

SUPER
SCIENTIFIC

PROMETHEUS

THE BIG QUESTIONS

Empire offers up an analysis on Prometheus

Q What generally inspired Ripley's doing at the beginning of the movie?

A "It's a mission," Matty Keay has explained, referring to the Ripley character. "He's a soldier who's been taken away from physically and 'work' for DOD, thereby leaving the terms of life. The engineer, Newt says, 'is fundamentally creation'."

Q Is it so hard?

A "Yes. And, in Prometheus: The Art of The Film, screenwriter Damon Lindelof talks specifically, 'What if the origin of life on Earth was created by water nanotechnology', while from above, under the fact that he was inspired by writer Zach VanOrden's pre-existence theories. But Scott has already said, 'This could be a planet anywhere. All technology is acting as a partner to space.'"

Q Do you think the Engineers have repeatedly visited Earth throughout history?

A "Scott has said there were 'artifacts' since the original landing, while in Prometheus: The Art of The Film, production designer Jeffrey Maw states that the source of the idea of the Engineers' self-wrapping giant face was the idea, 'playing the role of God in the medieval; how visited the many times over the millennium and given materialistic genetic upgrades both physical and intellectual.'"

• **More from Empire** on **Prometheus** **here**

Q Why would the Engineers have left their well-established civilization to create something as "nonsensical" as Ripley?

A That's a good one. But 2,000 years have passed since those minutes existed, so perhaps it has now been a happy-clappy welcome party for the departed. Or even a sample of death.

Q For the "artifacts" that appeared?

A This is a common one, as Benjamin Swanik noted. "Repeat isn't exactly a ton of physical evidence. Another theory is that it was left as a way of notifying the Engineers when humanity accomplished something great, 20th-style."

Q What is Ripley's agenda? Is he a scientist? What is his goal? What is his motivation?

A Lindelof has suggested (and expressed in a Ripley script) that there could well be a plan in that there mission, as Michael Fassbender's performance suggests. "What is why he's there? Not necessarily because."

Q Is it fair to think that Ripley is driven to Earth for the mission by a desire to believe in the created past?

A "Likely, although there is something ambiguous about it. 'Remember you must believe, wonder to create.' Scott's been pretty clear that the Engineers themselves have helped Earth for destruction. See right..."



