

# Eons Untold



A Speculative  
Zoology Zine

Issue I



# Eons Untold

Issue I

Ancient animals are known to us from the fossil record, but they only account for a fraction of the life that's roamed planet Earth. What other creatures might have existed that have been lost to history?

I asked a small batch of artists to participate in this zine, in order to start Eons Untold. Whether they wanted to draw, write, or both, the love of speculative zoology comes from the heart. We hope you like the creatures featured here!

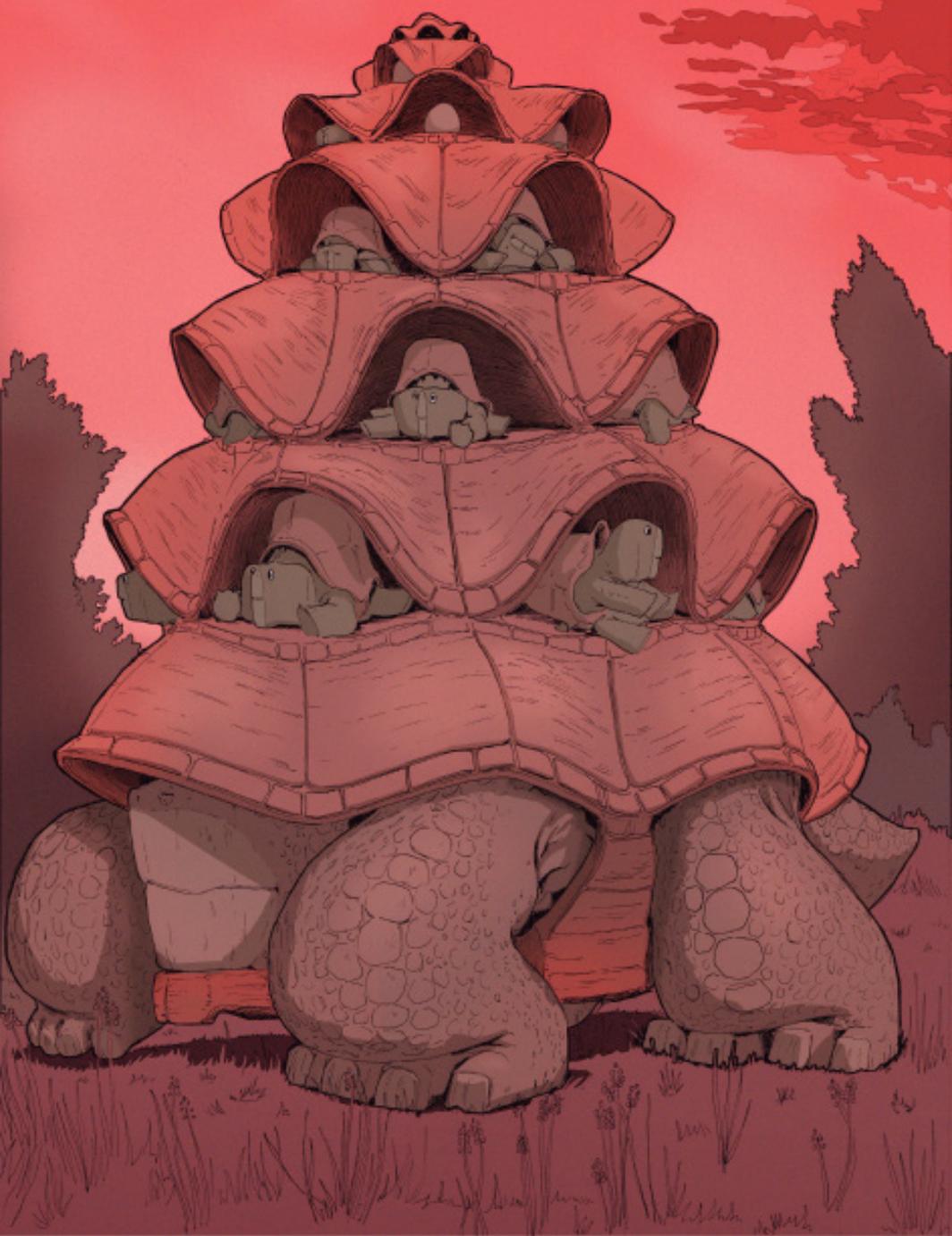
Thank you to all the talented folks who shared their creativity. If you wanna dream up a past undiscovered animal & share, you can use #EonsUntoldZine to join in on socials. It'd be amazing to feature more in the future, if you're interested in submitting feel free to email for info/guidelines: [EonsUntold@gmail.com](mailto:EonsUntold@gmail.com).

This issue is free for noncommercial use and distribution, feel free print one out & read!

