

THE GREAT ZOO OF CHINA Read Free

The Great Zoo of China. {TB EXCLUSIVE} TriStar Options Jurassic Park-ESque Sci-Fi Thriller "THE GREAT ZOO OF CHINA". The Great Zoo of China.



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Matthew Reilly
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The frequent use of diagrams and maps also helps to give a patina of credibility. Easy flowing and very readable, The Great Zoo Of China is not a great piece of literature, but it is sure to appeal to Reilly's many fans around the world. With Christmas quickly approaching it will make an ideal gift for the undemanding thriller reader in your house. Please try again later. The Sydney Morning Herald. God, no! I know that with big action comes an even bigger suspension of disbelief and with most books this is often stretched to its absolute limits with the bungee cord fraying at its edges. This book on the other hand snaps that cord entirely and launches you off into the realms of MacGyver-ness stupidity. Some of the actions scenes were so incredulous that they had me rolling my eyes, snorting my coffee through my nose and giggling like a lunatic while reading out in public all at the same time.

Chinese soldiers disappear in a nice neat explosion with no damage to our plucky young heroes what, not even shrapnel damage! However, a section of the walkway collapses which leads us to Sheesh indeed.. So, overall this book was a mess. A little bit like eating popcorn. You keep on eating handful after handful knowing that you are going to feel rather shit at the end. Matthew Reilly, consider yourself black listed PS: I did mention that I took a bullet for the team so you don't have to read this abomination but maybe in fact I would like some other poor sucker to give it a go and tell me if I've been too harsh on Monsieur Reilly View all 25 comments.

Utter perfection. The whole book is trash and I loved every second. View all 13 comments. Matthew Reilly knows how to make BIG thrillers! I commented once that this novel was like Jurassic Park on steroids, but I have to take that back now. CJ Cameron and her brother, Hamish, are invited among a select group of influential media people to view China's deep-secreted new zoo. The Chinese hope to usurp America's Disneyland with this new attraction of theirs, and the denizens of this particular zoo are just the type to be able to pull that off Of course, things do not go as smoothly as planned, and as the Chinese Colonel Bao and Hu Tang rush about in an attempt to restore order, CJ, Hamish, the US Ambassador to China, and a handful of others unfortunate enough to be visiting the zoo that day find themselves fighting creatures that they had only before heard of in fairy tales.

In this novel, Reilly's main character CJ Cameron is a female, severely disfigured facially by a saltwater crocodile that she was a renowned expert in the study of. I found her role gave added depth to the thriller, as we were able to look at the zoo

enterprise through the eyes and mind of an educated woman in a primarily male-dominated China. True, there were several scenes that felt repetitive in nature CJ ran. The action was a non-stop thrill ride, and I hated each time I was forced to put the book down. The explanations as to how the zoo's inhabitants came to be, came off as very well researched, and could almost seem plausible the way it was portrayed. It takes an incredible author to be able to pull off something of that magnitude! Highly recommended! View all 3 comments. Aug 14, Chad rated it really liked it.

A little different than Reilly's other books in that this one takes a hundred or so pages to really get going. Most of his books start the crazy action within the first chapter.

This book has a full on Michael Crichton vibe and is going to definitely draw comparisons to Jurassic Park. That being said, it's still a great book in its own right. I like how he ties dragons into real history and how the dragons have different clans.

Jul 11, Paul O'Neill rated it it was ok. This sentence sums it up perfectly: Holy shit, the dragons are throwing cars at me I enjoy Reilly, he's a bit of a guilty pleasure. He went a bit too far with this one. Still an enjoyable romp though. Nov 25, Charlie rated it did not like it. They have the golden arch, we have the golden arc. They have the Big

Mac, we have the big Mic. Jurassic park has scientists but he has journalists and Jurassic Park was about making money but the Great Zoo is about restoring national pride....

