

ELEANOR HAWKEN

BERAT PEKMEZCI

FACT OR FICTION?  
WITH 7  
MONSTROUS  
POP-UPS



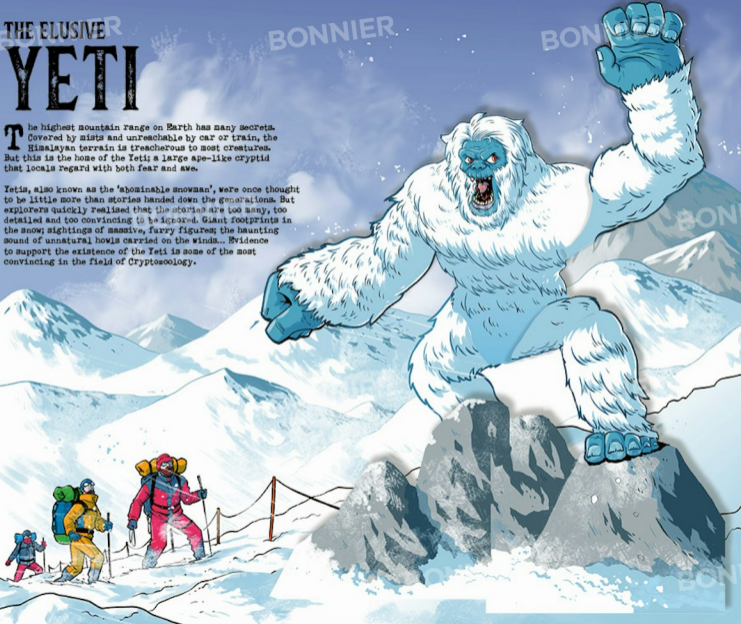
# CURIOUS CRYPTIDS

THE HUNT FOR THE WORLD'S  
MOST ELUSIVE CREATURES

# THE ELUSIVE YETI

The highest mountain range on Earth has many secrets. Covered by mists and unreachable by car or train, the Himalayan terrain is treacherous to most creatures. But this is the home of the Yeti; a large ape-like cryptid that locals regard with both fear and awe.

Yetis, also known as the 'abominable snowman', were once thought to be little more than stories handed down the generations. But explorers quickly realised that the stories are too many, too detailed and too convincing to be ignored. Giant footprints in the snow; sightings of massive, furry figures; the haunting sound of unnatural howls carried on the winds... Evidence to support the existence of the Yeti is some of the most convincing in the field of Cryptozoology.



## THE FOOTPRINTS

After three weeks of trekking, I had heard many eye-witness stories of Yeti sightings from locals. Alas, I did not see the man-like creature with my own eyes. But the evidence of Yeti existence is overwhelming.

Stories of the Yeti are as old as the cultures who live in that corner of the world. One of the oldest tales, and my personal favourite, is the story of the Holy Man who befriended the Yeti.



*There was one devout holy man, who trekked into the mountains to find inner peace...*

*He found comfort in the staves of a mountain-top cave. But he was not alone.*

*They soon became friends. The Yeti brought him food. And kept him company.*

*When the Yeti died, the monk could not bear to leave him. He brought the skull and hand to the town, and displayed them there for all to see.*

❖ YETI CASE FILE ❖

CASE NO. 276

LOCATION: HIMALAYAS.  
28.5983° N, 83.9310° E



CLUES FOR WARY EXPLORERS

My quest to find this elusive creature required me to trek to some of the highest points on Earth. The air is thin, food scarce and the weather conditions deadly.

It was crucial to arm myself with as much information as possible. Here are the signs I was looking for...

FOOTPRINTS IN THE SNOW:

These are one of the most common signs of Yeti presence. I carried this picture with me for reference, taken by the great explorer Eric Shipton in 1951.

TRACKS & TRAILS:

These include broken branches above head height, signs of animal dens above the cloud line, animal remains that look as though they've been devoured by a large predator. And, of course, Yeti poo.

