



Monument Valley II Developed by Ustwo

Reviewed by Zoe



This is the sequel to Monument Valley

This is a puzzle game with a lot of abstract Fantasy elements

Give a summary without spoilers!

Follow the heart wrenching story of Ro and her child as they restore ancient monuments through solving a series of physically impossible puzzles. This story is adorable, and a stand-alone sequel to the first game, which followed lost princess Ida in her efforts to reclaim her throne. At first, you will enjoy watching Ro teach her child the ropes of how these puzzles are solved, but over time, it becomes clear that the two will have to go their separate ways if her child will truly learn. The story carries beautiful and universal messages about growing up and what it means for a parent to watch that process as it happens. Add in the beautiful graphics and interesting puzzles, and this mobile game is absolutely addictive.

What drew you to this game?

I was drawn in by the incredibly vast world. Due to the game's very flexible, self-paced storyline, I could take all the time in the world to explore, search for secrets, and make friends! Once I connected with the community, the game's appeal doubled.

Did it remind you of something that you've previously played?

I was a massive fan of the first game, Monument Valley, as the puzzles are fun- just challenging enough without being too frustrating- the music is so calming, and the graphics are stunning and minimalist. However, I love Monument Valley II even more- it made me cry the first time I played it! The story is delivered in such a beautiful and subtle way that you can miss it if you're not paying attention, but once you pick up that it's there you will be blown away by the emotional depth achieved by characters who never speak and are essentially tiny figures formed of abstract shapes.

To whom would you recommend this game?

You would expect it to remind me of the previous game, and of course it did. It also reminded me of the fabulous game The Last Campfire, which, while a little more explicit in its storytelling, has a similar style of puzzles. All three games have a distinctly ancient, fantastical and simultaneously wholesome storyline, though the first Monument Valley game was the least wholesome of the three.

Overall, did you like it and would you recommend it to others?

I would happily recommend this game to anyone looking for a mobile game that they can pull out when they're bored, maybe looking for some calming music and a sweet storyline. If you love puzzles, you will love Monument Valley and Monument Valley II.

I would absolutely recommend it! The mobile puzzle game has such unexplored potential for simple and abstract storytelling, and I think more people should know about these lovely little games.

Anything else that you would like to add to this review? What made you choose it? Did you like the cover? Was it recommended to you? Did you find it at the library?

Appropriately, my mom introduced me to this game when I was a kid! It was something she would give me to play when we were waiting in restaurants. Looking back on it now, I find the symmetry between my relationship with my mom and the characters in this story to be quite heartwarming.