

SPECIAL
END-OF-YEAR
2020 EDITION



THE AUTHENTIC ADVISOR



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CREATURE FEATURE: 4 FANTASTIC FINDS!

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AN AUTHENTIC ANOMALY:

THE SLIPPERY SEA EAGLE

as reported by Angel Linares

The sea eagle originates from the Arctic Ocean, however, over time they migrated to the North Pacific Ocean. These creatures are, of course, quite the sight to be seen, especially while soaring through the skies. They measure to be about five feet tall, with a wingspan of six feet. They have razor sharp talons that they use primarily for hunting rabbits, fish, crabs, octopuses, and squid.

Their eyes can be seen with a yellow or golden iris. They have an enhanced sense of smell, vision, and hearing, making them perfectly aware of their surroundings. With their enhanced vision, they can see up to a 25-foot distance. Their hearing allows them to hear from distances of about 8 miles away, and their sense of smell allows them to be able to track even faint scents.

A thick fur coat allows sea eagles to endure cold weather, however, during cold weather they struggle a bit when flying. Sea eagles were talked about quite a bit many years around the 1800s, however they were rarely seen, and to be quite frank, people of the time did not even know what kind of animal they saw. The reason they are rarely seen isn't due to the fact they did not want to be seen, but because their species has limited numbers.



Sea eagles hide and travel in couples or groups when hunting or migrating. When they spread to the Pacific, anytime ships were sailing through the oceans, it would never fail that sailors would try to capture a sea eagle. Luckily for the sea eagles, they can go from ocean to the sky quickly to be able to hide once they got away.

The sea eagle really holds no threat to people, but only if you do not aggravate them. They are typically a joyful creature, especially in groups, and they tend to play with each other and care for each other. If these animals were to attack in groups, the chance of a person trying to escape is low, as sea eagles are sneaky and smart.



“... anytime ships were sailing through the oceans, it would never fail that sailors would try to capture a sea eagle.”



Thankfully, an attack would only happen when a member of the group has been harmed. They still try not to make too much contact

when they see people, and they still have not been captured.

There will always be groups of people that try to capture beasts as if they're trophies.

But sea eagles know better, and always find ways to evade capture.



RESEARCH REKINDLED: ADVENTUROUS ACADEMICS ALIGHT UPON ANTELOPES!

as reported by Christian Gallik

In August of 2020, two interesting animals, known now as the tiger antelope and the Arctic antelope, were found in the forests of Thailand and the icy plains of the Arctic, sparking interest of ethologists at Oxford University. They believed it to share ancestry with an animal seemingly rediscovered in the Arctic Tundra; the arctic antelope was originally thought to be a separate species, however new DNA evidence shows a shared connection to another species, the subject of a forgotten and controversial study on adaptation and evolution.

In 1801, a group of researchers from Oxford University discovered and captured a strange looking animal, believing it to be related to antelope. The researchers called it the hound antelope for its hound-like body and horns similar to those of the deerlike antelope. Found in the open grasslands of southern Brazil and northern Argentina, its many unique features made it a perfect test specimen. They began to test the hypothesis that this animal could adapt and evolve to live and thrive within other biospheres over a relatively short generational gap through Darwinian evolution.

The team at Oxford began to transport two groups of the hound antelope to radically different environments. First, the extreme cold of the Arctic. Second, the rainforests of southeastern Asia. Unfortunately, due to restructuring changes made at the University and the lucrative expense of the project, the study was soon abandoned and, eventually, forgotten.

Here in the modern day, lead researcher of the project, Dr. Antonio Nilgali, told us that the adaptations of the subspecies, combined with the general secrecy of the study and the rapid change over the course of over 200 years, became enough to confuse other researchers that happened upon the antelope hybrids for years.



“One feature that remained constant in all of the subjects was the short trunk-like nose . . . This may make one of the hound antelope’s original features one of its best evolutionary traits.”

Thankfully, by August of 2020, Dr. Nilgali and his team were able to pick up the pieces of this nearly two century long project, and they were willing to share some of their discoveries with our investigative team.

The Arctic antelope gained thick fur to protect itself from the intense weather conditions. Its horns also adapted to camouflage against the white snow covered land. The subspecies also began to grow much larger than its ancestor, with a more wolf-like body.

The tiger antelope had the most drastic changes. First, it developed tiger-like stripes for camouflage amongst the trees within the dense forests. Secondly, it grew fang-like teeth for tearing flesh, as it changed to accommodate a more omnivorous diet.



The horns have shortened significantly, and given more time may disappear altogether. Finally, its smaller fox-like body allowed it to quickly and efficiently navigate the terrain; avoiding dangerous predators and sneaking up on prey. One feature that remained constant in all of the subjects was the short trunk-like nose.

Nilgali's team theorised it may be used to cool the animal's blood, and in the winter heat up frigid air before it is taken to the lungs. This may make one of the hound antelope's original features one of its best evolutionary traits.

After two centuries, the original Oxford study was ultimately successful in proving the quick success of the hound antelope's evolution to adapt to unique environments.

THE CURSED CHIMERA:

WIGHT OF THE WICKED WITCHES

as reported by Jenesis Fjeld

During the 17th century the Salem Witch Trials in colonial Massachusetts, people were accused of witchcraft and Devil worship. Those found guilty of witchcraft were executed by hanging. When the homes of those accused were searched, vague proof of witchcraft was found. Some of this proof included drawings of strange creatures, and dissected body parts of animals such as crows and cats stored in jars.

When the witches were questioned about the animal parts, they were recorded saying they were, "making a new being that would guide them." They did not say much else. During the 19th Century, a meandering nature photographer spotted an unusual sight in the Salem forest and caught it on camera: a black bird with the head of a cat on a grassy field.

