

THE **MYST** SAGA



Unwritten

Adventures in the Ages of MYST™ and Beyond

SUPPLEMENT

The Myst Saga follows the family of Atrus, the brilliant (if a bit naïvé and oblivious at times...) descendant of a full-blooded D'ni man, and the surface woman who discovers the D'ni civilization, miles beneath the desert of New Mexico. (In the books, the D'ni caverns is implied to be in the Middle East, likely to confuse any explorers who might have gone looking sooner than the DRC wanted.)

Atrus' dream of restoring D'ni, the betrayal by his sons, the threats to his family from internal and external sources, and his daughter's quest to right ancient wrongs are the foundation which brings the modern restoration of D'ni to the point we find it now, and helps set the stage for future explorations.

Obviously, this chronological account contains spoilers for the books and the games; if you wish to learn the story of Atrus and his family in the more traditional way here are two ways to go about that:

Chronological Order:

Book of Ti'ana
Book of Atrus
MYST
Riven
Book of D'ni
Myst III: Exile
Myst IV: Revelation
Uru: Complete Chronicles
Myst V: End of Ages

Publication Order:

MYST
Book of Atrus
Book of Ti'ana
Riven
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Cyan's games on Steam: <http://goo.gl/9IOhFf>

On GOG.com: <http://goo.gl/dmwtbK>

The Myst Reader (all 3 books) Kindle edition: <http://goo.gl/Jglwuy>

Uru: Complete Chronicles combines *Uru: Ages Beyond Myst*, *Uru: Path of the Shell* & *Uru: To D'ni*

Book of Ti'ana

Over 300 years ago, an expedition from D'ni is tasked with creating a "Great Shaft" from their caverns to the surface of the Earth. The project is eventually cancelled following a series of devastating earthquakes, and the plan to visit the surface forgotten. Decades later, a human named Anna manages to find her way through the abandoned tunnels and into D'ni, where she meets and eventually falls in love with a member of the failed expedition, Aitrus.

Defying D'ni tradition, Aitrus teaches Anna (who he calls Ti'ana, meaning "storyteller") the Art, and angers the Council even further when he decides to marry her. This especially enrages Aitrus' close friend, Veovis, and Aitrus is forced to call in a favor Veovis owes him in order to gain permission for the wedding. Aitrus & Ti'ana are wed and eventually have a son, Gehn, who is treated poorly by his peers for his half-blood status.

Disgruntled and bitter by what he sees as Aitrus' betrayal of D'ni ways, Veovis finds himself conversing with a defrocked guildsman, A'Gaeris, who harbors deep plans for revenge against the entire D'ni civilization for their treatment of him. Through A'Gaeris' trickery, Veovis is convicted of murder and stripped of his rank as a Council member. Ti'ana herself argues against his execution, and he is sent to a Prison Age. A'Gaeris frees Veovis and, unaware that A'Gaeris was behind the murder, Veovis pledges himself to the destruction of D'ni.

They sabotage the great fans that bring air to D'ni, and release a poisonous gas into the cavern that kills all it touches. The D'ni people flee into the Ages, but A'Gaeris is able to use the still-living cells on the hands of the fallen to link plague-ridden corpses into the Ages, sending death to the refuges.

Determined to help his people, Aitrus returns to D'ni several times and becomes infected by the plague. Realizing that the only hope for his family lies on Earth's surface, he takes Ti'ana and Gehn back to the cavern to escape back up the Great Shaft. On their way to the harbor, Aitrus finds Veovis, stabbed in the back by his co-conspirator.

Before he dies, Veovis reveals that A'Gaeris had asked him to Write an Age where he could be worshiped as a god. When Veovis refused, A'Gaeris stabbed him and left. As Aitrus listens to Veovis' tale, A'Gaeris captures Ti'ana and Gehn and takes them to K'veer. Aitrus follows, and in a final confrontation, sacrifices himself by luring A'Gaeris into an Age covered in lava.

Ti'ana, wracked with grief over the loss of her husband, takes Gehn with her back to the surface, where they settle in one of her father's waystations- a Cleft at the foot of the volcano that sits atop the entrance to D'ni.

Book of Atrus

Ti'ana, again calling herself Anna, has been living alone in the Cleft since Gehn set out on his own, sometime in his teens. He returns unexpectedly with his laboring wife, Keta. Anna is unable to save her, and she dies giving birth to a son. Gehn, in his grief, abandons the child to Anna's care, and she names him Atrus, after her beloved husband.

Gehn reappears when Atrus is a young boy, and insists on taking his son back to D'ni to reclaim his heritage. Not trusting Gehn's motivations, Anna follows them to D'ni and watches from afar. There, on the island of K'veer, Gehn teaches Atrus the Art of Writing Ages.

