

## Anomalocaris

Way back in the Cambrian lived *Anomalocaris*  
And its fossils are various, and when they got dug  
From the Burgess Shale, they were so beyond the pale  
That the scientists who found them thought they had three different bugs  
Now anomalocaridids are a whole other phylum  
And if you had spied them you'd be quite surprised  
'Cause they had shrimp-like appendages and fins and teeth and when this is  
Expressed to you I'm not telling no lies

You know I love *Anomalocaris*  
Of the Burgess Shale fossils, it's beyond compare, it's just  
I love you more

In the Devonian period you could find *Dunkleosteus*  
It was thirty feet of nastiness, this is one fish you don't want to meet  
Up a dark alley, it could bite you pretty badly  
With a force of 6,000 Newtons, and with terrifying speeds  
Now *Dunkleosteus* was in the class Placodermi  
And that's a class that only lasted fifty million years  
And now it's gone; but while it lasted, there was nothing could get past it  
It had giant plates of armor and its head was six feet long

You know that I love *Dunkleosteus*  
A giant armored fish, man, that's preposterous  
But I love you more

You know I love the ammonite's helix  
And girl, you know that I love me some *T. rex*  
I even like that CE-SELEX  
But I've got a feeling you like that more than I do  
You know I'm down with *Sarchosuchus*  
And all the ancient hagfish, despite all the mucus  
*Helicopiron* too, but you know that the truth is  
I don't love them all the way that I love you

But wait, let me hit you with this: in the Carboniferous  
There lived a splendiliferous dragonfly of enormous size  
*Meganeura*, and of that you can be sure  
A wingspan bigger than a meter, yet this thing could still fly

And just in case that didn't pique your curiosity  
There was a Carboniferous millipede that grew to six feet long  
It was called *Arthropleura*, and I'd have to say that you're  
A boring person if a bug of that size fails to turn you on

You know that I love *Meganeura*  
And you better believe I love *Arthropleura*  
But I love you more

All the way from the Ediacaran biota  
To the late Cenezoic to the Anthropocene  
Triassic, Jurassic, you know there's more fantastic  
Creatures in the fossil record than you have ever seen  
Now we're so lucky to live on this planet  
'Cause since it began it's been creating all of these  
Creatures that could walk and crawl and swim and fly and dash it all  
I guess, girl, that all that I'm trying to say is, I mean

Evolution made *Anomalocaris*  
And evolution made *Dunkleosteus*  
But the neatest thing that evolution ever did was making you  
Said the neatest thing that evolution ever did was making you

**Composed by: Alex Sturbaum**

**Appears on *Loomings* (bonus track)**

*A sincere yet deeply dorky love song. CE-SELEX is an analytical chemistry technique that my partner Rae worked on in undergrad. I had a lot of fun writing this one.*