

Chapter 1 : Reviews: Jim Henson's Tale of Sand

The Story of Jim Henson, Creator of the Muppets is a page biography of Jim Henson. It was written by Stephanie St. Pierre, a childhood friend of Henson's oldest daughter, Lisa Henson. Although the book was in production before Jim Henson died, it wasn't finished and released until , a year after his death.

Fearnot[edit] From an early German folk tale. The Storyteller recounts the adventures of a boy who goes out into the world to learn what fear is , accompanied by a dishonest but loveable tinker. He faces many dangers without learning to be afraid, only to learn that fear is at home: The episode was directed by Steve Barron. The seventh son of a seventh son is bornâ€”a Luck Child. The cruel King hears about the prophecy, and plots to kill the child. With his chancellor by his side, he sweeps the countryside for the Luck Child. While the chancellor becomes a meal for the Griffin , the boy survives since his swaddling safely unraveled him to the shore. He is found and raised by an elderly couple and is named Lucky. Lost in the forest, Lucky stumbles into an underground den of thieves and meets a little man. The little man drugs the gullible Lucky, being skilled in the art of hiding his concoctions in goulash. Do this without delay". While Lucky is still unconscious, the Little Man drags him within eyesight of his destination. The King is enraged upon his return as he sees Lucky marrying his treasured daughter with his written approval. Claiming that the new groom must prove his worth, the king declares that Lucky must bring him a golden feather from the dreaded Griffin a nigh impossible task as far as the king is concerned. Lucky sets for the island where the beast dwells and has a ferryman take him to his destination. So Lucky promises to find the answer. As Lucky escapes while the Griffin sleeps, the youth takes a chest full of treasure on the shore of the island and returns triumphant. He explains to the ferryman to offer his pole to the next visitor in order to gain freedom. The King begrudgingly gives his blessing to marry the Princess , yet is soon enchanted by the jewels Lucky has brought back. The episode was directed by Jon Amiel. A Story Short[edit] From an early Celtic folk tale. In an adaptation of the Stone Soup fable, the Storyteller tells of a harsh time when he was forced to walk the land as a beggar. Finding himself in sight of the castle kitchen, he picks up a stone and fools the castle cook into helping him make soup from a stone, by adding it into a cauldron of water and slowly adding other ingredients to improve the flavour. When the cook realizes he has been swindled, he asks that the Storyteller be boiled alive. As a compromise, the King promises to give the Storyteller a gold crown for each story he tells for each day of the year - and to boil him if he fails. The Storyteller does well at first, but on the final day, he awakens and can think of no story. In a panic he roams the castle grounds, running into a magical beggar who turns him into a flea. At the end of the day when the king calls for his story, the Storyteller confesses he has no story, and instead tells the king the true tale of his adventures under the magic of the beggar that day. This is the only episode where the Storyteller himself plays a major part in the story he tells. This episode was directed by Charles Sturridge. Hans My Hedgehog[edit] From an early German folk tale of the same name. She says to him that she wants a child so badly, she would not care how he looked even if he were covered in quills like a hedgehog. That, of course, is what she gets: So eventually Hans leaves for a place where he cannot hurt anyone and where no-one can hurt him. Deep inside the forest, for many years Hans dwells with his animals for companions. When Hans helps him to escape the forest, the King promises that he will give to Hans the first thing to greet him at his castle - which the King secretly expects will be his dog. Instead, it turns out to be his beautiful daughter, the Princess of sweetness and cherry pie. Hans and the King have made a deal that in exactly one year and one day his prize the princess shall be his. A year and one day later Hans returns to the castle. The princess says she knows what she must do. Hans asks her if she finds him ugly and she replies that he is not nearly as ugly as a broken promise. They are married, to the dismay of the entire kingdom. On their wedding night, the princess awaits her husband in bed. He comes into the chamber with his bagpipes and takes a seat by the fire and begins to play the same beautiful music that saved the king a year prior. The Princess is soothed by the music and dozes off. She wakes and finds a pelt of quills as soft as feathers on the ground before the fire. She sees her husband in the form of a handsome young man freeing the animals of the castle, to live with his friends in his forest castle. He knows she has seen him when he finds her slumbering on the discarded quills the following night.