Atrus quickly learns that his father is insane and doesn't truly understand the Art. He attempts to escape, but is caught and imprisoned in a room with the Descriptive Book for one of Gehn's "defective" Ages, Riven, where Gehn is revered as a god. Fearing for Atrus, Anna finally decides to confront Gehn, but finds Katran, one of Gehn's students from Riven, in his office instead. Together, they begin to plan a way to stop Gehn.

Atrus travels to Riven and meets Katran—whom he calls Catherine—and is surprised to learn that she can Write Ages. They visit her "Torus Age", a surreal world that Atrus first believes impossible, but then sees as a brilliant stretching of the Art. Catherine also takes him to the Age of Myst, which she says she's Written as a refuge from Gehn, but which was actually Written by Anna as part of the plan the two concocted. She and Atrus fall in love during their time together, but their romance is threatened by Gehn's plan to marry Catherine himself. Although Atrus is captured while he carries out his plan to stop Gehn, Catherine and Anna are able to rescue him and foil Gehn with their own plan.

The Star Fissure—a mysterious star-filled rift in the ground that seems to make a path between worlds—appears in Riven, a side effect of the changes that Catherine Wrote into the Age to cover their escape. Atrus and Catherine jump into the Fissure, using the Myst Book as they fall to ensure that Gehn will not be able to follow, trapping him on Riven.

The Myst Book continues to fall, eventually landing on Earth. Atrus,

unaware of its final resting place and concerned that someone may one day find it and destroy everything he accomplished, Writes two Ages designed to lure in and entrap greedy treasure hunters: Haven & Spire.

Between The Book of Atrus and Myst

Atrus marries Catherine and they have two sons: Sirrus and Achenar. At some point in the boys' youth, Anna dies after visiting one of Catherine's Ages. Atrus buries himself in work to cope with his grandmother's death, and Catherine is overwhelmed with sorrow, leaving their sons to feel ignored and abandoned.

Over time, they become jealous of the power they perceive their father possessing, and resentful that he does not share that power, the Art, with them. Behind their parents' backs, they wreak havoc on the Ages, leaving destruction and devastation in their wake.

Together, they concoct a plan to trap their parents and take over and destroy the Ages of Myst. The plan succeeds—partially. Catherine is trapped on Riven with Gehn, and Atrus is trapped on the island of K'veer in D'ni. However, the brothers (after burning much of the Myst library) are sucked in by the promise of riches and adventure in Haven and Spire, and find themselves trapped in those Ages, unable to return.

Myst

An unknown person from Earth—commonly referred to as the Stranger—finds the lost Myst Linking Book and uses it. Myst is abandoned, the library destroyed, and only a brief message from Atrus remains to implicate Sirrus or Achenar. The brothers, communicating from their prison Ages, each try to convince the Stranger that they are the innocent one—until the Stranger locates Atrus imprisoned in K'veer, and chooses to rescue him instead. Atrus returns to Myst and destroys the Linking Books to Spire & Haven in the library.

The Stranger is left to explore Myst on his own, as Atrus returns to K'veer and focuses on stabilizing Riven. The Age is degrading rapidly, and will soon fall apart.

Riven

Atrus develops a plan for rescuing Catherine from Riven before it collapses entirely, without leaving Gehn a way to escape. He calls on the Stranger to go to Riven, trap Gehn, and bring Catherine home. Aided by the Moiety (a rebel faction of the Rivenese people), the Stranger succeeds, Atrus and Catherine are reunited, and the Stranger is able to return to Earth by way of the Star Fissure, just as Riven is torn apart by instabilities.

Book of D'ni

Atrus has recruited the people of the Age of Averone to help him unblock the collapsed passage in K'veer that has kept him from returning to D'ni since his father trapped him there. Together with Catherine and a handful of volunteers from Averone, Atrus begins the task of rebuilding D'ni and looking for survivors of the fall. During the restoration work, an ancient Linking Book to an Age called Terahnee is discovered. There, Atrus meets the D'ni's long-estranged relatives from the collapse of their original mutual homeworld, Garternay.

Plans to relocate to Terahnee rather than restore D'ni come undone when Atrus discovers that the Age is built on the backs of slaves captured from other Ages. In fact, the lives of everyone in Atrus' party are endangered when the Terahnee learn that none of them are of pure D'ni blood.

Suddenly, the Terahnee slaves, servants, and masters begin to fall victim to a deadly disease. It is soon discovered that the disease stems from bacteria carried to the Age by the D'ni, harmless to them but deadly to the Terahnee. In the aftermath of the disease, the slaves of the Terahnee (called the Relyimah) rise to power and begin to rebuild. They rename the Age 'Devokan', the D'ni word for hope.

