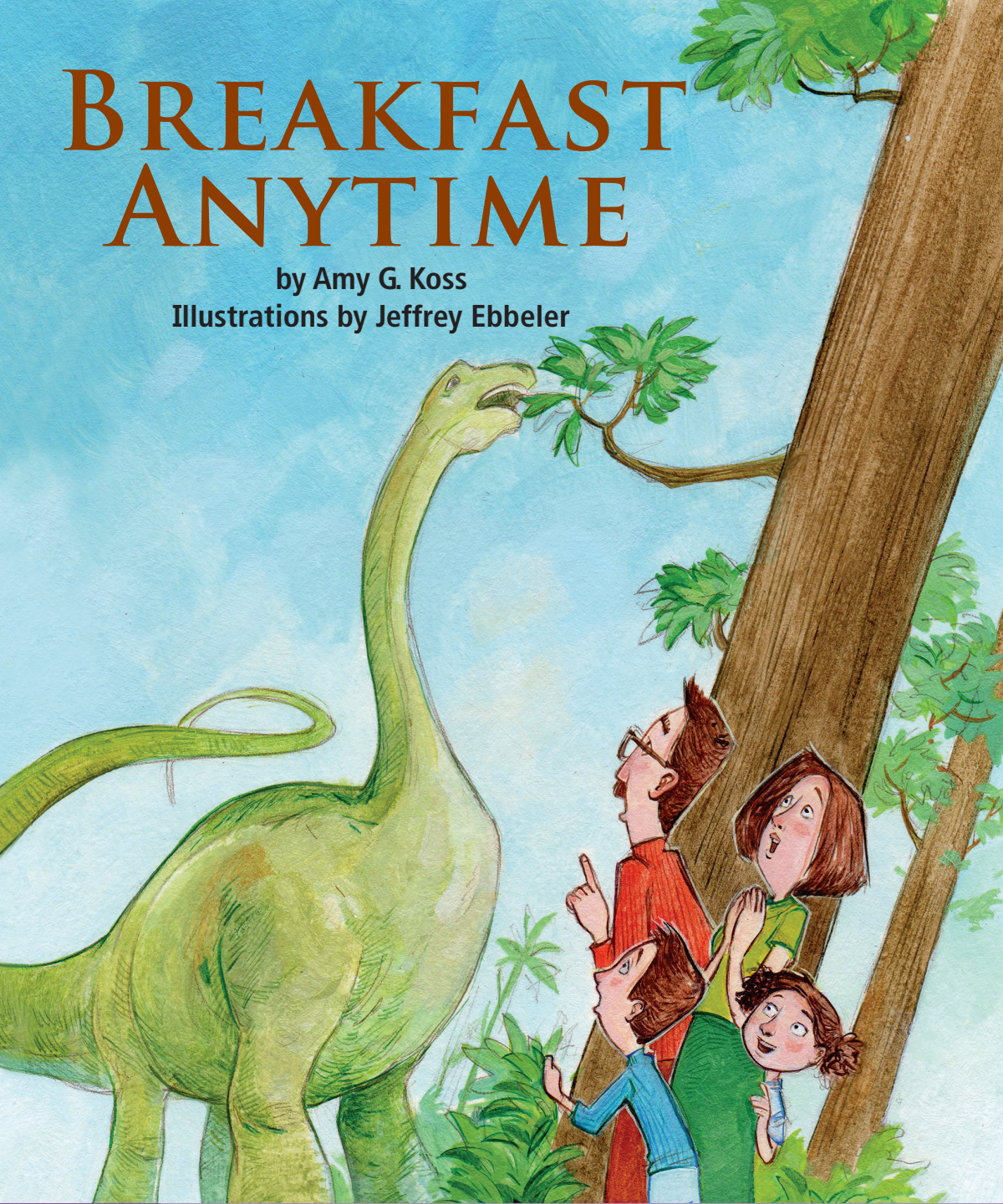


BREAKFAST ANYTIME

by Amy G. Koss

Illustrations by Jeffrey Ebbeler



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We were finally going to view the new dinosaur exhibit at the Natural History Museum. On the way there, I pointed out the car window at a diner that I'd never noticed before. The sign flashing over the entrance read, Slice of Time Diner.

“Let's eat at that old-time diner,” I said. My parents agreed, but my little sister, Maddy, groaned. Maddy is a dinosaur expert, and she could hardly wait to get to the exhibit.

