

Review: 70003 Eri's Eagle Interceptor Breakout

The sky of Chima conquest

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Set: Eris' Eagle Interceptor

Set number: 70003

Parts: 320

Contains: 3 minifigs

This is a medium size set of the new theme Legends of Chima which we presented in our last issue. It depicts the struggle between two of the races of the Chima world: the Eagles and the Ravens, in their battle for the domain of the sky.

The first thing that is striking when you start building this set are the minifigs. The three minifigs that come with the set represent the tribe of the Eagles, with one minifig, and the Ravens, with two minifigs. They are profusely silk-screened with large amounts of detail on the torso and legs. They have helmets with the shape of animals head which they give them a fantastic appearance. As they are minifigs representing flying creatures, two small wings can be attached to this armour. They also have characteristic colour patterns for each tribe, the white, blue and yellow to represent the Eagles, and black and grey to represent the Ravens. It is easy to assume that Eagles are the good and Ravens the evil.

The first element to build is the small ship of the Ravens, which can be clearly identified by its black color, characteristic of his tribe. It is a simple construction. The wings are the most notable feature, because they can have a variable geometry. Continuing with the instructions we begin the construction of the interceptor of the Eagles, the big bird-ship. First we have to build the cabin, that seems to be a spacecraft cabin. It is made with light and colorful pieces as opposed to the small ship of the Ravens. The next step of the ship is the main body, and this part is where things change. The body of the ship consists of a cargo area that can be opened to transport objects and many attachment points. At one end of the cargo area the ship cabin fits. The main structure of the body has joints to assemble the legs, wings and tail elements. These joints allow spins and rotations, which make it possible to put all these elements in a myriad of different positions. It is not a very complex construction, but while you are advancing in the building process you can see the great playability of this set. The edges of the wings and tail are made with "soft" pieces, that simulate the plumage of birds, and which in turn can be moved and placed in different positions.





But there is a final obstacle, when you are adding the last details: the stickers. Yes, you have heard many times that we complain about the stickers, but we never say why. Well, it is time to talk about them. The main reason is that we have to put them on the pieces correctly, and we have to confront the great powers of the cruel Stickerox, an evil magical creature whose only obsession is to thwart our attempts to apply the stickers in a correct way. When we manage to put the borders of the stickers parallel to the edges, they are not centered, and if they are centered they are not parallel to the edges of the pieces. Everyone uses a multitude of tricks, and applies them with care, but the more care you take the more cruel Stickerox is. He always manages to ring the door or the phone in the worst moment, so you have to stop when the glory of a well put sticker was just a matter of seconds away... So I have a rule, I only try twice, if the second attempt is a failure I leave the sticker as it is placed or I take it off, because they lose their properties and deteriorate at every attempt you make.

When the ship is finished we can see the great size of this construction, it is bigger in real life than it seems in the picture. The playability of this flying bird-ship is amazing, it can be posed in many ways, and it was much fun to play with these features when I took the pictures. There is a large amount of joints in the legs, wings and tail, that allow you to put the bird-ship in many different positions. It can be played in flying position, standing on two legs, landed, etc. You can also use the claws of the legs to pick up minifigs, like a bird of prey. If you add the great colour scheme of this flying bird-ship you have a really nice construction.

If we have a look at the parts of the set we can see that there are a lot of very interesting pieces, like the brackets and bricks with studs on side. These pieces are very interesting for SNOT constructions. Of course, there are a lot of joints for the wings and the legs. Another very interesting part that I have seen for the first time is the modified plate 2x2x 2/3 with 2 studs on side. I need to think about the possibilities of this part, as it has a very important property: its side studs are placed at a perfect height to put tiles in a SNOT way, without the little gap that exists when you try this with bricks with studs on side. There are also some modified tiles 2x2 inverted, with amazing printed details of propellers. I'm sure these parts will be very useful for spaceship MOCs and everything related to propulsion and rocketry systems.

In short, I believe that it is a quite well thought out set that offers innumerable play and building possibilities. It is easy to assemble, but it has lots of details and very interesting elements. Are you ready to conquer the mastery of the skies of Chima?

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