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AnyThink — n.7

Istituto Massimo's

any Think

Happy
Halloween!





any Think

TOP 5 MOON'S LEGENDS

Andrea Colacicchi



2) 'Mom, look, a bunny on the Moon!'

Many civilizations, like Chinese or Native Americans, have tried to interpret the markings on the lunar surface and some of them have reached the conclusion that there is a rabbit which lives on the Moon. These beliefs have led to the creation of various myths about the 'Moon rabbit'.

3) The Moon and the woman's body

Our satellite has, in every tradition, always been linked to women. The lunar energy is often considered a 'feminine' one, and even if today only a few religions practice full Moon rituals based on this, a lot of people still believe that its phases have influences on women's menstrual cycle.

4) An eternal love story

Romantic people, are you ready to read one of the most ancient love stories ever created? In different religious traditions, diffused mostly in Africa, the Moon and the Sun are considered two deities, which are married to each other. Nonetheless they are divided, but they are trying to reach each other, until they eventually succeed during an eclipse, in which, it is said, they make the sweetest and most passionate love you could ever imagine.

5) Auuuuhh!

Ah, I guess it is impossible to exclude one of the most diffused and commercialized myths about the full Moon from this list: werewolves! Lycanthropy has always been a common superstition throughout human history: the myth was, in ancient times, particularly diffused between the Germanic and Native American tribes, later on it has been used as accusation in multiple witch trials, but it really reached mainstream popularity only thanks to the gothic novels and movies from the 19th and 20th centuries. So, if you are gonna go around the streets tonight, make sure to bring with you, together with your mask, several silver bullets and crucifixes, and, please, remember to respect the curfew, or werewolves will be the last thing you should be afraid of...

Greetings, creatures of the night! Werewolves, vampires and ghosts, I'm pleased to announce not only that today is Halloween, but that tonight more than ever the veil between the Death's Realm and the mortal world will become even thinner, because the sky will be brightened by a full Moon. Ever since we can remember, humans have always celebrated the Moon - in particular the full Moon - with great rituals. So, to honor this incredible night, we are gonna go through some myths linked to our enchanting and fascinating satellite.

1) The Moon which makes you go crazy

In ancient Greece it was believed that the full Moon had the power to make even the most sober people go completely mad, increasing their energy and their aggressiveness. Even today we use the word lunatic to describe someone who is not particularly mentally stable.

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LAMIA, THE GREEK CHILD-EATING MONSTER

Chiara Petrini Rossi

Did you know that, between myth and legend, the figure of the vampire dates back to Ancient Greece?

Portrayed as a nocturnal being, of which everyone should be afraid, the vampire is nothing more than the perfect metaphor to describe the fear of the unknown. From the Egyptians to the Goths, all people feared his presence and his night visit. He was a despicable being, a demon with deformed features, with sharp teeth and the ability to suck a person's blood and soul, or subjugate it.

Today we have numerous examples of vampires who have changed shape and lifestyle over the years. Surely the most famous of all time is Bram Stoker's Dracula, but he was not the inventor of this figure. In fact, Stoker has just drawn from texts, sources and treatises of the past.

In Ancient Greece, for example, we can find a very important reference, namely the legend of Lamia. According to the myth, Zeus in his wandering among



mortals, fell in love with the Queen of Libya, the beautiful Lamia, daughter of Poseidon. Hera, the wife of Zeus, blinded by jealousy, unleashed her anger on a woman's most precious asset: offspring. In anger, Lamia killed all of her children except Scylla, the monster located on the Strait of Messina of which the Odysseus tells, who managed to save herself.

The inconsolable Lamia hid in a cave and became a horrible monster. Since she was jealous of the happiest mothers, she spied on their children and then kidnapped, killed them and sucked their blood. Hera, as a further condemnation, had forced her into a sleepless life. Zeus took pity on his mistress and granted her the privilege of being able to take her eyes off and place them in a vase in order to rest. Unfortunately, this made things worse and, when she was in the state of wakefulness, Lamia wandered into darkness, searching for blood and sacrificial victims.

