

When the World was Young: Creation and Pourquoi Tales, Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers, 1996, 9780689808678, 1996

A sumptuous, thought-provoking book, *When the World Was Young* is a beautiful gift for young and old alike. Full color. Get A Copy. This hardback print edition includes a brief introductory page about creation and pourquoi tales. Two pages o Pourquoi is a French word translated as why, and the author retells ten multicultural creation stories. These brief stories explain natural phenomena, such as why there are people of all colors, the origins of the sun, stars, and moon, and how knowledge of fire came about. The stories abound with fanciful gods of human or animal form, and include artwork supportive of key ideas for each. This hardback print edition includes a brief introductory page about creation and pourquoi tales. A pourquoi story ("pourquoi" means "why" in French), also known as an origin story, pourquoi tale or an etiological tale, is a fictional narrative that explains why something is the way it is, for example why a snake has no legs, or why a tiger has stripes. Many legends and folk tales are pourquoi stories. Pourquoi stories include: *Just So Stories* by Rudyard Kipling, many of which give explanations for the origin of animals and their characteristics. A wealth of traditional stories-fairy tales, creation stories, folktales-have circumnavigated the globe to appear in collections this season. Margaret Mayo engagingly retells 10 creation stories from Ghana, Iceland, Guatemala and around the world in *When the World Was Young: Creation and Pourquoi Tales*. Her lively, suspenseful renditions bring masterful storytelling skill to the ancient stories, with titles like "The Girl Who Did Some Baking" and "Tortoise's Big Idea." Louise Brierley's watercolors in deep, subtle colors are a stand-out: the odd, inventive animals