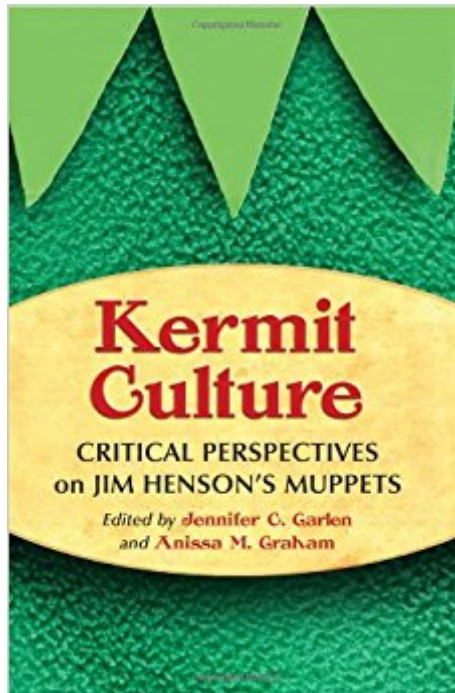




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Kermit Culture: Critical Perspectives On Jim Henson's Muppets



Synopsis

By the end of its five-year run on television, The Muppet Show had transformed its motley cast from fistfuls of felt to multi-media celebrities. Sophisticated and highly individuated, each of the Muppets embodied a conventional character type from classic television comedy. Kermit functioned as straight man to the majority of the show's jokes. Miss Piggy, the resident diva, evolved from first season chorus girl to full-fledged megastar. A Costello to Kermit's Abbot, Fozzie peddled his vaudevillian shtick to a tough audience, but his genuine sweetness made him lovable even when his jokes were lame. These essays represent the work and ideas of a global community of scholars and Muppet enthusiasts, providing a unique perspective on just how Kermit and the rest of the frogs, dogs, bears, and chickens became cultural icons with influences reaching far beyond the world of 1970s television comedy.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

"An exciting new anthology of academic essays...a unique collection...a diverse range of topics."
--muppetnewsflash.com "A must-read." --ToughPigs.com

Jennifer C. Garlen is an independent scholar and writer in Huntsville, Alabama. Anissa M. Graham is an instructor in the English Department at University of North Alabama.

A missed opportunity; authors are straining to be academic when there are dozens of contributors

who could have offered cutting-edge insights with academic resonance. More like a collection of essays by grad students than the book it should have been.

This was a very interesting book. It was a collection of essays on how the influence of decades before helped evolve the iconic characters displayed on Jim Henson's Muppets. From watching the show when I was a little girl, I had no idea the impact that society had on creating such characters. Through reading the essays, it is easy to see and point out the creativity of Henson's Muppets in relation to past years. I feel like I have been Kermit "culturized" and will never watch a re-run of the Muppets the same!

If you want to learn about the impact Kermit and friends have had on our culture, then this is the book for you!

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