

2021

## Review of *Bones in the White House: Thomas Jefferson's Mammoth* by Candice Ransom

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### Recommended Citation

Watkins, Elly B M, "Review of *Bones in the White House: Thomas Jefferson's Mammoth* by Candice Ransom" (2021). *Library Intern Book Reviews*. 310.

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*Bones in the White House: Thomas Jefferson's Mammoth*

Ransom, Candice

Illustrated by Jamey Christoph

New York, Penguin Random House, 2020

978052564607-5

This book tells of a side of founding father Thomas Jefferson that readers may not be so familiar with. From a young age, Thomas Jefferson was fascinated by bones and fossils discovered in the vast wilderness of the United States. He spent the majority of his life and political career trying to find answers to the mystery bones that he thought belonged to a Mammoth. Though he was often made fun of, and his explorations produced little success, Jefferson persevered. The book offers an overview of Jefferson's fascination with Mammoth bones and how his presidential decisions factored into his curiosity. The illustrations supplement the narration with vivid and large pictures. Upper elementary school readers will wonder at the mystery of the Mammoth bones with Jefferson. Teachers could use this book in a science unit and help foster curiosity for fossils from their students. **Recommended** *Elly McGillivray Watkins, Centennial Library Intern, Cedarville University*