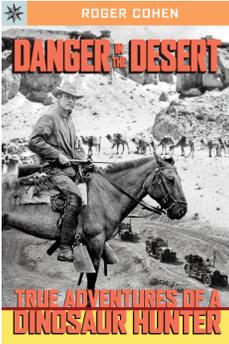


FLYING  
POINT  
PRESS



## Adventurous author a model for young male readers

Just returned from the combat zone in Afghanistan, author Roger Cohen talks about his new book for young adult readers *Danger in the Desert: True Adventures of a Dinosaur Hunter*

**The subject of your book, Roy Chapman Andrews was the famous paleontologist who discovered dinosaur eggs in the Gobi Desert. He is often spoken of as a real-life model for the fictional daredevil Indiana Jones. After all, he carried a gun, wore a fedora, and encountered snakes and bandits. What do you think?**

George Lucas has said that before he worked on *Indiana Jones*, he was inspired by news-reels of explorers that he watched when he was a kid. He never cited Andrews by name, though. However, I just watched *Indiana Jones*, and the similarity is pretty striking.

**When you were 10 or 12 did you long for a life of adventure the way the subject of your book, Roy Chapman Andrews, did?**

Yes! This is why I wanted to write a book for a young adult audience. When I was a kid, I loved reading stories about adventurers traveling to far-off places. When I was 13, my parents sent me on a school trip to Japan. I remember being completely amazed by everything I saw it was like spending two weeks in an alternate universe. After that, I knew I wanted to see more.

These experiences started a journey that led me to become a Peace Corps volunteer in Mongolia. I continue to travel whenever possible and follow the words of Roy Chapman Andrews: There's always an adventure waiting just around the corner. And, the world is still full of corners!

**You have recently returned from Afghanistan, a pretty dangerous place. What were you doing there?**

I went to Afghanistan to teach English as a Second Language to Afghan military officers.

I volunteered for the assignment just as I was completing the final draft of *Danger in the Desert*. I had spent several weeks contemplating if working in a somewhat dangerous, yet no doubt exciting situation, would be the right decision. What pushed me to finally accept the post was I knew what Roy Chapman Andrews would tell me: *Go for it!*

### Contact Information:

Flying Point Press  
www.flyingpointpress.com  
peggy@flyingpointpress.com