

Bringing together all the Tomb Raider eras into a single timeline is a complicated task. Each era works with different dates and periods, with different purposes, presenting very different versions of Lara Croft.

*In order for this biography to be coherent with everything, it is natural that **dates and some events** undergo changes or even are discarded. After all, there is no way the same character can die twice in the same timeline.*

*As a long-time Tomb Raider fan, I decided to take on this “almost” impossible mission and decided to create a unified timeline. For this unification, **I did not consider the films, TV shows, comics, books, novels, etc.** I only considered the main games of the franchise.*

So, I present to you...



Definitive Biography (The Unified Lara Croft)

1968 – Birth of Lara Croft, daughter of Lord Richard Croft and Amelia de Mornay Croft. *(Respecting the dates of the classic era and the events of the reboot era).*



1973 – Lara is taken on one of the digs led by her father and has the chance to experience an adventure at some archaeological sites, where she makes her first archaeological find: an amulet made of jade that would become her lucky charm. Lara finds it while wearing her penguin pajamas and runs to show it to Conrad Roth, her godfather, who turns it into a necklace using a bootlace.





1974 – Amelia de Mornay travels to Tibet to meet with Richard and his research team, but Amelia's plane crashes in the Himalayan mountains. Richard tries to bring his beloved back to life with an ancient Tibetan ritual, but nothing happens. Amelia is declared dead. Richard takes her body back to Croft Manor and buries her in a secret crypt.



1979 – Richard Croft dies in his office at Croft Manor. *(Events shown in Rise of the Tomb Raider and Shadow of the Tomb Raider).*

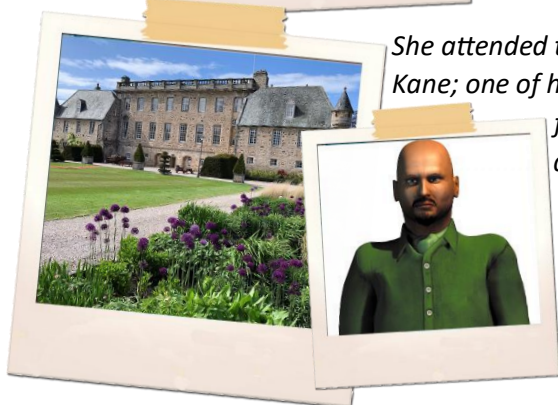
With the unexpected death of Richard Croft, the documentation regarding the ownership of the manor left many bureaucratic issues unresolved. Since Amelia's death was never confirmed, the mansion automatically became the property of Lara's uncle, Atlas de Mornay.



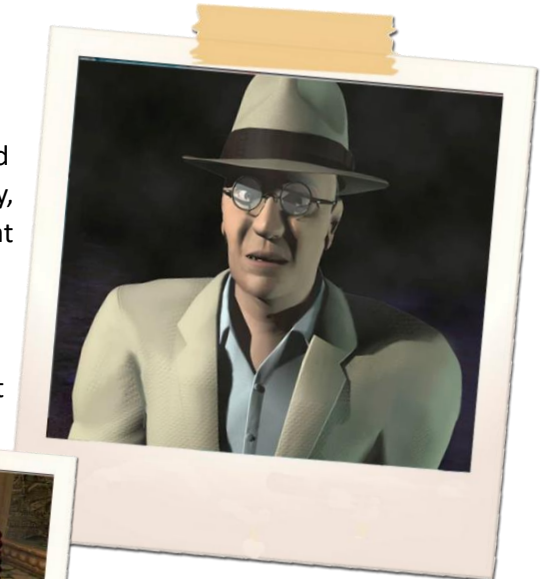
Lara Croft remains an outgoing, adventurous girl, very dedicated to her studies and school activities. Raised as a British aristocrat, Lara grew up with the Croft family's faithful butler, Winston, and in the company of several family friends, such as Conrad Roth and Father Bram Patric Dunstan.



She attended the Scottish boarding school Gordonstoun, where she met Charles Kane; one of her teachers and a future friend of Lara's. She also attended a finishing school in Switzerland where she began to develop her deeper abilities.



1984 – At the age of 16, Lara Croft has the chance to get involved in an expedition through Asia accompanied by Werner Von Croy, an archaeologist who had given a lecture about his profession at Lara's school and who announced this new expedition through Asia. Lara asks Winston to contact him and negotiate a possible trip for Lara Croft to join this expedition. As she was the daughter of a renowned archaeologist, Werner saw it as a great opportunity for growth and publicity. So, Werner Von Croy allowed Lara Croft to accompany him to Cambodia. It is on this adventure that Lara finds her iconic adventure backpack. *(A slight change from the original biography to fit in with the events of the reboot).*





1985 – While on vacation with Winston, she overheard a conversation between him and Father Bram Patric Dunstan about a haunted island off the coast of Ireland. The conversation was enough to pique Lara's curiosity and she sneaked to the island. with Father Patric Dunstan and witnessed diabolical and supernatural manifestations. (*Introduction to the third Chronicle of the Tomb Raider Chronicles in the unified timeline*).



