



GLAUCUS - OWL OF ATHENA

THE SPEDIS OWL - NCH'I-WÁNA
WATCHER

AL-SADĀ - THE NIGHT CRY

CHALCHIUTECÉLOTL - ASPECT OF
TEZCALIPOC

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LINGQIU MOUNTAIN

ULUKA - LAKSHMI'S VAHANA

Owl Myths Around the World

CHALCHIUTECÉLOTL - ASPECT OF TEZCALIPOC

Chalchiutecélotl, meaning "precious owl", was seen as a manifestation of Tezcatlipoca. Originally a deity from the Toltec peoples, Tezcatlipoca was seen as the god of night and sorcery.

The Aztecs and Maya, considered the owl a symbol of death and destruction. The Aztec god of death, Mictlantecuhtli, was often depicted with owls and wearing owl feathers in his headdress.

YONG - FIRE DEMON HUNTER OF LINGQIU MOUNTAIN

"Four hundred miles further to the east, there is a mountain called Lingqiu, in which no grass grows and fire burns everywhere. There was a bird in the mountain, shaped like an owl, with a human-like face, four eyes and ears, named Yong, which made a sound like shouting its own name, and whenever it appeared, there would be a great drought in the world" - *Classic of Mountains and Seas*

AL-SADĀ - THE NIGHT CRY

Al-Jahiz, the 7th century Arabian polymath, said the owl imagines itself to be the most handsome of the animals, and that its high opinion of its own beauty is the reason it is only seen by night: for fear of the evil eye, it refuses to go out by day. In his writings, he groups owls with other nocturnal creatures such as the bat, the “vengeful head”, and the “night terror”. They were known for their secretive loneliness and their hostility toward crows.

ULUKA - LAKSHMI'S VAHANA

Lakshmi is the Hindu goddess of fortune, beauty, fertility and prosperity, and associated with Maya ("illusion"). Lakshmi is often shown with one or two elephants an owl. The owl signifies the patient striving to observe, see, and discover knowledge, particularly when surrounded by darkness. As a bird reputedly blinded by daylight, the owl also serves as a symbolic reminder to refrain from blindness and greed after knowledge and wealth have been acquired.

THE SPEDIS OWL - NCH'I-WÁNA WATCHER

Owl stone carvings can be found etched all along the Nch'i-Wána on Kalapuyan land. Petroglyphs with owl carvings were found near the river before The Dalles Dam flooded the area. The marks could have indicated ownership of a fishing area. It’s hard to trace down what the etched symbols meant for the Kalapuya people or other nearby tribes because of the many owl myths, each with varied lessons, found among the native people of the Pacific North West.

the owl has been a vehicle for me to learn about the world and its relation to all things fantastical. I learned about regional plants and wildlife, I immersed myself in creation myths that linked cultures from opposite sides of the world, and build. owls have given me so much in times when I was looking for something to believe in. I find myself connected to anyone that has ever looked at the bird and felt the need to reach out to someone bigger than themselves

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GLAUCUS - OWL OF ATHENA

In Greek mythology, Athena, the goddess of wisdom, chose the owl as her sacred animal, associating it with her keen intelligence. The owl became a symbol of wisdom, representing the ability to see beyond the surface and discern truth in the shadows.

On the city-state of Athens, the owl featured prominently on the tetradrachm coins, serving as a symbol of the city's cultural and intellectual influence.