FUR:

The famous British mountaineer Sir Edmund Hillary brought a clasp of thick, coarse, black hair back with him from his travels in Asia. Some believe it is yeti fur!

ITEMS TO PACK FOR YETI HUNTING:

- Dried meats: to snack on and use as Yeti bait
- Thermal underwear: to stay warm
- Night time vision goggles: Yetis are rumored to be nocturnal

YETI FOOTPRINT SIZE CHART:



# END NICHTY KRAKEN

In the deepest depths of the ocean lives a creature so terrible that those who claim to have seen it rarely speak its name. This beast has struck fear into the hearts of sailors for many thousands of years. Legends of the Kraken have existed for as long as people have been telling stories. They say it uses its octopus-like tentacles to seize down its prey, dragging boats, sailors and cargo down to a gloomy, watery grave.

Regardless of the danger, I knew that the Kraken was a myth or a dead, so powerful, and so infamous that I had to see it with my own eyes. When I set out on my voyage across the North Sea, I had no idea how many wild and nightmarish tales I would have such a close encounter with the mysterious monster.

## THE ENCOUNTER

One of my favourite Viking runes is the **VEGVISIR**. It is a compass that protects its bearer from the dangers of the sea.

Vikings were known to carve it into their longships, wear it as a medallion around their necks or even tattoo it on their bodies! This fascinating symbol was believed to protect against Kraken attacks.



This is an eyewitness account of a Kraken encounter from the early eighth century. Translated from the original Viking runes, you will see that even the protection of the Vegvisir can fail.

*My father was a great fisherman, able to sail his boat in the roughest seas.*

*"It is time for you to join me. These runes will protect you from the sea beast."*

*I remember water in my nose... the burning of my lungs... the frantic kicking of my legs...*

*For three moons, I sailed with him. But one night, the beast came for us.*

*Devastation as a further four crew members were lost to the sea last night. Once again, strange circular marks were left on the ship's deck. I am convinced that this is evidence that the Kraken not only exists, but that it is making our ship and crewing on our crew.*

*When I woke, I was on a distant shore. I never saw my father again.*

❖ KRAKEN CASE FILE ❖

## CASE NO. 337

LOCATION: GULF OF DANZIG  
54.5995° N, 19.0852° E



The largest-known species of squid can grow up to fourteen metres long and has eyes the size of basketballs. Yet this pale in comparison to reports of the Kraken.

Evidence is slim. Most people who encounter the Kraken do not live to tell the tale. Armed with my crystal-hunting equipment, I boarded a cargo ship that was due to sail through waters where sightings had previously been reported. Below is an extract from the Journal I kept on my voyage.

## TRAVEL LOG:

**JUNE 24TH**  
Over two weeks at sea now and no sign of the Kraken. A storm is brewing on the horizon. Strange wave patterns are appearing on the water's surface. Reports from the control room account for a large creature moving through the water towards the horizon. Possibly a large whale.

**JUNE 25TH**  
We lost a crew member last night. He was swept overboard side by a high wave. A suspicious marker-like mark was left on the deck after the wave struck. Could this be a sign that more than just whales lurk beneath the water's surface?

**JUNE 26TH**  
Devastation as a further four crew members were lost to the sea last night. Once again, strange circular marks were left on the ship's deck. I am convinced that this is evidence that the Kraken not only exists, but that it is making our ship and crewing on our crew.

**JUNE 27TH**  
Last night, I saw with my own eyes something truly terrible. A further five sailors were swept to their watery graves. I watched on, helpless, as a huge, undulating tentacle rose from the waves and crashed down upon the deck. The poor crew never stood a chance.

# THE ELUSIVE YETI

The highest mountain range on Earth has many secrets. Covered by snow and inaccessible by car or train, the Himalayan terrain is treacherous to most creatures. But this is the home of the Yeti, a large ape-like cryptid that locals regard with both fear and awe.

Yeti, also known as the 'abominable snowman', were once thought to be little more than stories handed down the generations. But explorers quickly realized that the stories are too easy, too detailed and too convincing to be ignored. Giant footprints in the snow, sightings of massive, furry figures from the haunting sound of unnatural howls carried on the wind... Evidence to support the existence of the Yeti is some of the most convincing in the field of cryptozoology.