—Nana Qi

 @puffygator

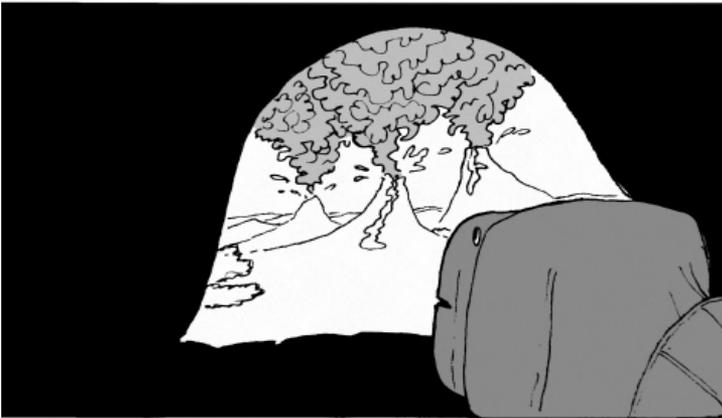
# Aedis Magnamater



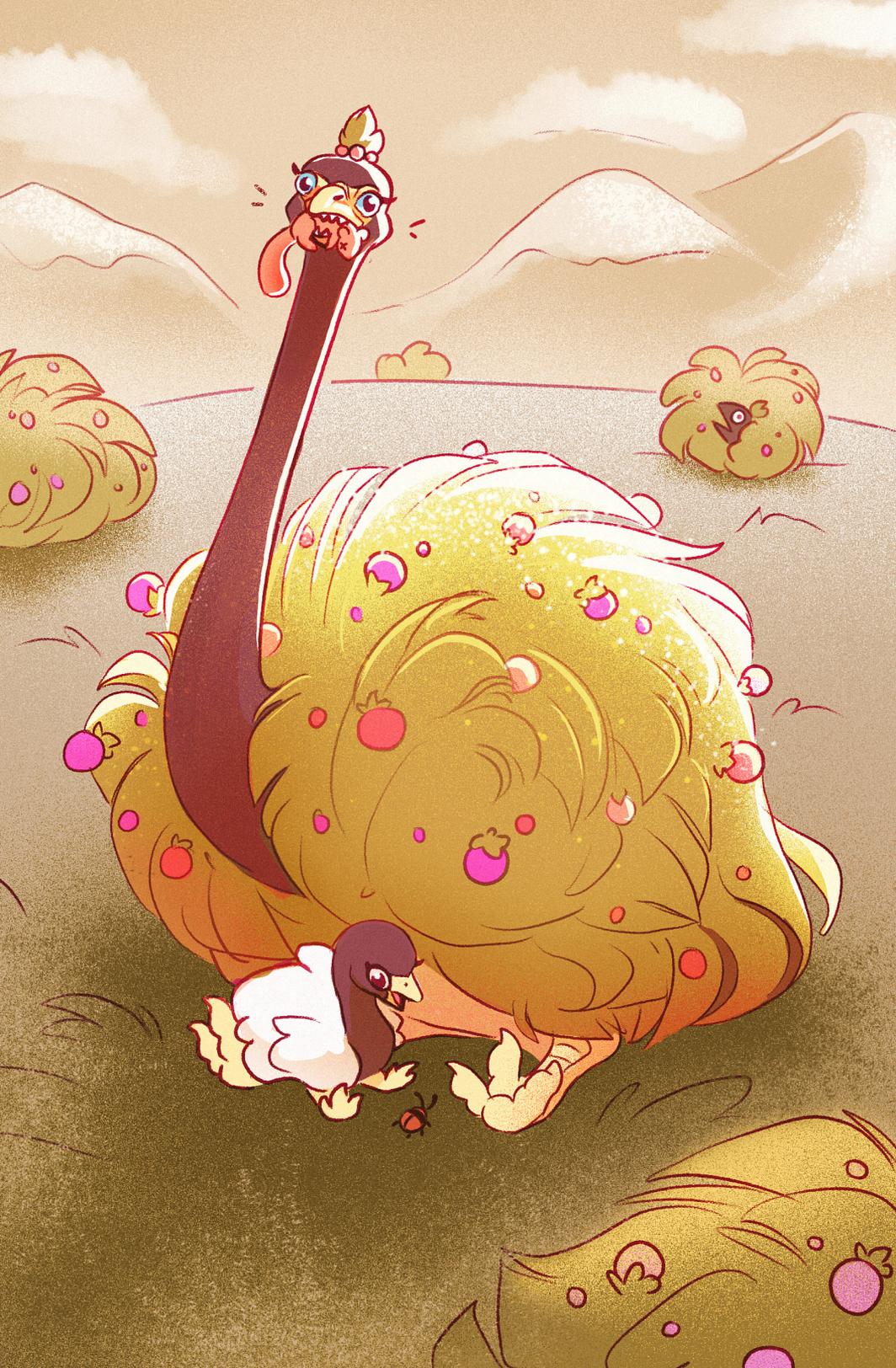
There is a popular misconception that the tortoise carries its house wherever it goes. While the tortoise's carapace is actually an enlarged ribcage, tortoises of the *Aedis* genus did take the step into something like biological architecture.