JP is such an epic and amazing book that broke new ground in my imagination and opened my world beyond what I knew. The Great Zoo did none of this. For a while he flirts with expanding the universe by constantly reinforcing that, whilst everything is built in China, nothing is designed there but this whole part of the story just

disappears like a fart in the wind. I did like the concept. His explanation of where the Dragons, aka Dinosaurs came from is entirely plausible. I know from the Jack West series how much Reilly likes his Asian characters driven by honour and pride but there has to be more to it than that. As far as writing, Reilly is always trying to go bigger, faster and more exciting, so why do I feel like his books have been slowing down since Scarecrow. Simply taking the literal meaning of his goals yes dragons are bigger, faster and stronger; they can pick up really big things and drop them really fast; but that does not mean the pace and excitement levels of the writing necessarily follows, and with The Great Zoo of China I found myself all too easily putting it down due to lack of emotional involvement.

Despite various nicknames like Red Face, Smiley, I could not really give a crap about the personal motivations of the individual dragon. It seems that all giving them a moniker means is that despite blowing them up, shooting them and ramming them into the side of a mountain countless times...with a GARBAGE TRUCK, they keep coming back in an effort to amp up the impact of the scene. It did not work for me. They constantly seem to charge straight into gunfire acting more like mad bulls than the thinking, planning and plotting creature we are supposed to believe they are. The humans are even less engaging. We are supposed to believe that in this communist nation, at the sight of the greatest achievement, that they would allow a small girl to wear the symbol of their biggest and most hated competition.

Thankfully this small girl is quite realistic and does nothing heroic or important, she

is just there. There are some positive moments and exciting sequences where our protagonist is flying on the back of her own dragon and there is an element of a symbiotic relationship, and I wish this could have been expanded upon. A dragon two feet in front of her, a timely shot or intervention, of course, saves her. For me this book did not even get going until pages in. Whilst it is an easy read there was nothing that kept me turning the next page other than loyalties built up from previous amazing efforts so, and with great sadness, as I consider Reilly my man and one of the first authors I truly became hooked on, I must say he has dropped the ball on this one.

I know he is moving to the US and I think this might be the final book in his contract or something like that. It's something he sort of wrote but never fully developed. The character has now saved the world at the end of every one of his books and frankly it is tiresome. In my humble opinion he should write a follow up to Contest and or a book on Aloyisus Knight and go back to his writing roots. I ordered this book from Australia and had my mate get it signed and personalised so I think that establishes my bona fides as a serious fan and therefore may explain some of my disappointment. I also received this book from Netgalley in exchange for a fair and honest review.

This book sucks. Don't waste your money. For more reviews go to [Www](#). View all 10 comments. Cue in my super sonic love for all which is cheese. Hell, yes. That super cheesy goopy Saturday syfy channel cheese. Top it off with a clonebutwithdragonsnotdinos lovely story about dragons wreaking havoc in a Chinese park and there ya go. Is this extremely similar to JP? Fuck, yes. However, I'm always a softie for blood, heads getting ripped off, and all sorts of other types of dismemberments. The bunnies love it too. As for me, this bitch is getting psyched up for Sharknado 3. Bring it!! Until that day comes, this book makes a good appetizer. View 1 comment. May 10, Carole Carole's Random Life rated it really liked it Shelves: net-galley , netgalley-challenge , , reviewed.

This review can also be found at Carole's Random Life in Books. I thought that this book was a lot of fun! This was actually my first experience with Matthew Reilly's work despite the fact that his books have been on my radar for quite some time. I have had a copy of this book for years but it somehow slipped through the cracks of my review schedule. I am glad that I finally got around to reading this one because it was incredibly entertaining. I don't usually like to make a lot of comparisons but this book had a lot of similarities to that story. It was different enough that I didn't feel like it was the same story but they had the same feel. China has built a new zoo. It is a different kind of zoo that will end up changing the world.

CJ, her brother, and a group of others are brought to the zoo to see just how different it really is. This zoo doesn't have your average zoo animals. This zoo is filled with all kinds of different dragons. Yes, dragons. During their visit to the zoo, things go very, very wrong. This was a pretty exciting book that was filled with action which made it really entertaining. There were some real surprises along the way and I enjoyed piecing together exactly what was going on. I liked CJ and liked how her skills as a veterinarian helped her to navigate the situation she found herself in. I also found that I had a lot of respect and couldn't blame them for their actions. Rich Orlow did a great job with this story. This was a really exciting and often intense book which I

think he was able to take up another notch. I thought he handled all of the characters voices very well.