# THE FOOTPRINTS

After three weeks of tracking, I had heard many eye-witness stories of Yeti sightings from Jimin. Also, I did not see the man-like creature with my own eyes. But the evidence of Yeti existence is overwhelming.

Stories of the Yeti are as old as the culture who live in that corner of the world. One of the oldest tales, and my personal favourite, is the story of the Billy Man who befriended the Yeti.



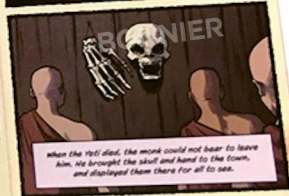
There was one devoted holy man who trekked into the mountains to find inner peace...



We found comfort in the silence of a mountaintop cave. But he was not alone.



They soon became friends. The 1901 brought him food. And kept him company.



When the 1901 died, the monk could not bear to leave him. We brought the skull and hand to the town, and displayed them there for all to see.

## SIGHTING DATA

### TYPE OF CRYPTID

Human

Habitat

Range, Asia

### DIET

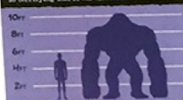
Vegetarian

Notes: Will consume plants if necessary.

Also known as

The Abominable Snowman

**FILE NOTES:** The translocation of sheep meat in the area, reportedly done, that Nitai threw's completely so terrifying that it was difficult to even name.



## YETI CASE FILE



# THE MIGHTY KRAKEN

In the deepest depths of the ocean lies a creature so terrible that those who claim to have seen it rarely speak its name. This beast has struck fear into the hearts of sailors for many thousands of years. Legends of the Kraken have existed for as long as people have been telling stories. They say it uses its octopus-like tentacles to sink ships, drag boats, sailors and cargo down to a gloomy, watery grave.

Regardless of the danger, I knew that the Kraken is a cryptid so deadly, so powerful and so infamous that I had to see it with my own eyes. But when I set out on my voyage across the North Sea, I had not imagined in my wildest nightmares that I would have such a close encounter with the mysterious monster.

## THE ENCOUNTER

One of my favourite Viking poems is the **REYKJAVIK**. It is a poem that predicts the battle from the dangers of the sea.

Vikings were given to carve it into their longships, and it was a tradition around their camp of men before it was written to protect Adam known as **REYKJAVIK**.

THIS IS AN APPROPRIATE MOUNTING OF A KRAKEN ENCOUNTER FROM THE MIDDLE AGES. TRANSLATED FROM THE ORIGINAL VIKING POEM, YOU WILL SEE THAT EVEN THE PROPHETIC OF THE REYKJAVIK CAN FALL.

It is a poem for you to place in your room and protect you from the sea.



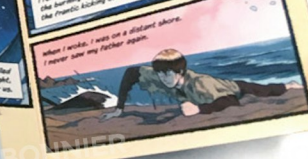
My father was a great fisherman, and he had his boat in the rougher seas.



I remember seeing it in my room... the bottom of my house... the terrible looking of my legs...



For three weeks I sailed with him. But one night, the barrel came for us.



When I woke, I was on a distant shore. I never saw my father again.

**SIGHTINGS EXTREMELY RARE**

**TYPE OF CRYPTID:** "Megaloptera" (Latin name)

**HABITS:** They wait for the night.

**FILE NOTES:** A KRAKEN-LIKE CRYPTID WAS ALSO MENTIONED IN BRITISH LEGENDS. THESE WERE THE BEST KNOWN "MULL" AND "MORPHID".

20m  
14m  
8m  
2m

**KRAKEN CASE FILE**

## CASE NO. 814

LOCATION: POINT PLEASANT  
WEST VIRGINIA, USA

The fact that the Mothman  
sightings vanished one day,  
after over a year of frequent  
sightings, has paved the way for a  
long list of conspiracy theories as to  
who or what it really was.