He tells her that he is bewitched and only if she can keep his secret for one more night can he be freed and remain in the form of the handsome man. The next morning at breakfast the Queen inquires why her daughter is so cheerful. The Princess tries to resist but as her mother pries she gives in and tells her that Hans is bewitched. The Queen says that the only way to reverse the spell is to fling the quills in the fire. That night when Hans sheds his quills, she obeys her mother and burns them. She hears his screams of pain as if he were aflame, and Hans runs from the castle. The Princess has a blacksmith make her three pairs of solid iron shoes and slips away in search of her husband. She wears the shoes to nothing and moves on to the second pair, with still no sign of Hans. When she is donning the third pair of shoes, she finds a river and reclines by it, taking off the shoes and rubbing her sore feet. Catching sight of her reflection, she sees that her hair has grown white. She weeps bitterly for her hair and her husband, forever lost. The next day she comes to a cottage, abandoned, covered in dust and cobwebs. Then comes the flapping of wings and she sees her husband whom she had so long searched for. He toasts a glass of wine to no-one, "to the beautiful woman who could not keep her promise. She tells him all of the perils that she has faced and how she has walked the world and worn through three pairs of iron shoes. Then she flings herself into his embrace and with her confession of love and loyalty, he transforms into the handsome man, the spell lifted by her fidelity and affection. After the queen dies, an evil witch ensnares the King and turns his three sons into ravens to rid herself of her rivals. The Princess escapes and must stay silent for three years, three months, three weeks and three days in order to break the spell. The episode was directed by Paul Weiland.

Sapsorrow[edit] From an early German folk tale, this is a variant on Allerleirauh as well as containing elements of Donkeyskin and the Cinderella story recorded by the brothers Grimm. There is a widowed king, who has three daughters. Two are as ugly and as bad as can be, but the third nicknamed Sapsorrow is as kind and as beautiful as her sisters are not. There is a ring belonging to the dead queen and a royal tradition that states that the girl whose finger fits the ring will become queen as decreed by law. Neither of the bad sisters wish their father to marry for fear that his bride will stand to inherit his title and riches. The princess attempts to stall the wedding by demanding three magnificent gowns: Once her father provides these, on the night of the wedding she takes the gowns and goes into hiding, disguising herself as a creature of fur and feathers known as Straggletag. She lives thus for years, working in the kitchen of a handsome but proud prince. On the night of the ball, she discards her disguise and attends three different balls in one of her bridal gowns and captures the heart of the prince, leaving him naught but a single slipper as she runs off into the night. The prince scours the kingdom for the girl whose foot fits the slipper and agrees to marry Straggletag when hers is the foot it fits. At this proclamation, her pets strip away her disguise for good and the two become happily wed.

The Heartless Giant[edit] From an early German folk tale. A heartless giant, who once terrorized the land before being captured and imprisoned, is befriended by the young Prince Leo who, one night, sets him free. His older brothers go after the giant to capture him, but do not return, so Leo sets off to find the giant himself. No easy task indeed. Even when Prince Leo finds the heart and brings it to the giant, one of the guards grabs the heart and squeezes it enough to kill the giant, whose dead body becomes a hill. The Storyteller tells his dog that when Prince Leo became king, he retold the story where he states that he gave the heart back to the giant and that the giant never bothered the kingdom again. The episode was directed by Jim Henson.

A troll had a daughter, but she left straight off. So the troll took another girl to replace her to wait on him hand and foot. Her name is Anja and she has no father or mother, making the troll her only "family". Setting her impossible tasks, then beating her with his "contradiction stick" when she invariably fails, the troll makes sure to make her life miserable, until she one day makes a wish. Her wish is heard by a wondrous white lion called the Thought Lion who completes her impossible tasks for her. When the troll asks her to build him a palace, the Lion build it for her, and the troll falls to his death in a bottomless room. Anja lives happily in the castle. When she finds her true love in a Prince, he disappears one day, so Anja sets out to find him. The episode was directed by Peter Smith.

Chapter 2 : The Story of Jim Henson, Creator of the Muppets by Stephanie St. Pierre

Jim Henson was an American puppeteer best known for creating TV characters, including the Muppets, and for his work on the popular children's show Sesame Street.

