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# Beautiful LEGO 2: Dark (Beautiful LEGO Series)



## Synopsis

Beautiful LEGO 2: Dark showcases dark LEGO masterpieces from artists around the world. From realistic sculptures of creepy crawlers to impressionist works of shadowy nightmares, this collection will leave you marveling at every turn. But dark has its lighter side, too, with sculptures of dark chocolate as well as plenty of black humor on display. Gothic fantasies and sci-fi horrors come to life in scenes created entirely with the simple LEGO brick. Step into a world of pure imagination in Beautiful LEGO 2: Dark. "Far from child's play. An astonishing collection." — Publishers Weekly praise for Beautiful LEGO

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Beautiful LEGO 2: Dark continues Mike Doyle's original mission of showing readers that LEGO bricks can be used to create some of the most unique and interesting sculptures in the world. Similar to the first book, every page is filled with one or more crisply photographed, full-color images. This time around, however, Doyle has chosen to focus on slightly darker themes. Rather than cats,

bunnies, unicorns and rainbows, this book is full of bugs, skeletons, creatures, castles and creations that are slightly dark in nature. Actually, "dark" is more of a guideline than a rule as there's plenty of architecture, mecha-bots, dinosaurs, motorcycles and miniature works in this 300+ page beauty. Among my favorite sections of this book is an area dedicated to shadow play, where LEGO creations are photographed silhouette-style. Another favorite is an area dedicated to chocolate and other indulgences, which includes Doyle's own creation and cover shot, titled "Sickening Sweet." Castle and gothic fans will enjoy two areas titled, "Dark Towers and Desolate," where numerous structures are built using studs-not-on-top building techniques, resulting in a cobbled, rickety look that's quite unique. If any theme truly permeates this book, it's science fiction. Creepy, tentacled and menacing creatures abound, many featuring pieces from the Technic and Bionicle themes. It's important to note this book does not include building instructions, nor does it contain many words, short of photo captions and chapter headers. Taken as an inspirational book for adult builders, this is fantastic, although I would not specifically recommend this book for the younger set.

As an avid AFOL (Adult Fan Of LEGO) and the photo editor for BrickJournal magazine, I get a chance to keep up with many of the amazing things that people create with the iconic plastic building toy known as LEGO. No Starch Press, the publisher of "Beautiful LEGO 2: Dark" has been supporting the community for several years and the number of books that they release annually has grown dramatically. It is a testament to the community and to the product that the community loves. A few years ago, it would have been a bit surprising to see a "coffee table" quality book about LEGO art be published, but the success of the LEGO Company and the wide-spread use of social media has led to an explosion in the AFOL community. As a result, we now have "Beautiful LEGO." In his second book of the series, Mike Doyle explores more amazing community creations, focusing this time on what Mike describes as a "thematic filter" to the curating process: Dark. Mike had an online contest to get submissions from the community and then picked (subjectively) the items he wanted to display. The result is an absolutely STUNNING hard cover book filled with some truly amazing artwork, from dozens of AFOLs all around the world. The book has a fairly short introduction, which gives you a feel for how Mike approached designing and laying out the book. Then he jumps right into the art. There is very little text at all and the pages are laid out in a very logical and artistically pleasing way. Some photos are full page with bleed and others leave plenty of white space on the pages. As an amateur photo editor, I can attest to how difficult it can be to build a photo book.

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