We can therefore say that these are the earliest examples of vampires in Greek mythology.



WHY THE PUMPKIN

Silvia Piancazzo



Since childhood when I think about Halloween, I think about the pumpkin and the face carved in it. I've always wondered why the pumpkin, haven't you?

Now I could answer all your doubts.

The symbol of Halloween comes from a legend that tells of the interaction of a man, Jack, and the devil.

Very often it happens that legends are so deeply rooted in a culture that they become real milestones. This is the case of the carved pumpkin that has entered the common imagination as a characterizing element of the Halloween party.

This festival originates from an ancient Celtic tradition that saw farmers celebrate the anniversary of the end of the harvest, which fell on October 31st. On this occasion the Celts used to wear masks to avoid being captured by the spirits. To have light during the journey they used to put the embers of their sacred fire inside carved onions.

The carved pumpkin therefore does not come from the Celts, but from an Irish legend Known as Jack'o'Lantern. Jack was a wild man who became known for making a pact with the devil; it is said that

the embodiment of evil came down to earth to take his soul, but that Jack played a trick and managed to get the better out of it. Then, to make sure the devil never returned, he carved a cross on the tree from which he would have to take an apple at his own will. After ten years the devil showed up again asking Jack to give him the chance to return to earth and in exchange he would let his soul free, and so it happened. When Jack died, he was not accepted in heaven, but not even in hell because the devil refused to open his doors in the name of the covenant made. However, he gave him a burning ember which Jack placed inside a turnip to orient himself in the darkness and since then it is said that he still animates the darkness and that on Halloween nights he wanders in search of a place to stay.

In the legend there was a carved turnip but now the symbol of Halloween is the pumpkin, that's because starting from 1840 Irish people began to go overseas and soon realized that the American turnips were not the same size as theirs, which were very smaller. However, they saw that the pumpkins were significantly larger, easier to grow and carve and therefore replaced the turnip with the pumpkin and since then even in America it is customary to carve a pumpkin, put a lantern in it and place it outside the front door during the night between October 31st and November 1st to signal to Jack'o'lantern's wandering soul that there is no room for him in that house.





OCTOBER 2020 HOROSCOPE

Chiara Tinelli

ARIES ♈

- ◇ Two friends are enough to be happy: one to hate and one to love
- ◇ This month you will find the love you have always wanted, you only need a little bit of luck
- ◇ At school you will surprise everyone, in fact you will do worse than last year

TAURUS ♉

- ◇ Life is beautiful... oh wait, not yours!
- ◇ Never trust those who do not know how to trust you
- ◇ You are smart, but you do not apply to things, the classic model of a student

GEMINI ♊

- ◇ Your friends are your best enemies
- ◇ Everyone likes you, but you don't like everyone
- ◇ If school stresses you, just chill

CANCER ♋

- ◇ Better alone than in a bad company
- ◇ Looking at each other, falling in love, with be like counting ten steps
- ◇ You will never know everything, the important thing is to know a little about everything

LEO ♌

- ◇ Don't trust your friends
- ◇ He/she will love you until he/she knows you
- ◇ Keep on acting like this, you will get bad results

VIRGO ♍

- ◇ "Remember who was there when you were sick, because they will be the ones you want next to when everything goes well"
- ◇ Love who deserves to be loved.
- ◇ You will love philosophy

LIBRA ♎

- ◇ You live for your friends, but your friends don't live for you
- ◇ Love upsets you. But for good or for bad?
- ◇ Next week you will have three oral exams

SCORPIO ♏

- ◇ Count on him/her, but not too much
- ◇ It's not that you don't want to start a new love story, but you're still hanging on the old one
- ◇ At school you are taught what you didn't think you didn't know

SAGITTARIUS ♐

- ◇ You have honest friends
- ◇ Love is not for you, give yourself to dancing
- ◇ At school you will meet someone who will appreciate you

CAPRICORN ♑

- ◇ The false friend is like the shadow that follows us while the sun is shining bright
- ◇ Is your bad luck a dream or a reality?
- ◇ Everything will be alright, you will be happy again, in some other galaxy