Biography[edit] Early life: He enrolled at the University of Maryland, College Park as a studio arts major upon graduation, thinking that he might become a commercial artist. In the show, Henson began experimenting with techniques that changed the way in which puppetry was used on television, including using the frame defined by the camera shot to allow the puppet performer to work from off-camera. He believed that television puppets needed to have "life and sensitivity" [12] and began making characters from flexible, fabric-covered foam rubber , allowing them to express a wider array of emotions at a time when many puppets were made of carved wood. Additionally, he wanted the Muppet characters to "speak" more creatively than was possible for previous puppets, which had random mouth movements, so he used precise mouth movements to match the dialogue. The show was a financial success, but after graduating from college, he began to have doubts about going into a career performing with puppets. He spent several months in Europe , where he was inspired by European puppet performers who looked on their work as an art form. They were married in and had five children: In the first Wilkins ad, a Muppet named Wilkins is poised behind a cannon seen in profile. Another Muppet named Wontkins is in front of its barrel. Wilkins asks, "What do you think of Wilkins Coffee? We took a very different approach. We tried to sell things by making people laugh. Jane quit performing to raise their children. Henson hired writer Jerry Juhl in and puppet performer Frank Oz in to replace her. The year saw the production of The Cube , another Henson-produced experimental movie. This union of talents would become legendary in television entertainment. Part of the show was set aside for a series of funny, colorful puppet characters living on the titular street. Henson performed the characters of Ernie, game-show host Guy Smiley , and Kermit, who appeared as a roving television news reporter. He later remembered, "it was a pleasure to get out of that world". During the first, Henson produced a series of counting films for the numbers 1 through 10, which always ended with a baker voiced by Henson falling down the stairs while carrying the featured number of desserts. For seasons two to seven, Henson worked on a variety of inserts for the numbers 2 through 12, in a number of different styles, including film "Dollhouse", "Number Three Ball Film" , stop-motion "King of Eight", "Queen of Six" , cut-out animation "Eleven Cheer" , and computer animation "Nobody Counts To 10". He also directed the original " C Is For Cookie ". Concurrently with the first years of Sesame Street, Henson directed Tales from Muppetland, a short series of TV movie specials, comic retellings of classic fairy tales, aimed at a young audience and hosted by Kermit the Frog. The series included Hey, Cinderella! Eleven Land of Gorch sketches, aired between October and January [inclusive], with four additional appearances in March, April, May, and September [of]. Henson recalled, "I saw what [creator Lorne Michaels] was going for and I really liked it and wanted to be a part of it, but somehow, what we were trying to do and what his writers could write for it never gelled. Then Henson pitched the show to British impresario Lew Grade to finance the show. The show would be shot in the United Kingdom and syndicated worldwide. The show featured Kermit as host, and a variety of other memorable characters, notably Miss Piggy , Gonzo the Great , and Fozzie Bear , along with other characters such as Animal. Transition to the big screen: In , a Henson-directed sequel, The Great Muppet Caper , followed, and Henson decided to end the still-popular Muppet Show to concentrate on making films. In addition to his own puppetry projects, Henson aided others in their work. The naturalistic, lifelike Yoda became one of the most popular characters of the Star Wars franchise. Around that time, he began creating darker and more realistic fantasy films that did not feature the Muppets and displayed "a growing, brooding interest in mortality. The next year, he returned to television with The Jim Henson Hour , which mixed lighthearted Muppet fare with riskier material. The show was critically well-received and won him another Emmy for Outstanding Directing in a Variety or Music Program, but it was canceled after 13 episodes due to low ratings. At the time, he disclosed to his publicist that he was tired and had a sore throat, but felt that it would soon go away. While there, Henson consulted a local doctor for what appeared to be an influenza-like illness. They returned to their

