

A reflection on Bunjil

At the beginning of time powerful beings created the land and everything within and around it. They told the people how to live, taught them stories about how everything was made and showed them religious ceremonies which had to be performed to maintain balance and order. In Victoria, the greatest and most powerful Creator was often called BUNJIL.

As well as creating the landscape, Bunjil created humans and taught them how to live before going up into the sky to become a star. A painting on the rockface of the Grampians is believed to be Bunjil himself.

The Aborigines of the Yarra tribe, the Wurundjeri, believe that Bunjil warmed the sun and the sun warmed the earth, which opened up and Aborigines came out of it. Bunjil created man and gave various tribes their law and culture. Then Bunjil went into the sky and became a star.

Barak, the last chief of the Yarra tribe said that as a boy he was taken outside the camp by his mother's brother and shown the star. His uncle said, "See, that one is Bunjil. You see him and he sees you." The Yarra tribe was divided into two classes, the Eaglehawk and the Crow. Bunjil was the Eaglehawk.

Let the Creator Love You

*Be silent
Be still
Alone
Empty
Before your God.*

*Say nothing
Ask nothing
Be silent
Be still
Let the Creator touch you.*

*That is all
The Creator knows
Understands
Looks upon you.*

*God wants to see you
In this place
Quiet
Silent still*

*Just be
Let the Creator love you.*