



· N Y K U R ·

A first glance he looks like a normal horse, but he's not. It can be distinguished because its hoofs are backwards, the only physical sign of this evil creature. Otherwise, the Nykur is a grey, large and wild horse.

Inhabitant of Icelandic lakes, rivers and coasts, it has also been seen on the Shetland and Orkney islands, and even on the Scottish coast. It is an amphibian being that usually dwells in the depths, but usually emerges to the surface to hunt. Its prey is solitary walkers, whom it tries to trick into climbing on its back. If he succeeds, the victim will never be able to get off, as the Nykur's skin is so sticky that people are left stuck endlessly. They will then be dragged to the bottom of the water, where they will perish drowned and then be eaten by the legendary beast.

If a person encounters a Nikur during a walk, he should pay attention to its legs, as the only sure way to recognize it is to check that its helmets are upside down. If so, run away from there, or use a trick that usually works: call out the horse by its name, Nykur, or by one of its other names: Nennir, Nòni, Vatnaskratti or Kumbur. The beast should return to the water when doing so.

Eyrun og hóf- arnir snúa aftur

I þjóðlegum söngum Ásmundar segir að einu slími hafi nokkur börn verið að leika sér á þessum. Skammt frá hennar var stórt vatn og eyrun með vatni. Síðan börnin gríðu hest á eyrun og fóru að skoða hann. Þeir sátt barnið á bak hennar og svo hvert af öðrum þangað til það elsti var eftir. Það vildi ekki fara á bak og sagðist ekki nema því. Hófu hesturinn þá af stað og hóf að fara með börnin á bakinu. Barnið sem var eftir fór heim og sagði frá þessu og vissu menn að þetta hafi verið nykur.

I flestum vötnum

Vatn er til það vatn á Íslandi sem ekki hefur í einu tíð verið talið heitkynt. Nykurinn er hafi í smá og stórvötnum og hefur til sín þó það sé góðgætt. Til eru sögur um nykur í þessum á Hvalförlum, í Leirvogsvatni í Múfellsfirði, í Þórtjörns skammt frá Staðarstöð og í öðrum stórum eru til ljómar sem bera nafnið Nykur. Sagt er að nykur sé í Reyðisvötnum annað ferlið í Hvalförlum. Döðingurinn á að vera milli vötna sem nykurinn fer eftir og segja Reyðisvötnar að þetta hefur áður þegar nykurinn er á ferð og þóttin frósin. Í Úrshavvatni skammt frá Egilsstöðum eru þetta uppspretta sem nefnist Þyskravakir og hefur oft sést nykur á bak við þær og er sagt að hann hafi verið í vatninu.



Nykurinn
Fyrirbætur er lítill hestur, góðtt á líkum en stundum brútt. Eyrun og hófar snúa aftur en hófskeggjinn fram.
Segja menn að þá sé nykurinn að hressa.
Nykurinn lasar tyli sína og hefur oft sést hann á bakinu.
Ur mennina með sér. Nykurinn þeir ekki að heyrna nafn sitt eða nokkurt séð sem líkist því, tekur hann þá viðbráð. Þá hlóður hann.
Hann nefndur kumbur. Það nafn er líklega dregið af Kumbartjörn undir Skæðafelli í Landavít, því úr Kumbartjörn hefur komið stórt andi.



Nykur is a creature originating from **ICELAND**

Current population: 357.050



Iceland, a European island very close to the Arctic Ocean, was not inhabited until the 9th century. It was colonized by Scandinavian sailors, mainly men, accompanied by Celtic slaves, mainly women, from Ireland. Within a few decades they had occupied most of the arable land and founded a democratic society, with an assembly called Althing that still governs the country today. With no monarchy or executive government, effective power was exercised by the many local communes, to which the inhabitants could freely join.

By 930 there were a total of 35,000 inhabitants in Iceland. The Scandinavian language and culture prevailed over the Celtic, and

the country remained in the Nordic cultural and commercial space. A century later, at the same time as the rest of the Vikings who dominated extensive European territories, the Icelanders converted to Christianity.

With little fertile land and too cold a climate, agriculture never managed to feed the population. Instead, extensive farming and fishing were the main activities of the villages, which traded for the missing cereals.

From the 13th century onwards, poverty and growing corruption led the island to place itself under the protection of the King of Norway, thus losing national sovereignty for the next seven centuries. In the 20th century it regained independence and transformed its economy, which specialized in large-scale fishing and later in financial services.

Icelandic mythology is part of Nordic folklore, transmitted orally and still alive, despite Christianisation a millennium ago. It manifests a vision of the polytheistic world, of gods who live in Asgard under the command of Odin. Besides them, there are many other fantastic beings, such as giants, elves, dwarfs and countless types of beasts.

Since the nineteenth century there has been a movement to recover the Nordic religion, common to all Germanic countries but only in Iceland, called Ásatrú, has achieved official recognition and a significant number of faithful (Under 1% of the population).