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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 mist 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 realized 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 unearthly 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 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 Sikh Man who befriended the Yeti.



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



He found comfort in the silence of a mountain-top abode. But he was not alone.



They soon became friends. The Yeti brought him food, and kept him company.



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

### SIGHTINGS TABLE

**TYPE OF CRYPTID**  
Pinnakal

**HABITAT**  
Tropical, Mountain, Rain, Sea

**SIZE**  
Tall, Short, Large, Small, Will increase length of memory.

**ALSO KNOWN AS**  
The Abominable Snowman

**FILE NOTES** This translation of the name in the local language means 'The Snow Man'. A creature as terrifying as it was difficult to name.



YETI CASE FILE

# THE MIGHTY 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 sweep down its prey, dragging boats, sailors and cargo down to a gloomy watery grave.

Regardless of the danger, I knew that the Kraken is a creature 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 favorite fishing ports in the UK is a choppy, blue estuary. It is here that the Kraken lives.

Fishermen were known to have it take their children, wear it as a necklace around their necks or even bring it to their homes. This monstrous system was believed to protect against Kraken attacks.



Risk is an essential element. This is a Kraken encounter. Translated from the original British legend, you will see that with the exception of the Kraken, you will...

"It is time for you to join me. These people will provide you with the best of the sea."



"My father was a great fisherman, and he had a boat in the roughest seas."



"For three months I sailed with him. But one night, the boat came for us."



"I remember water in my mouth, the bottom of my lungs, the Pacific Islands of my legs."

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



### DIETING EXTREMELY RARE

**TYPE OF CREATURE**  
Deep-sea  
(Great news)

**HABITAT**  
Very shallow of the North Sea  
South of the Bay

**ALSO KNOWN AS**  
Sea monster

**FILE NOTES** A KRACKEN-LIKE CREATURE WAS ALSO DOCUMENTED IN NORTH AMERICA. THERE WERE FOR THE MOST PART "MULLIE" AND "MARGHALL".



❖ KRACKEN CASE FILE ❖

## CASE NO. 814

LOCATION: POINT PLEASANT,  
WEST VIRGINIA, USA.

The fact that the Mothman  
sightings occurred one day  
after over a year of frequent  
nightings, 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 archives 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 where numerous  
UFOs have been spotted over the years. Some people  
think that the Mothman was an alien creature, who  
had come to Earth to watch and study humans.  
Could it have caused disaster to strike 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 our 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 Battering of Doom'. Terror and fear engulfed the town. Who was this monster with fire-red  
eyes that brought death and destruction in its wake? These 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 cryptozoology, Scotland is home to one of the most famous legends in the world. The Loch Ness Monster, a large, serpentine creature with a long neck and a head that resembles a dinosaur, has been sighted in the waters of Loch Ness for over a century. But the most recent sighting was in 2013, when a group of people saw a large, dark shape in the water. Was it the Loch Ness Monster? Or was it something else? The truth is, no one knows for sure. But the legend of the Loch Ness Monster lives on, and it's only getting started.



## NESSIE THEORIES:

### 1. A PLESIOSAUR

This is one of the favorite theories. Plesiosaurs are aquatic reptiles that lived alongside the dinosaurs, and have been extinct for millions of years. But is it possible that one lone family of plesiosaurs still exists within Loch Ness? Strange 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 an gateway to another time. When people see a large reptile swimming through the placid 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 Cryptozoology claim that Nessie isn't a monster at all. They believe she's simply an oversized seal, or perhaps a large species of water snake that has yet to be identified. Some speculate that some readings from the depths of Loch Ness are actually picking up seals swimming 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 Cryptozooid 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 lake. At around 272 metres deep, it is deep enough to hold three times as much water as the Mediterranean Sea. 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 that has long been determined to solve.