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The Dark Crystal

Creation Myths

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CHAPTER 1 A TALE WELL TOLD



PLEASE,
SIT.


SIT AND BE
COMFORTABLE...

A hooded figure in a white robe stands in a desert landscape under a warm, orange sky. The figure holds a long, ornate staff. In the foreground, a large, gnarled tree trunk is visible on the left.

YOU WERE
PROMISED A TALE,
AND I WILL TRY NOT
TO DISAPPOINT.

IT IS
MEAGER PAYMENT,
BUT IT IS ALL I HAVE
TO OFFER. AND YET IT
MAY PROVE MORE
VALUABLE THAN
YOU THINK.

YOU KNOW
THE ANCIENT
GELFLING
RHYME, I'M
SURE?

A close-up of two hands holding a staff. The left hand is raised, palm facing forward, while the right hand grips the staff. The staff has a decorative, curved top. The background is a dark, textured surface.

'Wish not for
treasures you can hold
No gleaming jewels, bright and cold
For finer still than pearl or gold
The treasure of a tale
well told...'

YOU CANNOT
KNOW THE PRESENT, NOR
GRASP AT THE FUTURE, IF
YOU DO NOT KNOW THE
STORIES OF THE PAST.

THE FOLLY AND THE
GLORY OF THE WORLD...
THE WILD, THE WISE AND THE
WICKED... THE HERO, THE
MADMAN, THE WANDERER
AND THE FOOL...

THE EARTH,
THE SEAS, THE WILD
HEAVENS... ALL ARE
PART OF AN ENDLESS,
UNFOLDING TAPESTRY,
WOVEN BY TIME
AND HEMMED BY
MEMORY.





CHAPTER 2

THE BIRTH SONG OF AUGHRA

AT FIRST, THERE
WAS SILENCE...

AND THEN THE
SONG BEGAN.

SLOWLY AT FIRST,
FAINT AND HALTING.


IT CALLED OUT TO THE
HEAVENS, AND THE STARS
OPENED THEIR EYES.

IT CALLED FORTH A GREAT
FIRE, AND THE FIRE DIVIDED
ITSELF INTO THREE. AND EACH
PORTION WAS GIVEN A NAME:
THE GREAT SUN, THE ROSE
SUN AND THE DYING SUN.

AROUND THEM, A
WORLD FORMED. AND
DEEP UNDERGROUND
WAS A MIRACLE.

THE CRYSTAL.

THE BRIGHT,
BEATING HEART
OF THE WORLD.




ITS FORCE HUMMED AND
REVERBERATED IN EVERY
ATOM OF THE WORLD.


FROM THE DEPTHS
OF THE SEA TO THE
EDGE OF THE SKY.



THROUGH
FOREST DEEP AND
DESERT BARE.



WITHIN EVERY HAIR
AND SCALE ON
EVERY BEAST.



IN EACH BLADE OF GRASS AND
EVERY DROP OF RAIN, IT RANG
OUT, A WORD THAT SPOKE OF LIFE
AND BALANCE AND HARMONY.

THE NAME OF THIS
WORLD, ITS NAME AND
ITS NATURE...

THRA.


BUT AFTER A TIME,
THE WORLD GREW
RESTLESS.

FOR THE STONES HAD NO
TONGUE AND LONGED TO
SPEAK. THE FORESTS HAD NO
EYES AND LONGED TO SEE.

DEEP BENEATH THE
EARTH, IN THE WOMB
OF THRA, THE CRYSTAL
FELT THEIR LONGING...



...AND IT ANSWERED
THEIR PLEAS.



AND A NEW LIFE
EMERGED, BORN FROM
THE STONES AND ROOTS
OF THE WORLD.

AUGHRA
AM I...

...SHE SAID.



SHE WAS BOTH
MOTHER AND CHILD
OF THE WORLD.
WARDEN AND WITNESS.
GUARDIAN AND GUIDE.



IT IS SAID THAT AUGHRA
WALKED THE WIDTH AND
BREADTH OF THRA AND
SPOKE TO EACH STONE AND
RIVER, EACH PLANT AND
BEAST.



AND SHE SAID
THEIR SECRET
NAMES OUT LOUD.



AND SO EVERYTHING,
FROM THE MEREST
FLOWER TO THE DEEPEST
SEA, KNEW WHAT IT WAS...



...AND COUNTED
AUGHRA AS A
FRIEND.





AUGHRA!

AUGHRA
IS HERE.



THE GELFLINGS SHARED
WITH AUGHRA THEIR GIFT
OF *DREAMFASTING*. TO
SHARE ONE'S MIND
DIRECTLY WITH ANOTHER.

AND THROUGH THIS
COMPACT, SHE TAUGHT
THEM WHAT SHE KNEW
OF THE WORLD.

SHE TAUGHT THEM OF
THE BRIGHT CRYSTAL
WHICH HUMMED AND
VIBRATED WITHIN THRA.

AND SHE TOLD THEM HOW
TO PLANT AND WHEN TO HARVEST.
HOW TO KNOW THE TRACKS OF
DANGEROUS BEASTS AND THE
SCENT OF POISONOUS TREES.

SHE TAUGHT THEM
THAT THE WORLD WAS
BEAUTIFUL, BUT NOT
ALWAYS SAFE.





I DON'T UNDERSTAND... HE WILL NOT STIR.

WHAT IS WRONG WITH HIM? WHY WON'T HE ANSWER?



AUGHRA! AUGHRA! COME QUICKLY! PLEASE!

YES, YES, MY GELFLINGS! WHAT IS IT?

IT IS MY BROTHER. HE DOESN'T MOVE.

I CANNOT STIR HIM. PLEASE...



AND THAT DAY AUGHRA TAUGHT THEM A NEW WORD, AND THEY SHUDDERED TO HEAR IT...



DEATH

"DEATH."

AND THAT
NIGHT THEY
SANG:

SANG FOR THE BRIGHT,
BRIEF CANDLE OF LIFE AND
FOR THE LONG SHADOW
OF DEATH...





THEY
SANG SO THEY
WOULD ALWAYS
REMEMBER...