

Re: Sabretooths (Re: Prescription Assistance)

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"Mario Petrinovich" <mario.petrinovic1@xxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote in message [news:fkqs0q\\$0ld\\$1@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:news:fkqs0q$0ld$1@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx)

Marc Verhaegen:

Mario, what were your arguments to think that sabretooths were semi-aq.?

Actually, everything that is known about them.

They have long, brittle canines. Those canines cannot withstand forces put upon them on land. In water it is completely different situation, forces are manageable.

Then their stocky built (not very good for catlike life) implied to me that they might be aquatic.

Then the fact that they could survive injuries that normal cat wouldn't survive without living in pack. In aquatic situation they could survive it living solitary.

Additional stuff helped. The thing that they were found in La Bra pit in such a big numbers; the fact that world in the past was much more wet; the fact that I figured a scenario which can explain both, why those canines are so long (only upper ones), and why they are laterally compressed

(eye piercing). I mean, lions of today would also like to cut the arteries,

only this would make their teeth brittle. Maybe this isn't the right word.

They were elastic (not brittle), but they were breakable, because they were

laterally thin, and long.

Actually, everything points me to that scenario, and nothing points against it. Take a look at clouded leopard, which lives in pretty wet situation, and hunts proboscis monkeys. Proboscis monkeys run away from predators by jumping into water. I would say that scenes like that were pretty normal in the past. — Mario Petrinovich

"The Big Cats and Their Fossil Relatives"

by Mauricio Anton, Alan Turner, and F. Clark. Howell

Re: Sabretooths (Re: Prescription Assistance)

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There you go, Mario. Amazon has used copies for around \$8.00. This book won't be supporting your navel-gazing about aquatic sabertooths (so Marco is sure not to read it) but it is a highly readable account of the topic at hand. I have a copy around here somewhere and *have* read it so I'm looking forward t