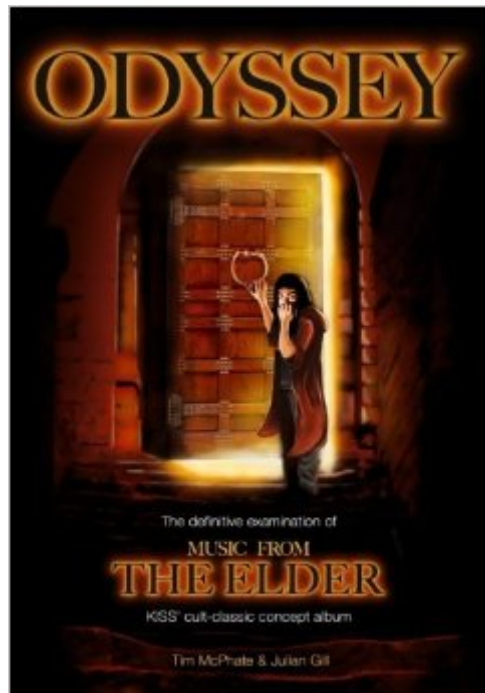


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# Odyssey: The Definitive Examination Of "Music From The Elder," KISS' Cult-classic Concept Album



## Synopsis

Shock people and throw them for a loop, "Music From The Elder" did. Upon its release in November 1981, the album was confusingly received by both KISS fans and the general public. By the time the calendar turned to 1982, the album was essentially a commercial failure. And KISS were already ready to move on. More than 30 years later, "Music From The Elder" has attained a cult-classic status among a segment of diehard KISS fans. A great part of the album's appeal lies in the mysterious conditions under which it was created. While "Music From The Elder" has been discussed in various music publications and KISS-related books, there has never been a concentrated effort to put this album under a historical microscope. Until now. Through a series of brand-new interviews, original features and related special content, KissFAQ will shine a spotlight on "Music From The Elder" like never before. More than 30 interviews were conducted with various individuals who either worked on the project or have a connection of sorts, including professionals who have never told their "Elder story." These interviews will provide interesting insights and unique perspectives regarding the album's creative process and this fascinating period in KISSStory, in addition to fun anecdotes and personal recollections. A series of topical features will shed more light on KISS' activity in 1981 and early 1982 and dissect the album further with in-depth musical analysis, biographical information on the album's participants, a revised KissFAQ Album Focus, and much more...

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

This is a really great in depth look into the most bizarre album in the KISS catalog. Some fans love

this album, some hate it. Musically it's the most diverse thing they ever did. But it was so out of the realm of what was expected from this band that it fell on deaf ears. There are some amazing interviews with all sorts of people who had a hand in the making, recording and promoting of this album. I personally enjoy this album very much but, at the time, I wish they didn't make it. It was the straw that broke the camels back for Ace Frehley and he left the band soon after. The book is filled with great stories that may have never been known to KISS fans before. It was an intriguing, tumultuous time in the bands history and this book covers it pretty well. My only complaint, and it's more of an observation, is that the band members themselves were not interviewed. An Ace Frehley interview solely about this album would have put this over the top for me. Gene & Paul would have been great but they say the same stuff over and over again anyway. Plus the Bob Ezrin interview desperately needed to be longer and more in depth. However it ends in classic Ezrin fashion. I would say you would need to be a fan of KISS to buy this book, not necessarily a fan of the album. If you were fan and alive through all this in 1981/82 then this book is a must have. It is the perfect companion to an album that was confusing as hell back then.

A hearty congratulations to fellow KISS authors, Tim McPhate and Julian Gill for their exemplary research on the most mysterious and controversial of all KISS albums, "Music From the Elder". I finished "Odyssey" a few weeks back - probably devoured it within days of receiving it, even though it meant putting aside two other books I was reading, one for pleasure, the other to review. Tim, with able assistance from Julian, have done a really fine job sharing completely new info and offering competing theories on the creation and marketing of the album from those who were there. They have achieved what I set out to do with my "Shout It Out Loud - The Story of KISS's Destroyer and the Making of an American Icon" last year, and that is bust a few myths and perpetuate others for fun. I especially loved learning once and for all that inarguably the band was planning on taking off the make-up and re-booting the whole image, which explains A TON of the packaging and planned marketing for the project before the well-documented backlash. And from my own research it appears that the band's work with legendary producer, Bob Ezrin, as with "Destroyer" five years earlier, scared the hell out of management, the label and the fans. This time, though, unlike 1976, KISS was a band in turmoil, which is dissected beautifully and honestly here. What ultimately saved "Destroyer" was the unlikely ballad, "Beth" and there is nothing here to compare. (Although the guys provide an interesting parallel between the two albums that really provided a new perspective for me). Getting all the info on the three-tiered plot-line for the original film script, the abandoned voice-overs, the odd song sequencing, missing music videos and everything in-between was simply

fantastic. Kudos all the way around.

Awesome insight into a great album that unfortunately almost ended the KISS legacy. It was weird when it came out but if you listen to the songs in the intended order you get it and this even delves deeper. Maybe they will make a movie and do it right. It could use some updating but it might just work.

The best book ever written about the elder! O.k. the only book written about the elder but still a page Turner. If you like the elder( and you should) this book is full of every minute detail you would ever want.

This is the most anticipated KISS book in a long time. The cult album Music from the Elder is a clear 50/50 split, some hate it and then some love it. Once you start reading the book you wont put it down. very well written, being a KISS fan, I'm learning a lot of more information every page. I can clearly say.. You wanted the best... You got the best..Everything you wanted to know about the Elder is here, crank up the Elder and read the book its a winning combination. a tremendous shout out to the authors.. fantastic book

Amazing book. Very well done!!!!

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