Some of the World's Most Famous Legends

History is full of legends that have mystified and entertained people for millennia. Legends hail from different cultures around the world—some are still held as strong beliefs; however, some of them have faded away with time.

1. The Legend of Lady Godiva
Lady Godiva was an Anglo-Saxon woman and wife of the ruler of Coventry, England. She loved her husband dearly, but always opposed the way he treated his people.
When her husband issued a heavy tax on the local people, Lady Godiva begged him to stop, called a "Heregeld". According to the legend, Godiva's husband retorted that he would only stop the tax if she rode through the streets of Coventry naked. And so she did, covering herself only with her hair. Later versions of the legend claim that Lady Godiva sent messengers through the city beforehand, warning the townspeople to stay inside and shut their windows, during this act. Godiva's husband abolished the law immediately after her protest.

2. The Legend of Robin Hood
Robin Hood is one of the most famous legendary characters of all time. Although his existence is not clearly verified, he is believed to be an Englishman from medieval times. It wasn't until 1589 that the first claims of Robin Hood as a thief who stole from the rich to give to the poor began to arise. Robin Hood then became a noble symbol of resistance to tyranny.
The legendary Robin Hood was known to be enemies with the Sherriff of Nottingham, and later ballads paired him with a companion, Maid Marian. It is believed that he had a group of men working for him whom he called his "Merry Men".

3. The Legend of the Fountain of Youth
The legend of the Fountain of Youth tells about a special fountain that contains water with special powers. It is believed that by drinking this water, a person gains eternal youth. Nobody knows where this fountain is. American legends claim that it is somewhere in Florida, while European legends claim it is in Spain. Whispers of bodies of water with special powers granting eternal youth have been circulating the world for millennia. The story of the Fountain of Youth itself, however, is connected to the Spanish explorer Juan Ponce de León, who, the legend says, struck out in search of it.

4. The Legend of Atlantis
It is believed that about 9,600 years ago, there was an island called Atlantis. The Ancient Greeks called this place a holy city and believed that it used to lie beyond the Pillars of Hercules. The island was said to have sunk because it was defeated by Athens. The logical explanation of the matter, however, is that the island sunk due to submarine convulsions or volcanic eruption. The location of Atlantis is alternatively given as somewhere in the Mediterranean Sea or the Atlantic Ocean. According to much research, however, there was never any such island. The matter has been under debate for centuries, as some still believe that the island did exist.

5. The Legend of Bloody Mary
Bloody Mary is one of the most popular ghosts in the world. But who was she, really? No one actually knows. There are hundreds of legends about this famous legendary character. Some say she was a widow who killed her children, while some say she was a young child who was murdered and is wandering around her grave. Other tales say the ghost is Mary Worth, a woman said to be a witch who was burned at the stake. One legend about Bloody Mary says that if a person says "Bloody Mary" three times in front of the mirror after midnight, Mary's ghost will appear and kill them. Some legends also portray her as a good ghost, but she is most often seen as an evil spirit.

6. The Legend of Prester John
Prester John is believed to have been a king who ruled a nation somewhere in Europe during the 12th–13th centuries. According to the legend, he was a righteous man who led a great, wealthy kingdom. His kingdom also consisted of magical objects and creatures. However, somehow, his kingdom disappeared. Although today many people call it a mythical story, it was believed for many centuries and inspired adventurers to hunt for the lost kingdom and treasure.

Source: https://exemplore.com/legends

Match the pictures and the legends

A

B

C

D

The Legend of the Fountain of Youth **Picture _____**

The Legend of Atlantis **Picture _____**

The Legend of Robin Hood **Picture _____**

The Legend of Bloody Mary **Picture _____**

Answer True or False and Justify your response

Lady Godiva opposed the abuse of her husband's people. True False

_____

Millennia means 1000 years. True False

_____

Drinking the water from the fountain leads to immortality. True False

_____

The Fountain of Youth is in Florida. True False

_____

The story of the Fountain of Youth is connected to an Irish explorer. True False

_____

Prester John resides in France. True False

_____

Prester John's kingdom was conquered by Europeans. True False

_____

Bloody Mary is said to be and evil spirit . True False

_____

The Ancient Romans called Atlantis a holy city. True False

_____

Robin Hood as a thief stole from the needy to give to the wealthy. True False