



<http://www.theprincesquest.com/press.html>

Once upon a time there were two children brought up by the same woman. Azur, a blond blue-eyed son of a nobleman and Asmar, the dark skinned and dark-eyed child of the nurse. As they grow up the nurse tells them many enchanting stories but their favourite is about the Djinn fairy waiting to be released from captivity by a good and heroic prince.

One dark day Azur's father cruelly separates them, he sends Azur to the city for a private education and banishes the nurse and Asmar from his home. Some years later Azur returns and sets out to a land far away to find the nurse and Asmar. Finally reunited, it soon becomes clear that Azur and Asmar will compete against each other to be the first one to rescue the fairy.

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Azur et Asmar is an original story inspired by the folklore and decorative arts of North Africa and the Middle East and told in a 3D computer animation with 2D painted backgrounds. Running time - 99 minutes.

Weblinks related to *Azur et Asmar: the Princes' Quest*

The Prince's Quest, a film by Michael Ocelot

UK website for the movie. View trailer, see press kit including interview with Michael Ocelot and download poster and film stills.

<http://www.theprincesquest.com/>

Production sketches

Beautiful illustrations of the story.

<http://showcase.awn.com/showgallery.php?cat=800>

Azur et Asmar

Wikipedia site gives background of the film, a longer synopsis and links to more information.

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Azur_et_Asmar

Genie

Wikipedia entry relates literary/historical background of *jinn* or genie stories and lists numerous cultural and popular culture connections. Links to other resources.

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Genie>

Fabulist of Film

Financial Times review by Nigel Andrews, October 22, 2006.

<http://www.ft.com/cms/s/2/d28dbff6-6065-11db-a716-0000779e2340.html>

Azur et Asmar

Hollywood Reporter review by Kirk Honeycutt, May 9, 2006.

http://www.hollywoodreporter.com/hr/awards_festivals/fest_reviews/article_display.jsp?&rid=258

Literary Connections

Otto's Orange Day

by Frank Cammuso & Jay Lynch (2007) New York: Little Lit Library.
When Otto the cat meets a magic genie, he knows just what to wish for: he makes the whole world orange! At first, this new, bright world seems like a lot of fun, but when his mom serves orange spinach for lunch, Otto realizes that his favorite color isn't the best color for everything. Fixing this mixed-up world won't be easy though because Otto already used up his only wish. To save the day, Otto will need his family's help, some quick thinking, and...a pizza? Two master cartoonists collaborate to bring all the fun and magic comics can offer to early readers (Ages 4+, K-3). http://www.toon-books.com/book_otto_about.php

Children of the Lamp: the Blue Djinn of Babylon

by Phillip Kerr (2006). Orchard Books.
John and Philippa Gaunt, twelve-year-old twins who have recently discovered themselves to be descended from a long line of djinn and in possession of magical powers, continue on their extraordinary adventures in this sequel to THE AKHENATEN ADVENTURE. When a powerful book of djinn magic goes missing, John and Philippa are called upon to retrieve it. Only, the book isn't really missing. The trap was set and Philippa is abducted by the Blue Djinn. In this latest installment of the twins' magical adventures, John and his uncle Nimrod must find Philippa before it's too late. (Ages 9-12+). <http://search.barnesandnoble.com/The-Blue-Djinn-of-Babylon/P-B-Kerr/e/9780439670227>

Spirits of Palestine : Gender, Society, and the Stories of the Jinn

by Celia E. Rothenberg. (2004) Lanham, MD: Lexington Books
Anthropologist Celia Rothenberg gives us a rare glimpse into the daily life of a contemporary Palestinian village, where women's lives are structured more by moral codes and societal norms than by political activism. In this rich ethnographic portrait, stories of the jinn, or spirit possession, become powerful commentaries on women's senses of strength and subordination, both within their villages and in their larger social and political contexts.
<http://www.amazon.com/Spirits-Palestine-Gender-Society-Stories/dp/0739106430>



France



Climate: generally cool winters and mild summers, but mild winters and hot summers along the Mediterranean; occasional strong, cold, dry, north-to-northwesterly wind known as mistral

Terrain: mostly flat plains or gently rolling hills in north and west; remainder is mountainous, especially Pyrenees in south, Alps in east

Natural Resources: coal, iron ore, bauxite, zinc, uranium, antimony, arsenic, potash, feldspar, fluor spar, gypsum, timber, fish

Natural hazards: flooding; avalanches; midwinter windstorms; drought; forest fires in south near the Mediterranean

Environment – current issues: some forest damage from acid rain; air pollution from industrial and vehicle emissions; water pollution from urban wastes, agricultural runoff

Population: 63,713,926

Nationality: *noun:* Frenchman(men), Frenchwoman(women)
adjective: French

Ethnic Groups: Celtic and Latin with Teutonic, Slavic, North African, Indochinese, Basque minorities

Religions: Roman Catholic 83%-88%, Protestant 2%, Jewish 1%, Muslim 5%-10%, unaffiliated 4%

Languages French 100%, rapidly declining regional dialects and languages (Provençal, Breton, Alsatian, Corsican, Catalan, Basque, Flemish)

Government type: republic

Capital: Paris

Currency: Euro (EUR)

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