home in New York City the following day, and Henson cancelled a Muppet recording session that had been scheduled for May. On May 15, Henson woke up at around 2: He suggested to his wife that he might be dying, but he did not want to take time off from his schedule to visit a hospital. Two hours later, he finally agreed to be taken by taxi to the emergency room at New York Hospital in Manhattan. Shortly after admission, he stopped breathing, and an X-ray revealed that he had abscesses in his lungs as a result of a viral infection. Henson was placed on a ventilator, but he deteriorated over the next several hours, despite increasingly aggressive treatment with multiple antibiotics. On the early morning of May 16, , just over 20 hours after being admitted, Henson died at the age of 53 at the intensive care unit of New York Hospital. News of his sudden and unexpected death spread quickly and fans from around the world responded with tributes and condolences. David Gelmont, one of the doctors who treated Henson at New York Hospital, first announced that Henson had died from *Streptococcus pneumoniae* , an infection that causes bacterial pneumonia. As of [update] , his eldest son Brian and eldest daughter Lisa are the co-chairs and co-CEOs of the company; his daughter Cheryl is the president of the foundation. Guy Smiley , in recent years, has been performed by Eric Jacobson ; and the role of Waldorf , in , was assumed by Dave Goelz. The role of Ernie was briefly assumed by Billy Barkhurst from , before Peter Linz began performing the character in . As a result of this transaction, Sesame Workshop surrendered the rights to Kermit the Frog, who would no longer appear in most new material for Sesame Street. Only three other people have received this honor: Henson was posthumously inducted into the Walk of Fame in

Chapter 3 : The Jim Henson Story | The Character Network

*The Value of Imagination: The Story of Jim Henson (A Value Tale) [Ann Donegan Johnson] on www.nxgvision.com *FREE* shipping on qualifying offers. Presents a short biography of Jim Henson, puppeteer and creator of the Muppets.*

I loved the Storyteller television show. Jim Henson and fairy tales, awesome. This collection of graphic retold tales does follow the format of the lovely television show. The tales told in the comic are new and were not adapted in the series. Yet, the book is lacking something. Maybe because despite the careful recreation of the frames "the Storyteller and his dog" it lacks the charm of the series. I particularly liked the retelling of Puss in Boots. The twist in the story was well done and the artwork was stunning. The artwork not only is worthy of framing, but harkens back to French painting. Like the Puss story, the style in the Crane Wife is harkens to Japan. Interspersed between the stories are sayings reflecting on the power of stories. The book also features one tale told by the dog and another where the Storyteller himself takes a more central role than framer. Both the Storyteller and the Dog in all the stories will be recognized by the reader. John Hurt lives in comic form. This is worth getting for children and for fans of the series. It is worth reading for the Crane and Puss stories. The Storyteller and his dog appear in each story to frame them and tie the whole book together. I find myself wondering why this seems to be just the one book? Surely, a concept like this could stretch indefinitely? The weakest tale in the book is probably the final one, "The Witch Baby," adapted from an unproduced Storyteller teleplay, which was li This was an interesting book: The weakest tale in the book is probably the final one, "The Witch Baby," adapted from an unproduced Storyteller teleplay, which was likely the genesis for the entire project. In any case, what we have here is three quarters of a good book, and then a final quarter that burns through some of the goodwill generated by the previous three.

Chapter 4 : Jim Henson's The Storyteller by Jim Henson

The Jim Henson Exhibit, located in Leland, Mississippi, features an assortment of original Muppet characters, official certificates from the Mississippi Legislature honoring Henson and his characters, and a statue of Kermit in the middle of the stream behind the museum.

Chapter 5 : Jim Henson - Wikipedia

The story of television begins"like any good American success story should"with a birth in a log cabin. More precisely, it begins in a log cabin near Beaver, Utah, where Philo Taylor Farnsworth"or Phil, as nearly everyone would call him"was born on August 19, A precocious child.

Chapter 6 : Los Angeles Times - We are currently unavailable in your region

*The Story of Jim Henson: Creator of the Muppets (Famous Lives) [Stephanie St. Pierre] on www.nxgvision.com *FREE* shipping on qualifying offers. A biography of the puppeteer who created over Muppets, including Kermit the Frog, old Waldorf, and Link Hogthrob.*

Chapter 7 : Booko: Comparing prices for No Strings Attached: The Inside Story of Jim Henson's Creature S

Jim Henson started making television programs starring his distinctive googly-eyed creations " part puppet, part marionette " in the s. And they were hits. Early versions of Kermit the.

Chapter 8 : The Storyteller (TV series) - Wikipedia

Jim Henson, byname of James Maury Henson, (born September 24, , Greenville, Mississippi, U.S."died May 16, ,

New York, New York), American puppeteer and filmmaker, creator of the Muppets of television and motion pictures.

Chapter 9 : The Jim Henson Company | Home

The first thing one expects in an exhibition devoted to Jim Henson is a kind-eyed, green amphibian made of felt. And, yes, Kermit the Frog welcomes visitors to a new Henson installation at the.