I thought he had a very nice reading voice which I found easy to listen to for hours at a time. I think that I enjoyed the story just a bit more largely because of his narration.

I would recommend this book to others. I found this to be a highly entertaining tale that read like an action movie. I think those action readers that don't mind some similarities to well-known stories will enjoy this one. I definitely plan to read more of Matthew Reilly's work in the future. I received a digital review copy of this book from Gallery, Threshold, Pocket Books via NetGalley and borrowed a copy of the audiobook from my local library. Initial Thoughts This was entertaining. I haven't read Jurassic Park but I have seen the movie a few times and this book reminded me of that quite a bit. There was a lot of action in this book, sometimes maybe a bit much.

I thought that the narrator did a fantastic job with the story. I am glad that I finally gave this one a try. Nov 11, Steven rated it really liked it Shelves: read-in , netgalley-or-publisher. First, I'd like to thank Netgalley for an advanced copy of this to read. I'll start by saying that I love Matthew Reilly, and it makes me happy that he's moving forward with his life. He lost his wife, who had battled with eating disorders and depression for years, to suicide back a few years ago. It shattered him, and understandably so. The selfish part of me is really excited that he's writing again, that he's found a story to tell and the drive to write. She was a big part of his writing process. First, I'd like to thank Netgalley for an advanced copy of this to read. She was a big part of his writing process, and I know it's crazy hard for him to jump back in. The selfless part of me is really excited that he's found some peace with that part of his life and is writing FOR HIM, and has even found someone that makes him happy and helps to ease his pain.

Now, to the nitty-gritty. Since he started writing again, he's been a little off his game. I just couldn't. But he returns to form in The Great Zoo of China. Yeah, it's got its highly unbelievable events. It's got a borderline abusive number of exclamation points. But it is definitely Reilly returning to his game That's the best part of Reilly books. That's the Reilly I love. The one who writes to make people have FUN. And he's back to it. Read this one. Sure, it's got its similarities to Jurassic Park which he acknowledges , but he did pretty well differentiating it from JP. Plus, this one has a kickass female protagonist his first and an awesome, ummm View all 26 comments. Nov 15, Brenda rated it really liked it Shelves: thriller , net-galley , aussie-authors , release , arc , own-read , read-on-kindle , science-fiction. The zoo had been built over a period of many years under utmost secrecy — the world had no idea what the Chinese were hiding; what the Chinese government had kept close to their chests for so long.

But the small group of VIPs and journalists from the US, along with Chinese dignitaries were to be the first to view the unique phenomenon. CJ had been devastated by the death of her mentor Bill Lynch in the recent plane crash in China — that was why she, and not Bill, was heading to the zoo in the company of her brother and photographer Hamish. From the very beginning of their visit, it had all been amazing; the Chinese had certainly pulled off a coup of massive proportions.

Why was she uneasy at what she saw? As the group ventured deeper into the massive structure of the Zoo, their amazement continued... But what would happen if these magnificent creatures were not under the control of their handlers? CJ and her group were assured that nothing could possibly go wrong. I haven't read Aussie author Matthew Reilly in quite a while, and I had forgotten the full-on action packed race from start to finish that he employs.

I also found I had to completely suspend belief!!! Which I remember is another Reilly trait The Great Zoo of China is a fast paced, action packed, fun and at times gruesome adventure novel with huge elements of science fiction throughout. A novel which will be enjoyed by young and old alike, especially if you are a Reilly fan. Highly recommended. With thanks to NetGalley and the publisher for my copy to read and review.

Jul 10, Shelby rated it liked it Shelves: books-i-own. I had high hopes for this book, and for the most part it was satisfying. Some of the elements in the plot line about the "secret animal's" origins were really intriguing and well thought out. Reilly really did his research on animals, reptiles in particular, and I enjoyed the detailed descriptions of the animals in addition to the inner-workings of their species' abilities and intelligence. It was interesting to see how the story played out, and I was happy that it wasn't as predictable as I fir I had high hopes for this book, and for the most part it was satisfying.

