

The Scottish English Podcast

E10 Myths of the Scottish Waters: The Secrets of Selkies and Kelpies | The Scottish English Podcast

<i>Transcript</i>	<i>Vocabulary and grammar structures you should know. *= meaning used in the podcast if there is more than one meaning.</i>	<i>Collocations, idioms and other useful phrases.</i>
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Claire | Kilted English:

Have you ever heard of the Selkies or the Kelpies?

These legendary beings have been part of Scotland myths for centuries and today we'll uncover their secrets. So grab a cup of tea, get comfortable, and let's journey into Scottish legend.

Hello and welcome to the Scottish English Podcast, the show where English language learners can explore the culture, history and accents of Scotland.

I'm Claire, and today we are diving into the deep, mysterious world of Scottish folklore.

The story of the Selkies.

Let's start with the Selkies, one of Scotland's most haunting and romantic folktales.

Legendary (adjective)

/ˈledʒəndri/

- very famous and talked about a lot by people
- mentioned in stories from ancient times*

- The legendary Bob Dylan
- Legendary heroes

Mysterious (adjective)

/mɪˈstɪəriəs/

- difficult to understand or explain; strange*
- (of a place) seeming strange or secret
- (especially of people) strange and interesting because you do not know much about them
- (of people) not saying much about

- A mysterious illness
- The mysterious disappearance of an aircraft

<p>Selkies are seal people. By day, they swim in the cold northern seas as sleek, beautiful seals, but under the light of the full moon, they can <u>shed</u> their skins and walk the land as humans.</p> <p>Many Selkie stories are <u>tragic</u> love tales. One of the most famous tells of a fisherman who finds a beautiful woman by the <u>shore</u>.</p> <p>He discovers her seal skin hidden on the rocks and steals it.</p> <p>Without her skin, she's unable to return to the sea. So he forces her to marry him. Awful. They have children, and for years they seem happy, but deep inside she longs for the ocean. Then one day she finds her seal skin hidden away. Without hesitation, she puts it on, transforms back into a seal, and disappears into the waves, never to be seen again.</p> <p>Selkie legends come from Scotland's, northern coasts and islands, especially Orkney and Shetland, the islands in the north of the country.</p>	<p>something, especially when other people want to know more</p> <p>Haunting (adjective) /'hɔ:ntɪŋ/ <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - beautiful, sad or frightening in a way that cannot be forgotten </p> <p>Shed (verb) /ʃed/ <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - shed something to take off a piece of clothing - shed something if an animal sheds its skin, or a plant sheds leaves, it loses them naturally* </p> <p>Tragic (adjective) /'trædʒɪk/ <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - making you feel very sad, usually because somebody has died or suffered a lot* - connected with tragedy (= the style of literature) </p> <p>Shore (noun) /ʃɔ:(r)/ <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the land along the edge of the sea, the </p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A haunting melody/experience/image - A tragic love story - A tragic accident - A rocky/sandy shore - On the shore - Off shore = when a boat is anchored
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<p>escape, it <u>gallops</u> into the water, <u>dragging</u> you to a watery death.</p> <p><u>Creepy</u> right.</p> <p>One of the most famous Kelpie legends comes from Loch Ness. Yes, the same place as the Loch Ness Monster, which we talked about in last week's episode.</p> <p>Some believe that Nessie, the giant creature of the loch, might be a kelpie <u>in disguise</u>.</p> <p>But kelpies don't always take the form of horses. Sometimes they appear as humans. Usually a handsome man or a beautiful woman who tries to <u>lure</u> you into the water. But if you look closely, you might notice something strange. Their feet remain <u>hooves</u> no matter what form they take.</p> <p>These stories served as warnings, especially for children. Just as they can be today, rivers and lochs were dangerous places. And kelpie tales reminded people to be careful near the water.</p>	<p>Fool (verb) /fu:l/ - to trick somebody into believing something that is not true</p> <p>Gallop (verb) /'gæləp/ - when a horse or similar animal gallops, it moves very fast and each stride includes a stage when all four feet are off the ground together</p> <p>Drag (verb) /dræg/ - to take hold of something and pull it</p> <p>Disguise (noun) /dɪs 'gaɪz/ - to change your appearance so that people cannot recognize you</p> <p>Lure (verb) /lʊə(r)/ - to persuade or trick somebody to go somewhere or to do something by promising them a reward</p>	
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<p>I hope you've enjoyed discovering the legends of Selkies and Kelpies.</p> <p>If you've enjoyed this episode, please give me a thumbs up and subscribe on YouTube. And if you're listening in podcast land, please follow me on your favourite podcasting app and leave a review. It really helps other people find the show. And do comment down below if you want to find out more about Scotland's history, culture, what interests you, let me know and I will see if we can make some more episodes of the Scottish English Podcast just for you.</p> <p>Thanks for listening. See you later.</p>		
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