I have spent many nights hunched over Point  
Pleasant's archive reading countless reports  
and witness statements. These are the top three  
most likely theories:



### CONSPIRACY THEORIES:

#### 1. THE MOTHMAN WAS AN ALIEN

West Virginia, USA, is also a place whose coastline  
has been spotted over the years. Some people  
think that the Mothman was an alien creature, who  
had come to Earth to watch and study humankind.  
Could it have sensed disaster to simply  
see what happened next?

#### 2. THE MOTHMAN WAS A GOVERNMENT EXPERIMENT GONE WRONG

Deep in the American wilderness, there could be  
secret government laboratories. Perhaps they are  
conducting strange experiments there... Perhaps  
the creation of a winged man with fire-red eyes is  
something that was born from cutting-edge science...  
Perhaps that monster escaped...

#### 3. THE MOTHMAN WAS REALLY A SANDHILL CRANE

This is the theory that the Mothman wasn't a man and  
wasn't a cryptid at all. The creature that was seen in  
1966 could have been a large American bird called  
the Sandhill Crane. These grey birds have a wingspan  
of nearly two metres. The reflection of their headlights  
could have made the crane's eyes appear red. This is a  
good theory for those who are sceptical of cryptids.



## THE FEARSOME MOTHMAN

In 1966, residents of Point Pleasant, West Virginia, USA, looked up into the sky and  
saw more than just stars, aeroplanes and birds above. They saw a demonic creature as  
large as a fully-grown human, with black wings and coal-red eyes, soar through the air.  
It was the Mothman.

Mothman sightings were regular – almost daily – for that entire year. During 1966, several  
disasters struck the town of Point Pleasant, most famously the collapse of the town's Silver  
Bridge. This led to locals blaming the Mothman for the tragedy and earned it the moniker  
‘The Haringer of Doom’. Terror and fear engulfed the town. Who was this monster with fire-red  
eyes that brought death and destruction in its wake? Those questions have never been answered.  
Whoever, or whatever it was, vanished into the night as quickly as it came.

**CASE NO. 182**  
LOCATION: LOCH NESS,  
SCOTLAND, UK

When it comes to legendary creatures, there are none more famous than the Loch Ness Monster. For over a thousand years, legends and tales have spread across the Scottish Highlands, describing a large, scaly creature that lurks in the dark waters of Loch Ness. From the early days of the monster's discovery to the present day, the Loch Ness Monster has remained a mystery. Some believe it's a real creature, while others think it's just a hoax. But if there is a Loch Ness Monster, what is it?



**NESSIE THEORIES:**

**1. A PLESIOSAUR**

This is one of the most popular theories. Plesiosaurs were marine reptiles that lived alongside the dinosaurs, and have been extinct for millions of years. But, is it possible that one lone Plesiosaur still roams within Loch Ness? Stranger things have happened.

**2. TIME SLIP THEORY**

Some believe that Nessie is indeed a plesiosaur, but isn't alive now. Instead, they think Loch Ness is a gateway to another time, when people use a large reptile swimming through the glassy waters, they could be looking into a portal to the past and seeing something that happened millions of years ago.

**3. A 'NORMAL' ANIMAL**

Those who do not believe in Cryptids claim that Nessie isn't a monster at all. They believe she's simply an oversized cat, the 'piscine cat' or 'catfish' of water. Some think that 'the dog' to be identified. Some appreciate that some legends from the depths of Loch Ness are actually picking up on what's existing about.

**4. A HOAX**

Some people believe that the stories of the Loch Ness Monster are simply made-up to attract tourists to an otherwise sleepy and remote corner of the Scottish Highlands.



**THE MYSTERIOUS  
LOCH NESS  
MONSTER**

In the wild and beautiful Scottish Highlands lives perhaps the most famous Cryptid in the world. The Loch Ness Monster, or 'Nessie' as she is affectionately known, has been spotted peacefully swimming in the cold waters of Loch Ness for over a thousand years.