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Breakfast Anytime

Level U

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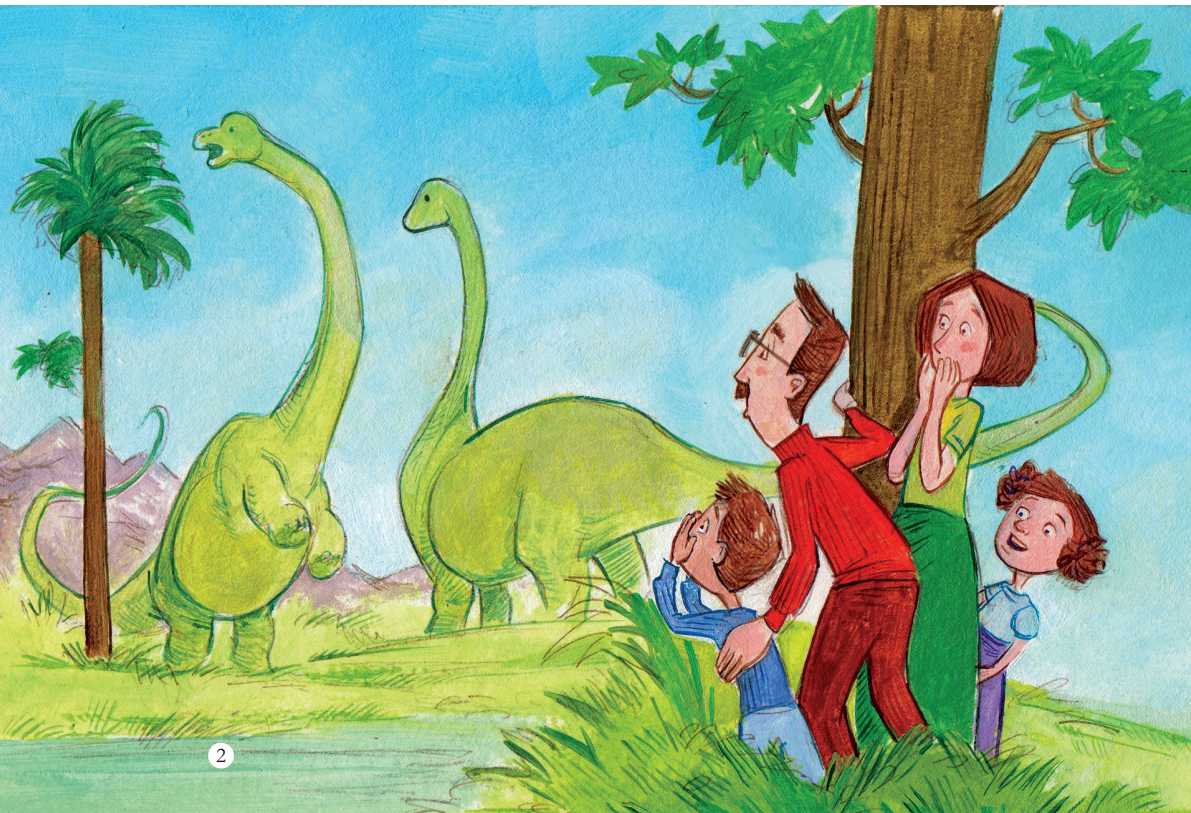


Pointing to a sign in the window, Mom said, "It says 'Breakfast Anytime!'"

"Then I'll have my breakfast in the time of the dinosaurs!" Maddy declared.

KABOOM! With a dazzling flash of light, we found ourselves with no diner, car, or road in sight! Instead of being surrounded by familiar signs of civilization, we stood among towering dinosaurs!

I started to yell, but Maddy grabbed my elbow and whispered, "Don't worry, Ben, Supersaurus dinos only eat plants."



I peered through my fingers at the gigantic monsters, who chewed calmly, paying no attention to us. Our family huddled together fearfully, but Maddy broke away. She pulled a tangerine from her pocket and held it up, calling, "Here, little lizard, come and get it."

One enormous beast stopped chewing and dropped its head to get a closer look as Dad yelled, "Come back, Maddy!"

Maddy laughed and said, "Don't worry, Dad, my lucky nickel will keep me safe!"

The gigantic creature lurched toward my sister, causing the tangerine in her hand to tremble. When the dinosaur took another giant stride forward, Maddy shrieked, dropped the tangerine, and sprinted back to us. We waited fearfully behind a tree as the dinosaur gulped the fruit and roamed away.

Maddy examined her pockets and cried, "Oh, no! I dropped my lucky nickel!"



WHOOSH! A blinding light whisked us back to the present, transporting us straight to the museum's dinosaur exhibit. Once again, we were surrounded by dinosaurs, but this time, we stood among their massive bones.

"Did that really happen?" I asked, dazed.

Maddy moved toward a looming skeleton and said, "Yes, look!"

Our eyes followed Maddie's pointing finger. A nickel lay buried in the fossilized rocks below the mighty animal's feet.



Level U

Literary

Breakfast Anytime

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