Between The Book of D'ni and Myst III: Exile

Atrus concludes that the D'ni survivors should not rebuild the city in the Cavern. Instead, he Writes a new Age for them to settle in called Releeshahn (D'ni for "the whole," a concept Anna had instilled in him as a boy). Atrus himself does not move to Releeshahn, choosing instead to settle with Catherine on the surface of Earth in a lakeside home they call Tomahna. There, they raise their new daughter, Yeesha.

Myst III: Exile

An invitation from Atrus to the Stranger to visit Releeshahn is interrupted by the appearance of Saavedro, a victim of SIRRUS and Achenar's machinations in the Age of Narayan. Thinking his family dead at SIRRUS and Achenar's hands, cut off from his world for many years, and driven mad by his isolation and sorrow, Saavedro decides to take revenge on Atrus. He links into Tomahna, sets Atrus' office ablaze, and steals the Releeshahn Book in an effort to lure Atrus after him. Unable to follow because of the fire, Atrus sends the Stranger to recover Releeshahn. Visiting Ages that Atrus designed to teach his sons about important principles of the Art, the Stranger is able to rescue the Releeshahn Book from Saavedro, and reunite him with his people.

Myst IV: Revelation

Atrus and Catherine begin to have second thoughts about leaving their sons trapped in Haven & Spire for three decades. Atrus calls on his friend, the Stranger, to help him determine if his sons are worthy of being set free. What Atrus doesn't know is that SIRRUS, bitter and vengeful from his years of isolation, has concocted a plan to free himself. While Atrus is trapped in Rime by an electromagnetic storm, SIRRUS escapes from Spire and kidnaps his little sister, Yeesha, planning to use her to learn the Art from his father.

The Stranger explores Haven & Spire looking for clues to Yeesha's location and evidence of either brother's repentance. A final showdown in the Age of Serenia ensues, with SIRRUS attempting to wrest control of Yeesha's body from her by using a Serenian memory preservation device. Achenar sacrifices himself to save his little sister, allowing the Stranger to prevail, and SIRRUS is killed.

Between Myst IV and Urn

Yeesha, roughly a teenager, leaves Tomahna for the Cleft and D'ni, wanting to find her purpose. She falls into a brief madness out of loneliness, but eventually meets Calam, a former D'ni Master from the Guild of Writers. Although they originally conflict because of their clashing views on the Art, they eventually began to teach each other their abilities. In time, they discover the power of the Bahro and the Tablet. The Bahro are mysterious creatures, somehow tied to the will of the holder of the Tablet. The D'ni seemingly used

them as slave labor, and they remain tied to the Tablet even after the Fall of D'ni.

Yeesha believes that someday Calam will be the Grower, the Art-changing Writer prophesied by a D'ni seer called The Watcher. However, Calam is killed in a conflict with an unnamed assailant, whom Yeesha "destroys" in retaliation. She continues to learn from the Bahro, eventually realizing that it is she who is the Grower.

Sometime during these events, Catherine dies of old age, and Atrus sinks into a deep depression. He begins to understand the prophecies he had so long ignored, and eventually relocates to Releeshahn, abandoning his home in Tomahna to the desert.

Prelude to Urn

Almost 200 years after Atrus moves to Releeshahn, John "Fighting Branch" Loftin discovers the D'ni caverns. Over the next nine years, he begins exploring and rebuilding D'ni with Dr. Richard A. Watson and their mutual friend Elias Zandi. Along the way, they discover Catherine's journals, and allow Cyan, Inc. to use them as the basis for a series of computer games & novels. Elias' son Jeff gets into a philosophical argument with his father regarding the course of the restoration and leaves D'ni.

After Elias dies of a heart attack in 1996, Dr. Watson uses the money willed to the restoration effort to establish the D'ni Restoration Council (DRC), and begins the restoration of D'ni in earnest.

Urn Live: Prologue

In 2003 the DRC starts slowly allowing a trickle of "authorized explorers" into the D'ni caverns.

Jeff Zandi, however, has parked his Airstream on the surface near the Cleft, and the caldera entrance to D'ni, directing people who have felt a mysterious "Call" to a message left for them by Yeesha.

She sends them on a "journey" through several D'ni ages, slowly teaching them (in oblique fashion) about the Bahro and their connection to the D'ni, and giving them access to areas of D'ni outside DRC control. Many of these

explorers become passionate about following Yeesha's path, and find the restoration work of the DRC questionable.

The growing number of explorers become quickly frustrated with the DRC's cautious approach and delays in opening areas of the island city of Ae'Gura. Problems within the DRC and issues surrounding the disappearance and reappearance of restoration engineer Phil Henderson exacerbate the conflict.