Loch Ness is a deep and ancient loch. At around 272 metres deep, it is deep enough to hold three statues of liberty monuments on top of each other – and who knows what about? Or there is for sure. Below the tranquil surface of the lake lies a mystery so captivating that thousands of travellers flock to its shores each year. Who is this creature that has been seen swimming through the mist? How is it that Nessie has been spotted by so many people, across the centuries, without anyone ever proving beyond doubt that she is real? It is a mystery I have long been determined to solve!



## THE VICIOUS CHUPACABRA

A dusk falls over the vast plains of South America, herds of goats graze peacefully in their fields. But something watches them from the shadows... a beast that has a taste for blood. The Chupacabra's name means 'goat-sucker' in Spanish, and it's not difficult to explain how this creature came to be known this way.

This sharp-toothed, vicious and deadly cryptid likes to drain the blood from goats. And it's not just goats it attacks - sheep, cows, chickens and sheep are all potential victims. The Chupacabra isn't fluffy! Little is known of this cryptid, but what we do know is terrifying. Roughly the size of a kangaroo, the Chupacabra stands on two legs and has a row of sharp spines that stretch from the back of its head all the way to the tip of its tail. With its taste for fresh blood, it's no surprise the Chupacabra is known as the vampire of Cryptids.

### CASE NO. 619 LOCATION: CAYMANAS, PUERTO RICO, USA

Investigation of the mysterious and increasingly frequent disappearances here reported it as vampire. However, interestingly, the Chupacabra seems to fit the criteria of a cryptid that has been only spotted in the mountains. It seems more than one species of blood-sucking cryptid in the world.



### CHUPACABRA THEORIES.

- Guatemala - vampire-like attacks on children
- Brazil - attack on a herd of cows
- Argentina - strange spines found in helogrow
- New Mexico - trails of blood found on a cattle ranch
- Colombia - over 500 animals attacked but not killed, seen the creature planning to come back for more
- Texas, USA - sightings of a dog-like creature with leathery grey-green skin and sharp spines of quills along its back
- Venezuela - eyewitness accounts report a strange, giant lizard attacking small children
- Mexico - herd of goats killed dry with two hole marks on neck
- Haiti - herd of goats killed dry with three triangular marks on neck
- Panama - reports of internal organs being sucked out of cows





## THE VICIOUS CHUPACABRA

A *loco* falls over the vast plains of South America, herds of goats graze peacefully in their fields. But something watches them from the shadows... a beast that has a taste for blood! The Chupacabra's name means 'goat-sucker' in Spanish, and it's not difficult to explain how itja), creature came to be given this way.

This sharp-toothed, vicious and deadly cryptid likes to drain the blood from goats, and it's not just goats it attacks - sheep, cows, chickens and pigs are all potential victims. The Chupacabra isn't fussy! Little is known of this cryptid, but what is known is terrifying. Usually the case of a kidnapping, the Chupacabra attacks at night and kills. As a rule of thumb, anyone from the head of its head all the way to the tip of its tail. With its taste for fresh blood, it's no surprise the Chupacabra is known as the vampire of cryptids.

## THE BLOODBATH

The Chupacabra's reputation may vary, depending on where you are. It may have innocent origins, but in the end of many tales, it will feast on the blood of its victims. It's said to be a creature that feeds on the blood of its victims, and it's not difficult to see why.

**PUERTO RICO, SUMMER OF 1982**  
A herd of mountain goats were seen to be disappearing.



The Chupacabra was seen to be attacking the goats.

not a single goat was seen.

Something unusual was seen from the shadows.

Something unusual was seen from the shadows.

Something unusual was seen from the shadows.

Something unusual was seen from the shadows.

Something unusual was seen from the shadows.

Something unusual was seen from the shadows.

Something unusual was seen from the shadows.

Something unusual was seen from the shadows.

Something unusual was seen from the shadows.

Something unusual was seen from the shadows.

Something unusual was seen from the shadows.

Something unusual was seen from the shadows.

Something unusual was seen from the shadows.

Something unusual was seen from the shadows.

Something unusual was seen from the shadows.

Something unusual was seen from the shadows.