1986 – Lara chose to study at University College London. She also ended up meeting one of her best friends, Samantha Nishimura, during her time at UCL.



****NOTE:** We can consider that it was during college that Lara Croft met Anaya, Amanda Evert and that it was during this period that the excavation in Peru (flashback) shown in Tomb Raider Legend (2006) took place. **However, this is only possible if we disregard the family drama of the LAU trilogy (Legend, Anniversary and Underworld) and Anniversary itself (which is a remake of the original adventure and will not replace the original adventure).**

1989 – At the age of 21, Lara Croft sets out on her first expedition alongside James Whitman and the crew of the Endurance in search of the kingdom of Yamatai. (*Events of Tomb Raider 2013*).



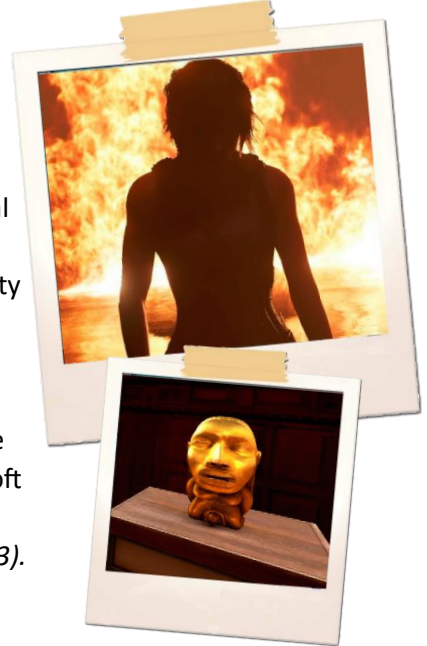
1990 – After witnessing the impossible again, Lara Croft begins to believe in her father's old absurd theories regarding some of his work. Lara decides to find the tomb of an ancient prophet in Syria to complete her father's research, and this all leads her to meet a secret order called Trinity and the lost



city of Kitezh. At the end of the same year, Lara decides to regain her right as the legitimate heir to the Croft mansion and, after finding a secret chamber beneath the mansion where her mother's body lay, she obtains the necessary evidence to become the rightful owner of the mansion and remove her uncle, Atlas de Morney, from the deed of the property. *(Events of Rise of the Tomb Raider).*

1991 – In an attempt to stop her father's murders, the Order of the Trinity, Lara Croft infiltrates the Order's private dig in Mexico and ends up initiating an ancient ritual that triggers the end of the World. She manages to prevent the disaster while putting an end to Trinity and finding the legendary city of gold, Paititi. *(Events of Shadow of the Tomb Raider).*

1992 – Determined to "be among the living" and start making her own mark on the World, Lara Croft begins to take her training more seriously and starts going on small expeditions of her own. Lara Croft goes on a small expedition to Peru and finds the Fertility Idol. *(Explanation of the Fertility Idol in the trophy room in Tomb Raider 3).*



1993 – Her name began to gain prominence in the media and in the world of archaeology after her biggest discovery (to date). Lara Croft finds the Ark of the Covenant on an expedition in Iraq, in some ruins of ancient Babylon. Keeping their differences aside, Werner Von Croy shows up at the excavation to honor her and both are pictured holding a monument from the ruins. *(Explanation of the Ark of the Covenant in Lara's house in Tomb Raider 1 and the photograph found in Angel of Darkness).*



1994 – Lara Croft sets out in search of the Philosopher's Stone in Rome, where she crosses paths with Pierre Dupont and Larson Conway. *(Introduction to the first chronicle of Tomb Raider 5 in the unified timeline).*



1995 – With the collaboration of Charles Kane, Lara Croft goes to Russia in search of the Spear of Destiny. She is not the only one. A Russian mafia led by Sergei Mikhailov bribed the Russian navy to use one of its submarines in search of the Spear. At the end of the same year, Lara Croft encounters Bigfoot and this event becomes a news story for the cover of a magazine. *(Introduction of the second chronicle of Tomb Raider 5 in the unified timeline and the magazine about Bigfoot in the opening of Tomb Raider 1).*



1996 – Lara Croft is hired by Jacqueline Natla to find the Scion in Peru and ends up getting involved with the myth of Atlantis. It is during this adventure that Lara Croft discovers dinosaurs hidden in a lost valley. This discovery led Lara to publish a book called "A Tyrannosaurus Is



Jawing at My Head". One of the many books that Lara Croft would publish about her discoveries. (*Tomb Raider 1*).

1997 – Lara Croft goes to the United States and hires a hacker named Zip to help her break into Von Croy Industries and steal the Iris, an artifact that she and Von Croy had discovered when she was 16 in Cambodia in 1984. In the second half of that same year, Lara



Croft searches for the Dagger of Xian and crosses paths with an Italian mobster named Marco Bartoli. (*Introduction to the last chronicle of Tomb Raider 5 and the arrival of the adventure of Tomb Raider 2*).