AQUARIUS ♒

- ◇ Keep fighting for what you want to achieve
- ◇ You will be lucky in love, but watch out for the stairs
- ◇ School is not for you

PISCES ♓

- ◇ You are sweet and unselfish
- ◇ Crush will text you, time to time
- ◇ Make yourself want to study

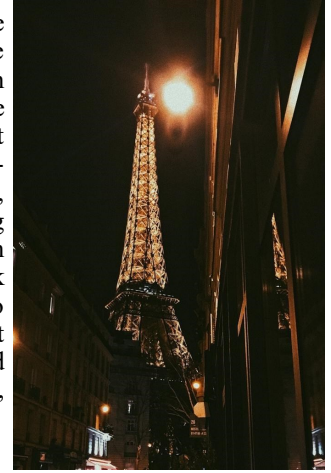




LE SOUPIR DE PARIS

Camilla Ceoldo e Lucrezia Sammartano

The rain was falling finely on the umbrellas that covered the seventh arrondissement in Paris. The noise of frenetic steps was mixed up with the one of more serene cadences, which in turn left the place to the sound of a heavy wooden door, marked by the occasional entrance of customers. When I first turned the key in the lock of ‘Le soupir de Paris’, my mind had already led me to conceive the shape it would take: a soft light, from light bulbs attached to the ceiling, provided my bistro with an atmosphere of shelter, a safe place where to find relief and comfort from the dynamic reality of Paris. A long window allowed the eye to travel far away and to admire the Eiffel Tower, which in rain nights like this performs all its beauty, shining and shedding a feeling of joy among the hearts of the Parisians. Once the threshold was crossed, some red velvet sofas combined with small and circular tables warmly welcomed customers, and on the other side there was a large, dark wooden corner counter, ahead of which some bar stools offered the opportunity, to anyone who was desiring to, to sit and sip a glass of red wine in the most romantic and fascinating city that could be imagined. Wherever I turned my eyes, it felt like home, and gradually I distinguished some of my most usual customers, among the most intriguing and singular ones: Madame Michel, Monsieur Francois and Mademoiselle Margot.

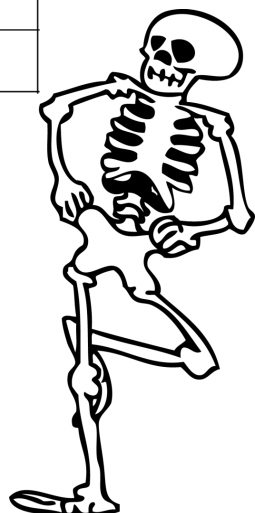


SPOOKY WORD FINDER

Maria Elena Gabella

A	F	D	A	R	K	N	E	S	S	U	C	N	S	G	C
T	R	I	L	F	R	I	P	P	A	R	T	Y	C	H	O
N	I	G	H	M	E	F	R	O	E	J	K	R	A	O	L
U	G	H	O	S	T	I	I	E	Z	E	X	L	R	L	B
A	L	T	M	E	S	R	P	T	N	U	L	A	Y	D	A
H	O	F	A	V	N	Y	Q	E	O	O	B	N	D	R	D
A	A	M	C	E	O	L	F	I	W	K	R	T	N	O	R
L	U	N	A	C	M	I	P	E	T	E	I	E	A	O	B
L	F	Z	B	H	L	D	E	O	B	Y	B	R	C	M	L
O	Y	V	R	R	J	N	F	O	U	N	C	F	K	W	O
L	O	W	E	E	N	X	T	N	A	V	E	A	T	E	O
S	X	T	I	M	O	C	K	C	I	F	O	G	U	L	D
C	F	O	L	U	O	Q	S	W	A	Z	I	B	V	N	E
A	F	R	A	I	L	O	R	M	R	W	O	L	A	F	V
R	B	E	A	S	U	V	N	F	C	O	J	L	I	V	E