These tower-like animals used the cavities of their undulating shell patterns to create a safe place for their young. Standing at 4 meters tall, *Aedis* *Magnamater* was the largest of this line.

*Aedis* *Magnamater* grew continuously skyward, and lay single eggs at a steady rate throughout its life. As the young hatched and grew, they moved down to the larger cavities below, and would help bring the newest eggs up to the top of the 'tower.'



Climate change spelled the end of all species in the *Aedis* genus. Much like some downwardly-mobile young creative in our contemporary world, the paralyzing fear of a changing climate meant the young could hardly leave its mother's home and find a mate.





# The Bushbirb

by Nana Qi (@puffygator)

Some animals chase down their food, others lie in wait. The Bushbirb brings the food to them. They are a rhea sized early bird, ancient enough to have tiny teeth. The birds retract their tiny noodle heads into a bush like body, and wait for small critters to mistake special feathers for berries. The young hide below to snatch up ground dwelling prey. When the prey nears, they snap their jaws out to pluck them!

Sometimes they attracts larger animals, which tiny mouths are unequipped for. Cursed with the smallest of legs, their best bet is to tuck n' roll.

Their berry feathers molt more often to match with the snacks of the season & the land. Despite their appearance, bushbirbs won't eat real berries. They are slightly intolerant.

\*Can you spot the hidden bushbirb?



# Cornelius

by Claire Weaver-Zeman  
(@cweaverzeman)



2021

# Crowned Antelope

by @CorvusHound

# Dentus Foedus



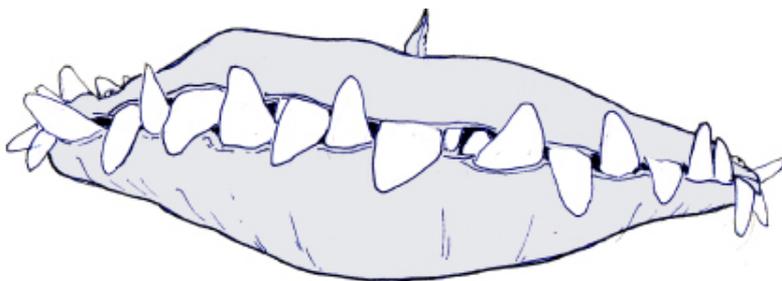
The path of history is littered with the bones of the overspecialized.

Some creatures follow an evolutionary line that goes 'all in' on one form, one aspect, one tool to pass on their genes. They are brief and beautiful.



Sharks are the opposite. Generalists that have hardly had to change at all in hundreds of millions of years, they arrived at an incredibly efficient mode of operation and have mostly stayed there. They bet heavy on being the ones with lots of teeth, and that's really worked out for them.

Dentus Foedus doubled down on that bet, and did very poorly.



Imagine a classroom where a charismatic student is entertaining a group of peers with some jokes. You, from outside the group, try to one-up or riff on something the charismatic one says, and everyone falls silent. They are the sharks, you are Foedus.

Its randomly-sized teeth (so random they are often mistaken for various species of shark) proved very efficient for catching a certain kind of slippery prey that immediately died out. After that?

Let's just say history is littered with plenty of this guy!

@\_matesanz



# Eye Spotted Tit

by @Kwindraws

“It could fan out its tail feathers to reveal an impressive display, resembling big glowing eyes, to scare off predators.”



# Hyena Rats

by @thebeanbaguette

“Fiercely loyal to their pack and protective of their young, they roam the wilds in groups, where together they build burrows and establish long-lasting colonies.”

*Shell Stashers (Draco Custropoda)*

Long ago did these little draconic creatures swam across coral reefs in search of the next treasure for their hoard. Although their diet did not mainly consist of mollusks, they tirelessly hunted them down purely for their shells.



Paula  
Mario  
2011

# Shell Stashers

by P:aula Marilo (@paulamarilo)



# Zhen Niao

by Jerry Lue (@jerrylue)

# Artists

(in alphabetical order of animals)

## Gabriel J Matesanz

Aedis Magnamater (page 3-4)

Dentus Foedus (page 11-12)

 @\_matesanz

## Nana Qi

The Bushbirb (page 5-6)

 @puffygator

## Claire Weaver-Zeman

Cornelius (page 7-8)

 @cweaverzeman

## CorvusHound

Crowned Antelope (page 9-10)

 @corvushound

## Kwindraws

Eye Spotted Tit (page 13-14)

 @kwindraws

## thebeanbaguette

Hyena Rats (page 15-16)

 @thebeanbaguette

**Paula Marilo**

Shell Stashers (page 17-18)

@paulamarilo

**Jerry Lue**

Zhen Niao (page 19-20)

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