As time passed, the majority of people forgot about the strange occurrence, but there were those who remembered and stated to have seen the creature in passing while in the dark Salem woods. The man who took the picture was an anthropology and religious studies professor at the University of Massachusetts named Timothy Landry. He believed in witchcraft and had investigated further into the evidence left at the Salem Witch Trials.



Landry believed the being spotted to be the creature that the witches were attempting to create. As an expert deep into the study of witchcraft, magic, and sorcery, Landry had determined that the witches were attempting to create a powerful familiar by combining different animals together. Landry knew familiars were companions of witches that helped them through their journey as a witch and aided them in any way, and that familiars could invade the body of standard animals to physically present themselves to their witch.

Cats and crows were creatures who represented negative energy in the world, and the witches wanted to combine these two negative beings into one to give their familiar a powerful vessel. Landry published his findings in the year 2005 in the leading cryptozoological journal, Cryptidistic, and recommended that the forest around Salem be searched for the strange creature. Surprisingly, Landry's report got a lot of the public's attention in Massachusetts, with equal amounts of people calling the article bogus and others that truly believed it. Within the year, those that lived in the small town of Salem took it into their own hands to go out and search for the creature.



“ . . . the witches were attempting to create a powerful familiar by combining different animals together.”

They went out in groups to search, during both the day and night. It wasn't until the year 2010 that one was caught by a young woman. She had spotted the creature and shot it down as it was eating, and while the animal was unconscious, its wings were allegedly clipped and it was placed within an electric cage.

The small town was in great uproar over the creature that was caught. The creature was then handed over to authorities and one last image of the creature was released to the small town of Salem, the creature sitting on a boulder, a marking on its leg.

Since the incident, authorities have not released further information of the state of the creature, and the city of Salem has fallen hush once more.

A MURDEROUS MESS: SCOURGE OF THE BAT BABIES!

as reported by Parker Prue

Prepare to be astounded and amazed, dear reader, for we have yet another tale that will send shivers down your spine and confound your every sense of reality! Our intrepid investigative team recently recovered several compelling pieces of evidence from the office of a mysteriously deceased researcher, a man by the name of Dr. Jonathan Desmodus.

Among the remains of his ruined office, we were able to find several intriguing bits of information. Before his untimely and unexplained death, Dr. Desmodus was studying creatures he seemed to refer to in his notes as "bat babies." In fact, he appears to be the most recent researcher to have studied these creatures, and seemingly not the first to perish.

Despite being irrevocably deceased and his office left in shambles, Dr. Desmodus still left behind quite a lot of information regarding these so-called "bat babies." But before we dig into the juicy details of this creature, let us enlighten you on the life and work of the good doctor.



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You see, dear reader, Dr. Desmodus was a part of a private research organization known as *Cryptos*. Although being a rather small and underground group, it is still a foremost leader in the world of cryptozoology, with their researchers having made leaps and bounds in the field since the organization's inception in 1840. In fact, *Cryptos'* founder, Dr. Robert Harkness, was the first person to ever capture an image of these bat babies, using the for-the-time revolutionary daguerreotype process. Before Dr. Harkness could unveil his discovery, he was reportedly struck down by the very cryptids he had photographed.

This was effective in dissuading his colleagues and later descendants from ever looking further into the mystifying bat babies . . . until Dr. Jonathan Desmodus. Nearly 180 years after the death of Dr. Harkness, Dr. Desmodus was determined to further research the bat babies that killed the founder of his organization, only to meet the exact same fate. Before we share with you the gruesome details of Dr. Desmodus' tragic death, let's delve into everything that he uncovered about the bat babies.

From the little undestroyed research our team was able to recover, we can report several peculiarities about bat babies. First and foremost, these creatures strike the viewer as half-bat, half-baby. They appear to have the head, shoulders, and chest of a human infant, with a torso that bleeds seamlessly into the body of a bat. They are also equipped with large wings (complete with thumbs, attached to which are a huge set of claws), and are capable of rather fast flight.





Surprisingly, the "baby" half has a far more developed muscular system than human babies, despite how most specimens appear. This advanced musculature allows bat babies to hold and control their heads and arms with more precision and strength than any similar-looking human baby could ever dream of doing. Their senses are much more sensitive than a human's: with their bat-like eyes and ears, bat babies can easily see in the dark and hear even the quietest noises.

Bat babies also have a secret weapon up their proverbial sleeves: sharp, needle-like, retractable teeth, which they seem to use only when attacking, preferring to keep them hidden at most times. Bat babies tend to group together in colonies of at least five members, despite it being rare to catch any together in the wild. They seem to be generally non-hostile to most humans, and have been recorded as downright friendly and jovial. According to Dr. Desmodus's reports, bat babies seem to respond especially well to gifts of fruits (peaches are among a bat baby's favorite treats). In exchange for these gifts, the bat babies will return small lost items, or in the rarest instances, a solid gold coin.

So, if these critters are so friendly, why did Dr. Harkness and Dr. Desmodus end up dead? Evidently, like many people, bat babies do not enjoy it when you share their pictures without their consent. Our investigative team found Dr. Desmodus riddled with bite marks and, as far as our team could tell, entirely drained of any blood. Almost all evidence and images of the bat babies were found destroyed, except for what we were able to recover in a small hidden safe under the floorboards of his office. The three images you see in this issue were expertly preserved for publishing by our team, so that the work of the good doctors shall not be in vain. The whole world shall know of the mischevious and murderous *chauve-souris l'enfants*, starting with you, our intrepid reader!

A note from your friends at

THE AUTHENTIC ADVISOR

At the time this is published, all members of our investigative team are unharmed and alive, and we will continue to stay that way for you, our dear readers.

