



## **Jim Henson's The Dark Crystal: Creation Myths, Volume 2**

*Brian Froud, Joshua Dysart, Alex Sheikman (Illustrator), Lizzy John (Illustrator)*

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The Great Conjunction is at hand in this dramatic second volume of *Archaia* and *The Jim Henson Company's* trilogy of prequel graphic novels that tell the origin of The Dark Crystal.

Aughra, the beloved guardian of Thra, has gone into hiding, while her son, Raunip, leads a team of emissaries to the Crystal Castle. There they will bear witness as the visiting Urskeks attempt to use the Conjunction to power their voyage home. But pain and mistrust fostered by the group leads to events that will corrupt the world to its very core and transform the Urskeks into two distinct races: the gentle urRu and the terrifying Skeksis. Brian Froud, legendary fantasy artist and conceptual designer of *Jim Henson's The Dark Crystal* film, returns to oversee this crucial chapter that reveals the tragic events that caused the Bright Crystal to darken and shatter.

*Jim Henson's The Dark Crystal: Creation Myths* is an original graphic novel hardcover series set one thousand years before the crystal cracked, before the world of Thra fell to strife and destruction. Original *Dark Crystal* movie concept designer Brian Froud plots, provides the cover, designs characters, and art directs this beautiful hardcover. Written by Brian Holguin (*Spawn*), and illustrated by Alex Sheikman (*Robotika*) and Lizzy John.

## Jim Henson's The Dark Crystal: Creation Myths, Volume 2 Details

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Author : Brian Froud , Joshua Dysart , Alex Sheikman (Illustrator) , Lizzy John (Illustrator)

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## **From Reader Review Jim Henson's The Dark Crystal: Creation Myths, Volume 2 for online ebook**

### **Christopher says**

A few more revelations and back story, and you find out that the visitors are actually outcasts and exiles, not the benevolent visitors as once thought.

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### **Gaelan D'costa says**

This book takes what was seeded in the first book and weaves it into the Cracking of the Crystal.

It serves as a nice mirrored tale to the movie, the movie plot in reverse with negative themes. This is really pleasant much of the time but is conversely aggravating as the story sometimes drops into over-constrained fan-service at times (Kira's quip about wings in the movie was a sledgehammer of wit to a young me, but here it seems a weak callout to the audience. There's even a dreamfasting sequence that goes exactly where you'd expect it to.)

This being said, the dynamic of Aughra's role in the world and the nature of the Urskeks has become complex. The crystal's cracking (and the urskek's fall from grace is tragic in a compelling and frustrating way, if not necessarily a morally reductive one.) The potential of the Podling race is shown here, having had but a brief set of cameos in the movie. Once again, the beauty (and menace) of the world and its flora/fauna fluidity is demonstrated effectively. I'm really curious where the story of Aughra's son is going to lead, and evaluations of his character become even murkier.

I've heard the third and final volume got cancelled, which is a tragedy because I really want to know how this story will end up.

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### **Marsha says**

The saga continues...

The conjunction of all three suns in Thra's skies is a long-looked for event. Yet, it comes only once every thousand years. Because of this, Aughra is the only one to witness each time they arrive. Only she understands that the conjunctions always bring great change. Because the denizens of Thra appear to have no written history, no one else remembers the Urskeks coming to Thra in the first place...except Raunip, Aughra's petulant and suspicious son.

Raunip's antagonism towards the Urskek is irritating and baffling and only serves to throw an unneeded wrench in the proceedings. He's upset that they're there and yet needles them as they're about to leave. You wonder why they even invited him to the party.

The overall tone of the book is gloomier, too, with levity provided mainly by the Podlings who look like sock puppets with eyes and hoodies. Dark somber colors like black and purple predominate the pages.

However, we get more insight into the Podlings in this installation since the first book dealt mostly with Gelfings.

The more you read about this story, the more exciting it gets. Finally, we see how the Skeksises and Urru came into being, how the crystal gets damaged and how the various races react to the horrors newly unleashed in their midst. It's a thrilling story and I'm eager for the conclusion.

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### **Chad says**

If you ever wondered about the back story of The Dark Crystal then read this. This one tells how the crystal broke and the Urskeks split into the Skeksis and Mystics.

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### **Shaina says**

This one details the events up to the Second Great Conjunction when the beings of light, the Urskeks, split each into two beings. You see the events that lead to the crystal cracking and turning colors and the castle as well.

There are also many of Jim's original concepts as he thought of them, explained between he and Brian Froud, as well as some sketches. It shows how the idea of such a world and even the movie evolved.

This keeps some of the more original concepts and is true to the movie at the same time. I was amazed and I love it.

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### **Ahdom says**

The story progresses a bit more and gets us closer to the familiar landscape that we have come to know in the The Dark Crystal. I didn't realize there was a third volume in this series, so I will likely see how Creation Myths wraps up. This comic I liked a lot simply because it tells a familiar backstory and fleshes it all out with beautiful illustrations.

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### **Kenneth says**

Loses some steam towards the end, (especially during the anti-climatic manner in which the Skeksis and Urruks are created,) but other than that, a very interesting collection of tales from the wildly imaginative world of Jim Henson.

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### **Jd says**

A great followup to the first volume. I enjoyed getting to see the events that lead to the separation of the Urskeks into the Uru and Skeksis. The dialogue was very well written, and the art is gorgeous.

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### **James Taylor says**

In Volume 2 of this comic trilogy, Raunip leads a group to the Crystal Castle where the Urskeks are attempting to return home via Conjunction. The first Volume contained several small stories, but this one opts for one long story; the origins of the “urRu” and “Skeksis”. It takes a while to become interesting, but I think the first one was more entertaining.

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### **Sarah J says**

Based on the in-story universe of the film "The Dark Crystal," the writing and art is exactly in line with the atmosphere of the film: mysterious, beautiful, but with dark corners. The world of Thra is shrouded in mystery, a place where one must accept things, but at the same time question everything. Brian Froud, who designed the background, creatures, and overall look of the original, returns to illustrate a prequel, showing how the Mystics and Skeksis came to be, why Aughra lives in an orrery, and how the Gelflings came to have such a large place in the history of the magical planet.

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### **Zoe says**

Just as good as the first! This volume explored how the mystics and the skeksis came about and why the crystal was purple. It makes me amazed at how well they made the movie and made these connections.

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### **Krystl Louwagie says**

Still interesting art, ok storyline.

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### **April Helms says**

Really enjoyed this second installment. This details the fall of the UrSkeks, the formation of the urRu and the Skeksis (which looked far different than I would have pictured at their beginning, but the design makes sense), the cracking of the crystal, and the aftermath. Raunip and Aughra grow more distant, especially after Raunip finds out about how he came to be. Again, great story, loved the history, and lovely illustrations. Hope I can get my hands on the third volume soon!

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### **Nicollette Winiewicz says**

The Dark Crystal mythos has always been a curious thing, but this graphic novel series has shed some light on how the world came to be as it is at the start of the movie. Again fantastic illustrations and masterful

storytelling!

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### **Abigail Pankau says**

The story of the world of The Dark Crystal before the movie.

If you're really interested in back stories and folklore and "The Dark Crystal" movie, this you'll enjoy this. Recommend reading all three volumes together as a whole.

This volume deals with the continuing history, and specifically the second Great Conjunction, and what happens to the Urskek then.

All three volumes together is a 4\* story (each volume on its own would only be 3\*).

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