Spurred on by disaffected and hot-headed DRC member Douglas Sharper, a group of explorers known as The Great Tree moves to the forefront of anti-DRC protests, advocating for explorer freedom to move about the cavern at their own risk.

An accident in the D'ni Guild Hall kills Phil Henderson. In his grief, Dr. Watson suddenly retreats from D'ni, leaving the DRC without their leader. The DRC flounders and attempts to recover from this blow for two months before finally being forced to withdraw from the Cavern due to a lack of funding.

Uru: The Path of the Shell

Explorers return to the Cavern individually, without permission from the DRC. Led on another of Yeesha's Journeys, they learn more of Guildmaster Kadish, and his obsession with the Watcher prophecies; an obsession that led him to "prove" to the D'ni that he was the Grower. They also learn that, perhaps, Yeesha could not leave Kadish abandoned to his fate.

Myst V: End of Ages

In 2005, Yeesha calls upon the assistance of an unknown explorer (not to be confused with the Stranger who assisted her father Atrus 200 years prior) to aid her in the final release of the Bahro from their enslavement by gaining access to the mysterious stone Tablet that somehow controls the Bahro.

Yeesha's chosen savior is seemingly assisted along the way by a D'ni survivor named Esher. He calls into question Yeesha's beliefs and motivations, pointing out her relationship to Ti'ana, known in the Watcher prophecies as the "Bringer of Destruction". In the end, the unknown person is able to free both the Tablet and the Bahro, releasing Yeesha from her years of burden. They are both taken to Releeshahn, where she is reunited with her elderly father, Atrus.

After millennia of enslavement that lasted hundreds of years past the destruction of D'ni, the Bahro are faced with an unclear, uncertain future.

Myst Online: Uru Live

In late 2006, the DRC receive new funding from a venture capitalist named Cate Alexander. After a brief build-up period, the DRC officially opens the Cavern to the public once again in early 2007. Over the following months, the DRC begin to release new Ages, and Ae'Gura is again filled with people.

But as explorers return to D'ni, and new worlds are given to them to explore, there is a thread of tension running through the cavern. As weeks go by, evidence of some sort of violent predator appears in the Ages.

Bahro activity, previously limited to the occasional sound of their cries in the distance, seems to increase. Evidence of "Bahro magic" is all around, in the form of new Linking Stones, as well as eerie glowing symbols in the desert Age of Minkata. The Ages, far from being the placid, abandoned places explorers were used to, are looking more dangerous and sinister.

During this time of turmoil, DRC member Michael Engberg's daughter Wheely and her friend Rosette are caught in an unexpected earthquake in Ae'Gura. Rosette is killed, but Wheely finds herself in an unusual cave filled with Bahro pictograms that she cannot escape, even using her Relto Book. Bahro randomly link in and out, watching her.

The DRC and explorers work tirelessly to free Wheely, only to have a Bahro appear and murder her as her father is lowered into the cave. Engberg is devastated and leaves to find Dr. Watson, who he seems to blame for the brutal death.

Newly-rehired DRC member Douglas Sharper sets out to investigate the animal deaths in the Ages, and comes back with reports of a vicious Bahro Civil War. Bahro activity in the cavern increases dramatically, including the appearance of Bahro among explorers, swarms of Bahro around the Arch of Kerath, and bodies of Bahro being deposited in public locations.

To add to the confusion, the presumed deceased Phil Henderson reappears. Though he seems to have difficulty communicating clearly, he tells explorers he encounters that "he is coming."

When "he" arrives, it is Dr. Watson, who reveals that it was he who was chosen by Yeesha to release the Tablet and free the Bahro from their bondage. Now two factions of Bahro are at war over what to do about the D'ni and anything to do with them. Releeshahn, Atrus' refuge for the D'ni, is devastated by the war. Dr. Watson believes it will eventually spill over to Earth. He explains that our only hope lies in humans learning The Art, and making Ages of our own.

In September of 2007, explorers in Ahnonay find a Linking Book to K'veer, the ancestral home of Veovis' family, Gehn's former base of operations in D'ni, Atrus' prison, and the place where the Tablet was held by a strange stone pedestal known as "The Keep" while Dr. Watson worked to release it.

Yeesha appears briefly in K'veer to tell explorers that the Bahro War was spurred on by a Bahro who had been horribly tortured by Esher. Her plan was to lure him, and the War, away from the Cavern by using a piece of his hide that Esher had cut from his body.

At the same time, Ms. Alexander announced that she would no longer be funding the DRC due to insufficient return on her investment, and the remaining DRC members leave the Cavern to search for new sources of funding. On April 10, 2008, the DRC once again closes the Cavern.

However, it only took a short time before explorers began making their way back to D'ni, without the DRC's help or approval, to heed Yeesha & Dr. Watson's call of "Find a way, make a home"...



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