



PART TWO OF FOUR

Did Ryan Really See a Dinosaur in His Backyard?

By Donna Sievers

Illustration by Ryan Ito-Allen

Ryan went to school the next day and even though he was a really good student, he found it hard to concentrate. Ryan kept thinking about his new friend, the baby T-Rex. Would the T-Rex be in the ravine when he got home from school? Would his mom and dad finally see the baby dinosaur? Could this just be a dream or could a real dinosaur live in Boulder, Colorado? You can see why Ryan could not concentrate at school. Ryan decided not to tell anyone about the dinosaur until he got home to see what was happening. Maybe it was just a dream!

When Ryan got home, he ran outside and could not see anything except...a bit of scat. Do you know what scat is? Well, scat is what animals leave behind when they have to go to the bathroom but do not have a bathroom like humans do. Ryan thought about why he could not find the baby dinosaur and decided that it was probably afraid to come out until

the sun started to go down. So Ryan went into the house, got a snack, and then did his homework. Remember, I said Ryan was a good student!

After dinner, Ryan told his mom and dad that they should all go outside and quietly watch for the baby T-Rex. After about 15 minutes, can you believe what happened? They all saw the baby T-Rex! Ryan saw it first, and then his mom and dad. They were so excited but they tried to stay very quiet so they would not scare the baby T-Rex.

They decided to name the baby dinosaur. Can you guess what they named him? Well, they named him Ryanasaurus because Ryan so wanted to be a friend of a real dinosaur.

Ryan told his parents that he wanted to sleep outside with Ryanasaurus. Can you imagine what they said? You are correct. They said, "No way, kiddo. You sleep in your room and Ryanasaurus stays outside." Ryan could see their point but was still a little grumpy about the decision.

Ryan went to bed and could not wait until the next day so he could see his new friend again. As he started to fall asleep, Ryan thought, Yikes, what am I thinking? What if the baby T-Rex's gigantic mom and dad are around? That could be bad. Then, Ryan fell asleep.

Watch for our next Bluff Heights Newsletter to see what happens with the baby T-Rex and Ryan.

Donna Sievers was raised in Long Beach and taught at Stanford Junior High, Bolsa Grande High, Pacifica High and CSULB before leaving the classroom for administrator duties in Garden Grove USD. She and her husband live in Bluff Heights, where their retirement activities include volunteering for the Joyful Child Foundation in Memory of Samantha Runnion, gardening at the Bembridge House, bike riding, walking to the ocean and maintaining a 107 year-old house and garden.