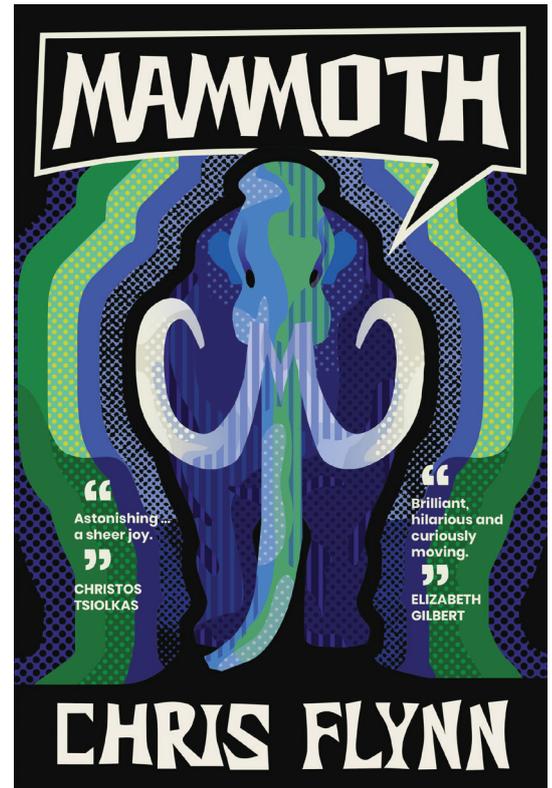


**The original, unforgettable and thought-provoking new novel by award-winning author Chris Flynn that will change how you understand the world.**

Narrated by a 13,000-year-old extinct mammoth, this is the (mostly) true story of how a collection of prehistoric creatures came to be on sale at a natural history auction in New York in 2007. By tracing how and when these fossils were unearthed, *Mammoth* leads us on a funny and fascinating journey from the Pleistocene epoch to nineteenth-century America and beyond, revealing how ideas about science and religion have shaped the world.

With our planet on the brink of calamitous climate change, *Mammoth* scrutinises humanity's role in the destruction of the natural world while also offering a message of hope.

**BOOK DETAILS**

C-format paperback | 978 0 7022 6274 6  
\$29.99

## Questions

1. Is *Mammut* a reliable narrator? What makes you believe or doubt his remarkable tale?
2. The fossils all question the veracity of each other's storytelling. What is Chris Flynn saying about the nature of storytelling through these interruptions?
3. *Mammoth* uses a framing narrative of the fossils being up for sale at a natural history auction. How does this setting add depth and complexity to the stories the fossils tell?
4. Which fossil do you think was unearthed at the most turbulent time in human history? Why?
5. *Mammut*'s bones are used by US President Thomas Jefferson as a symbol of American superiority. Can you think of any parallels in contemporary times whereby world leaders appeal to their country's greatness through 'large' symbolic means?
6. *Mammut* feels mostly disdain for hominids but has affection for a few humans that he encounters. What do these characters do or say that makes *Mammut* feel a connection with them?

### Questions cont.

7. *T. bataar* asks *Mammut* to include more 'LOLs' in his storytelling. What role does humour play in the fossils' tragic tales?
8. Many aspects of this novel prove the aphorism: truth is stranger than fiction. What is one incredible thing that you learnt from *Mammoth* that is actually true?
9. Who is your favourite fossil? And why?
10. Each of the fossils has a very distinct 'voice'. What are some of the reasons for this?
11. Which period of history was most vivid and interesting to you as you read this novel?
12. What do you think about the fact that scientists might be able to reverse the extinction of mammoths as a species? Do you think it will happen?

'Chris Flynn has written a brilliant, hilarious, and curiously moving novel, featuring one of the best narrators in literary history.'

[Elizabeth Gilbert](#)

'*Mammoth* is astonishing, a novel that is by turns playful, uncomfortably excoriating, very funny and always deeply humane.'

[Christos Tsiolkas](#)

'A tour-de-force, a brilliant book, a witty vaccine for the planet.'

[Sebastian Barry](#)

'Funny, warm and totally unique – I loved it.'

[Favel Parrett](#)

### ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Chris Flynn is the author of *The Glass Kingdom* and *A Tiger in Eden*, which was shortlisted for the Commonwealth Book Prize. His fiction and non-fiction have been published widely, in *The Age*, *Griffith Review*, *Australian Book Review*, *The Saturday Paper*, the *Smith Journal* and more. He has conducted interviews for *The Paris Review* and is a regular presenter at literary festivals across Australia. Chris lives on Phillip Island, next to a penguin sanctuary.



### VISIT

**Chris Flynn in conversation with Nick Earls:**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CGGrrGf-Hu7Q&feature=youtu.be>

**Science Write Now: Panel featuring**

***Mammoth*** <https://www.sciencewritenow.com/podcasts-and-interviews/james-bradley-donna-mazza-chris-flynn-ghost-species-fauna-mammoth>

**For more media with Chris Flynn, visit**

[www.uqp.com.au/books/mammoth](http://www.uqp.com.au/books/mammoth)

### FURTHER READING