Something unusual was seen from the shadows.

Something unusual was seen from the shadows.

Something unusual was seen from the shadows.

### SHINING CONSOLE

**TYPE OF CRYPTID**  
American (although reports vary)

**ALSO KNOWN AS**  
Wolf Man, Goat Sucker, and many others

**FILE NOTES** Chupacabra attacks reportedly in dry areas and thought to be connected to the blood because the victims have felt dry!

50+  
40+  
30+  
20+  
10+  
0+

CHUPACABRA CASE FILE

The Chupacabra has no wings.

## CASE NO. 972

LOCATION: Gobi Desert, Mongolia.

*If the reader - I have been  
travelling through the area  
recently for the week-end. It  
is possible to see from the middle of  
the afternoon onwards, and I have noticed  
no other signs of anything in terms of tracks or  
I cannot imagine. In fact, I have found a small  
amount of fur on this expedition. I have been  
able to collect some of the bones of a  
Death Worm and it is sharp.*



### DEATHWORM EVIDENCE:

In the case with all reptiles, it is important to  
be the various tracks about what kind of creature  
they are. I have spent many months and years walking  
and different standard tracks. From popular  
standard tracks:

#### 1. DUNGS

Death Worms are long and called  
the most of them are not  
partially-digested snake skins  
evidence of bone marrow. Hunt!

#### 2. TRACKS

Death Worm tracks look as though  
a giant sidewinding snake has been  
slithering through the sand dunes.

The length of course, to be a snake.  
Only a Death Worm leaves tracks that size.

#### 3. TEETH

I found this tooth shard today.  
As long as an eyebrow, too large  
to be from a camel or yak.  
Sharp enough to be able to cut  
through bones!  
Free in Arabia!



### THE MONGOLIAN

# DEATHWORM

Along the arid plains of the vast and hostile Gobi Desert, travellers may see ripples appear in the sand. These ripples are not caused by the wind, or by camel tracks. No, they are caused by something much more sinister. The Mongolian Death Worm lives mostly below the sands, burrowing deep into the warm golden grains.

If a traveller only sees the ripples left by the worm, then they have escaped with their lives. Encounters with the Mongolian Death Worm usually result in certain death. Not only does this giant worm-like creature spit acid and have teeth as long and as sharp as daggers, but it is also said that it possesses a death stare. What is a death stare? Let's hope that you never find out...

## THE PERISCOPE

As we looked through the opening of the well, we discovered an evil world of death. We were astonished to see the faces of those who had died in the past. The well was filled with the souls of those who had died in the past. The well was filled with the souls of those who had died in the past. The well was filled with the souls of those who had died in the past.

**THE DEATH**

The girl started to cry through the periscope, and the woman started to cry back.

As the girl's face appeared above the periscope, the woman had protected her.

**THE DEATH**

The girl started to cry through the periscope, and the woman started to cry back.

As the girl's face appeared above the periscope, the woman had protected her.

**SIGHTINGS DEATH WORM**

<b>TYPE OF CREATURE</b> Invertebrate	<b>DIET CATEGORIES</b> The worm of death.
<b>HABITAT</b> Dark, damp, and cold.	<b>ALSO KNOWN AS</b> The worm of death.

**FILE NOTES** One of the only creatures to possess a unique death stare. The first known sighting was in a crypt in the city of the dead. Eyes, seen in a death stare is the key.



**DEATHWORM CASE FILE**



## THE MONGOLIAN DEATHWORM

Along the vast plains of the vast and hostile Gobi Desert, travellers say one figure appears in the sands. These figures are not caused by the wind, or by camel tracks. No, they are caused by something much more sinister. The Mongolian Death Worm lives mostly below the sand, burrowing deep into the warm golden grains.

If a traveller only sees the figures left by the worm, then they have escaped with their lives. Encounters with the Mongolian Death Worm usually result in certain death. Not only does this glass-worm-like creature spit acid and have teeth as long and as sharp as daggers, but it is also said that it possesses a death stare. What is a death stare? Let's hope that you never find out...