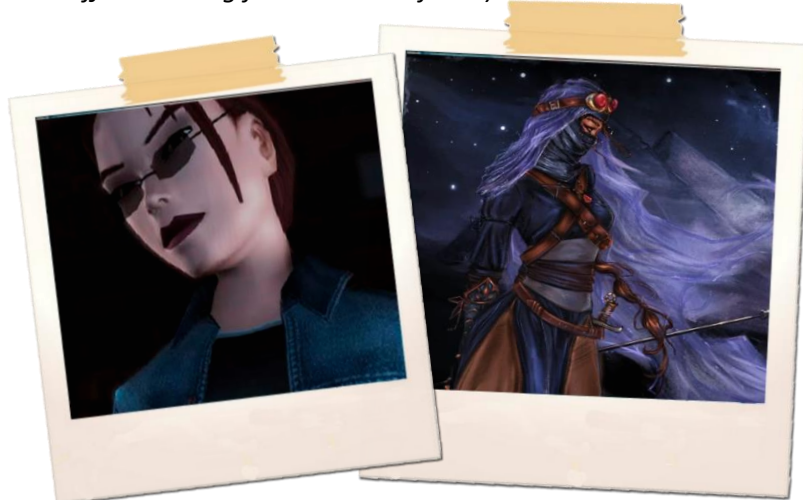
1998 – Lara Croft is hired by Dr. Mark Willard to find the meteor artifacts scattered around the world. (*Tomb Raider 3*).

1999 – Lara Croft finds herself in a delicate new situation when she frees Set from his tomb in the Valley of the Kings, in Egypt, and must prevent the end of the world before the turn of the century. (*Tomb Raider 4*).



2000 – Lara Croft is presumed dead or missing after the Great Pyramid collapses at the turn of the century. Later that year, Lara finds herself in a desert oasis, where she is discovered and rescued by a Bantiwa shaman named Putai.

Putai uses an amulet to help Lara recover physically and mentally. (*Introduction to the tale The Myth of El Hawa, a story written by Murti Schofield, scriptwriter of the game Angel of Darkness, and which became official among fans because of that*).



2003 – Von Croy contacts Lara Croft and she goes to his apartment in Paris, where he shares about some dark new archaeological work he is involved in. (*Introduction to Tomb Raider The Angel of Darkness*).

****PROBLEMS WITH LAU TRILOGY NOTE:** The unification becomes complicated when it tries to combine it with the LAU Trilogy era. This is because these adventures revolve around the mystery of Amelia's death. In this trilogy, Lord Richard Croft is killed by Jacqueline Natla, while in the reboot this happens because of Dr. Domingues and the Order of the Trinity. Thus, for the adventure of Excalibur and Thor's Hammer to fit coherently into the unified timeline, **the family drama must be removed from the LAU trilogy**. If we really remove this drama that was already addressed in the reboot/Lara Croft origin trilogy, we can have the following.

2006 – Lara Croft receives a phone call from her old college friend, Anaya, about an archaeological find that might interest her in Bolivia. This archaeological find is related to the legend of King Arthur and the legendary island of Avalon. In this adventure, Lara discovers that Amanda Evert survived the accident that occurred in Peru while they were in college and a rivalry between the two begins. (*Introduction to Tomb Raider Legend*).



2008 – Determined to find Avalon, Lara Croft discovers a connection to Norse myths and discovers that Thor's Hammer may be a way of reaching the legendary island. However, Amanda is determined to get there first, bringing the rivalry between the two to a climax. (*Introduction to Tomb Raider Underworld*).

****PROBLEMS:** Removing the family drama from the LAU trilogy implies removing other details from Jacqueline Natla is not an immortal being and was defeated by Lara Croft in 1996 (just as Qualopec and Tihocan were not immortal beings and had their own tombs). If there is no family drama, there is no Jacqueline Natla. If there is no Jacqueline Natla, there is no Doppelganger from Tomb Raider Underworld. In this case, the plot of the LAU trilogy needs to be rewritten in a way that would stray too far from what we see in its games.



In this case, a remake could present a reinterpretation where the family drama is **COMPLETELY REMOVED** to avoid plot holes. Characters like Jacqueline Natla could be replaced by new characters (perhaps by James Rutland's father). He wouldn't have killed Lara Croft's father (after all, Richard Croft was killed by Dr. Domingues and the Order of the Trinity), but he could be the villain seeking revenge, since Lara Croft killed his son. He could join forces with Amanda Evert and both seek something in common (and perhaps there could be a conflict between them too, as if at a certain point in the story the interests changed and it became "every man for himself").

This unification was made by **Tomb Raider de A a Z** (<https://www.youtube.com/@tombrailerdeaaz>) based on informations from the official biographies of the main Tomb Raider eras (Classic, LAU Trilogy and Reboot).