It was interesting to see how the story played out, and I was happy that it wasn't as predictable as I first thought it might be. Before I read the book, I read many reviews which compared The Great Zoo of China to Jurassic park, and while there are definitely some inevitable similarities, the overall impression I got from this book was very distinct. This the first book I've read of Reilly's, and I'm kind of interested to see what else he's written. This book is a quick read and I would really recommend it to anyone. Shelves: kickbutt-heroine , heroine-i-adore , medical-profession , favorite-or-autobuy-author , favorites , action-adventure-group-read , challenge-factory-challenge , cover-to-cover-challenge , animal-character-steals-the-show , kindle-book. Only Matthew Reilly would write a book about a zoo full of dragons. I will admit I am a huge fan of his books. I take each one as it is and I usually come out a happy camper. In this case, I have to give him a thumbs up.

Let's face it, Reilly either works for you or he doesn't. He unashamedly writes escapist fiction that makes the reader feel as though they are immersed in a summer blockbuster movie. And he does it well. I wasn't a big fan of the "Jurassic Park" book. I didn't finish it because i Only Matthew Reilly would write a book about a zoo full of dragons. I didn't finish it because it felt like the characters only existed to be dinosaur food. I don't care much for 'sacrificial lamb' characters. However, I find it interesting that this is Reilly's favorite book of all time. Even though I liked the movie version more than the book, I'd have to thank Crichton for inspiring one of my favorite authors in that way. So for me, I don't mind that the idea of a dragon zoo was inspired by "Jurassic Park. Clearly Reilly is aware that this book would be compared to Jurassic Park and he understood that fact.

I think I can get into this book because while I am a fantasist, I love the idea of real,

live dragons. However, Reilly takes the fantasy version of dragons and gives it a very real, very gritty spin. I like that Reilly put so much thought into bring dragons into a millennial setting in a believable way. Many of the reasons it's a bad idea to have a dinosaur park are evident in why it was a bad idea to have a dragon zoo, but maybe even worse. Dragons don't mix well with humanity. Especially Reilly's dragons. The creators of the zoo believe that have concocted a fool-proof plan with their zoo that will supplant China over the United States as the arbiter of cultural consciousness. However, they neglected to consider that while dragons are animals, they are fiercely intelligent, and are the ultimate of predators.

Frankly, I think people who believe all animals are stupid aren't paying enough attention to the natural world and clearly do not have pets. Humans like to think of themselves as the ultimate of predators, but in nature, when the odds are evened, we aren't. Even a microbe can wipe the floor with humans, case in point. Reilly is in his high action, high gore mode, and I know I'd be covering my eyes if this was a movie.

Reading the book had many wince-worthy moments, but also the awe of majestic dragons. While I didn't want the dragons to be eating people, I felt wowed by the fact that they were real and they did a lot of what dragons do. Written on it in huge block letters. Even with the ingenious plan the zoo creators had to keep the dragons in the zoo, I had a feeling that they dragons would find a way around it, yet their strategizing gave me a huge feeling of awe.

I think books should stand for themselves and authors shouldn't have to defend themselves for what they've written outside of the book. But at the same time, I find it very interesting to see what the thought process behind their writing is. I enjoyed reading Mr. His goal is to make a book that is easy to read and enjoyable, and that's evident. I loved CJ as the lead character. She is a butt-kicking character and what makes it cool is that she is a woman. She proved very clearly that an action lead doesn't have to be male to own a story or to save the day.

But anyone who has ever seen "Aliens" or "Alien" knows what I'm talking about. I like that CJ was the type who observed and assimilated information and acted on that information in a logical way instead of losing her cool. But at the same time, she's not just an academic. She knows how to go into action and it saves her life and others around her many times in this book.

Her backstory really informs who she is a person and makes it clear that she's in the right place at the right time. I liked the other characters, especially Hamish CJ's brother and Greg. But the scene-stealer is Lucky. I was a bit jealous of CJ, except for the flying parts. Not for me, that. Oh, I just adored Lucky! I think Reilly brought it big time with this book. I'd give it 4. I won't go deep into those because they are spoilers, but I wish the ending was slightly different.