- | | | |
|--------------|-------------|--------------|
| 1. Halloween | 7. Blood | 13. October |
| 2. Evil | 8. Candy | 14. Party |
| 3. Ghost | 9. Fog | 15. Macabre |
| 4. Scary | 10. Haunt | 16. Darkness |
| 5. Afterlife | 11. Moon | 17. Creepy |
| 6. Blood | 12. Monster | |





A LITTLE RIDDLE

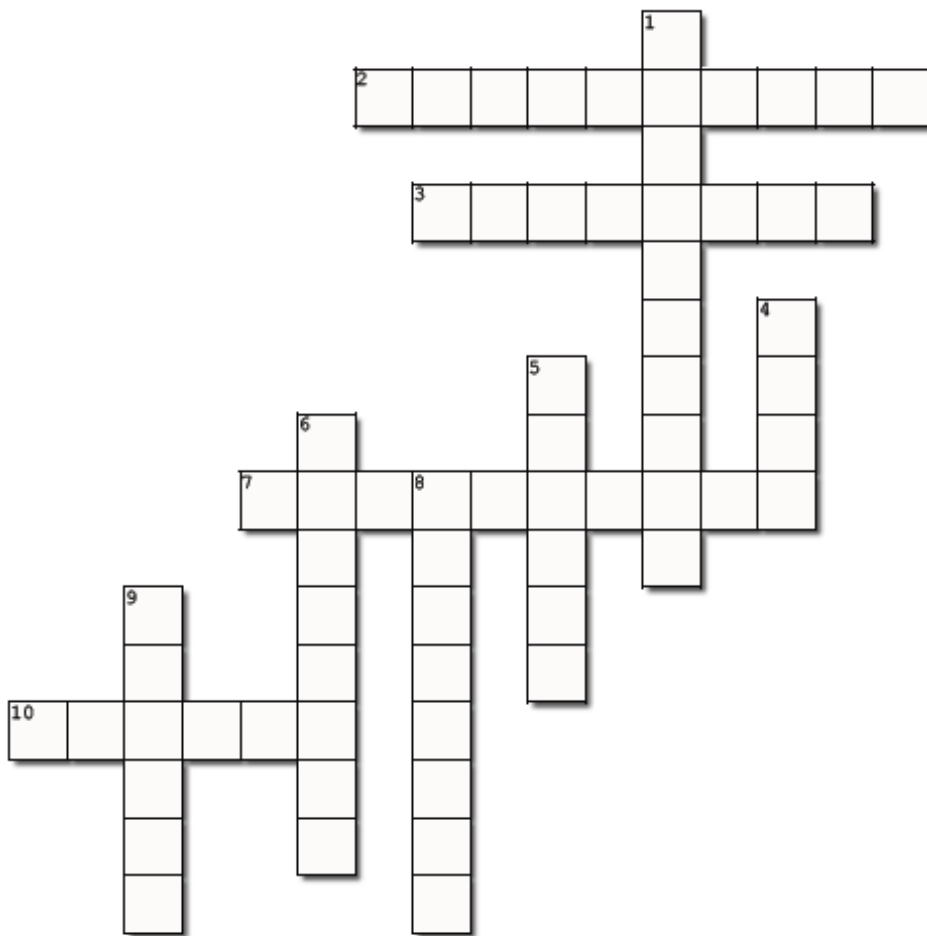
Francesco Becchetti

A boy decides to go skiing in the Alps and brings his pet snake along. He is worried that the pet might escape the hotel room and he can't find a solution to this. He doesn't want to lock the doors, put the snake in a cage or tie him with a leash. Suddenly he understands something, and happily leaves the hotel to go skiing. What did he realize that made him so sure the snake won't leave the room?



CROSSWORD

Laura Lozupone



Across

- 2. Painted
- 3. Ordered by Emperor Vespasiano
- 7. Pope Francis' house
- 10. It flows through the capital

Down

- 1. The more picturesque district of Rome
- 4. Where "pasta alla carbonara" was born
- 5. Here there's Raffaello's tomb
- 8. The poet who riots in roman dialect
- 9. The square of the befana