I see why Reilly ended things the way he did, but part of me was still sad about that. The newest book by Matthew Reilly and definitely different too. Since I'm a huge fan of "Jurassic Park" I was first afraid it would just be some sort of copy - especially since I know how much the author likes Michael Crichton's book as well! However, the idea of dragons being real was too tempting so I gave it a try. I was astonished to see that there was no lab where the dragons had been created, but that there was a

"scientific explanation" for all the myths. I kind of fell for it. However, t The newest book by Matthew Reilly and definitely different too. However, that initial thrill soon evaporated unfortunately.

Again, the author delivers action, but this time it was just too much. At some point my suspension of disbelief just can't go any further. The characters of "The Great Zoo of China" are infuriating - and not in a good way. They are just too flat.

The Great Zoo of China | Book by Matthew Reilly | Official Publisher Page | Simon & Schuster

As with most of Reilly's books, credibility is strained very early on and readers will need to be forgiving of the frequent lapses in logic. Reilly does, however, devote considerable attention to creating an interesting typology for his dragons and he uses Cameron's experiences with large reptiles to help ground the story, to some degree, in the real world. The frequent use of diagrams and maps also helps to give a patina of credibility.

Easy flowing and very readable, The Great Zoo Of China is not a great piece of literature, but it is sure to appeal to Reilly's many fans around the world. With Christmas quickly approaching it will make an ideal gift for the undemanding thriller reader in your house. Please try again later. The Sydney Morning Herald. It is a secret the Chinese government has been keeping for forty years. They have proven the existence of dragons—a landmark discovery no one could ever believe is real, and a scientific revelation that will amaze the world.

Now the Chinese are ready to unveil their astonishing findings within the greatest zoo ever constructed. A small group of VIPs and journalists has been brought to the zoo deep within China to see these fabulous creatures for the first time. Among them is Dr. The visitors are assured by their Chinese hosts that they will be struck with wonder at these beasts, that the dragons are perfectly safe, and that nothing can go wrong. For over-the-top adventure addicts, a Reilly novel is like a new roller coaster opening at Great America. His books have been published in more than twenty languages in twenty countries, and he has sold more than 7.

Visit him at MatthewReilly. Buildings are destroyed, buses and cars crushed, cable cars flung around with abandon and numerous human extras are quickly devoured as the story rapidly races through a series of increasingly spectacular action set pieces to the final breathless conclusion. As with most of Reilly's books, credibility is strained very early on and readers will need to be forgiving of the frequent lapses in logic. Reilly does, however, devote considerable attention to creating an interesting typology for his dragons and he uses Cameron's experiences with large reptiles to help ground the story, to some degree, in the real world.

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The Great Zoo of China by Matthew Reilly

Credit: Katherine Griffiths. Some of Matthew Reilly's legion of fans were surprised and disappointed by his last novel, The Tournament , which featured a historical setting and a much more subdued pace. The good news for those that missed the bloodletting and the frenetic pace of books like Ice Station and Scarecrow , is that Reilly's latest novel, The Great Zoo Of China , is an action-packed return to style that zips along at a very brisk speed. The storyline is even similar to Crichton's novel, with a small group of American VIPs and journalists being brought to the secret zoo deep within China to see its fabulous creatures for the first time.

Early on the visitors are assured that the zoo is perfectly safe and that nothing can go wrong:. From a very early stage in the development of this facility, we were cognisant of the dragons' dangerous potential. Of course in very short time things do go drastically wrong and the visitors are soon running for their lives. The Great Zoo Of China is a big, bold blockbuster. Reilly takes a little while to set up his basic premise and to provide the necessary information about the dragons and the zoo, but once these details are established the book rips into the gear and the action soon follows. Buildings are destroyed, buses and cars crushed, cable cars flung around with abandon and numerous human extras are quickly devoured as the story rapidly races through a series of increasingly spectacular action set pieces to the final breathless conclusion.

As with most of Reilly's books, credibility is strained very early on and readers will need to be forgiving of the frequent lapses in logic. Tell us what you like and we'll recommend books you'll love. Sign up and get a free ebook! Mass Market Paperback eBook. About The Book. About The Author. Matthew Reilly. Product Details. Resources and Downloads. Get a FREE ebook by joining our mailing list today! By clicking 'Sign me up' I acknowledge that I have read and agree to the privacy policy and terms of use.

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