

THE STORY OF A WONDERFUL SEA-GOD [] I am going to tell you to-day one of the strangest stories that has ever been told to little children. It is such a wonderful story that even grown people read it again and again.

According to Swire, "Iona, it would seem, first belonged to the ancient Earth-gods, but the primeval Sea-gods coveted the island and won it from them". Thus his body was made of a green wave. His hair was of wrack and tangle, glistening with spray; his robe was of windy foam; his feet, of white sand. That is, when he was with his own, or when he willed; otherwise, he was as men are. He loved a woman of the south so beautiful that she was named Dear-sadh-na-Ghrene Sunshine. He captured her and brought her to Iona in September, when it is the month of peace. For one month she was happy: So he changed her into a seal. The author questions if this was a payment of rent for his island, as the Isle of Man was also rented from Manannan by the first men who inhabited it. He said they did this in hope of getting lots of red tangle seaweed on the shores. The author tells of people on Iona living in who could remember porridge being poured into the sea to the God of the Ocean. And, wonder of me! Smile of earth and sea and sky. Ho lava he ho. They were of the primeval things, cruel and strong; fighting against both the new gods and men with storm and spell, their powers seemed to early man infinite. It is little wonder that a people who lived near the sea, whether in the islands or beside the sea-lochs, should fear them and credit them with supernatural powers beyond those of more ordinary gods. The author comments that St Columba and his monks landed without hindrance on a day of perfect calm, and it was believed that through his mother he had the blood of the Sea-gods in his veins and came as a welcome guest. Swire also writes that the green serpentine rocks known as Iona Stone, still found on the beaches of Iona, was said to preserve anyone who carried a piece from all danger at sea, and prevent the wearer from drowning as the stone is the congealed blood of the Sea-gods. This was performed at night and on his return to land the people went to church and put out the candle burning on the altar, then went to the fields where they drank ale and spent the rest of the night dancing and singing. An evil Shony; for once he netted a young girl who was swimming in a loch, and when she would not give him her love he tied her to a rock, and to this day her long brown hair may be seen floating in the shallow green wave at the ebb of the tide. One need not name the place!

2: The Curious Case of Benjamin Button (film) - Wikipedia

The Strange Story of a Wonderful Sea-God. The Vision of Dante. How Little Cedric Became a Knight. The Story of Christopher Columbus for Little Child. A Story of.

But if you look outside of the bible, you find a whole lot more about him, from reputable sources like the Dead Sea Scrolls and the Book of Enoch. Let me begin with this infamous quote from Genesis: These beings were not from here, and came here in direct opposition to the will of God as the book of Jude in the New Testament reminds us: Their superior technical knowledge enabled them to create genetic hybrids of all kinds—bizarre creatures like Centaurs, cyclops, half-man, half horse, and dozens more. With callous disregard for the natural order, they had their fun in our gene pool and completely ruined any chance of a good world, as described in this verse in Genesis. Notice it says "all flesh" not just humans. This seems to fit the Enoch narrative well—the earth was filled with corrupted genes. It was because of this that God brought the flood, to wipe everything out and start over with Noah. The term perfect in his generations, in light of the above facts, seems to mean that Noah was genetically pure, i. He was also a just man who walked with God. It makes sense to start over with a good, normal human, right? Noah was not an ordinary human. Dead Sea Scrolls - Book of Noah 6: And his body was white as snow and red as the blooming of a rose, and the hair of his head and his long locks were white as wool, and his eyes beautiful. And when he opened his eyes, he lighted up the whole house like the sun, and the whole house was very bright. And thereupon he arose in the hands of the midwife, opened his mouth, and conversed with the Lord of righteousness. And his father Lamech was afraid of him and fled, and came to his father Methuselah. And he said unto him: I have begotten a strange son, diverse from and unlike man, and resembling the sons of the God of heaven; and his nature is different and he is not like us, and his eyes are as the rays of the sun, and his countenance is glorious. And it seems to me that he is not sprung from me but from the angels, and I fear that in his days a wonder may be wrought on the earth. And just the other day, I learned this additional detail: Noah was born circumcised: So although he was reportedly genetically perfect, he was not at all like a normal human being. Which leads me to conclude that our overseers made some genetic adjustments resulting in what we might call Human Being 2. Like Jesus, it would appear his true father was not of this world, which Lamech suspected. And Methuselah seemed to know something about Noah that Lamech did not know, saying Noah is indeed his child and was destined to change the world. And so he did. By the way, the hebrew name Noah means comfort and peaceful. Perhaps this is why, when the LORD spoke to Moses after the flood, he promised him that the animals of the earth would all fear man, not the other way around: And the fear of you and the dread of you shall be upon every beast of the earth, and upon every fowl of the air, upon all that moveth upon the earth, and upon all the fishes of the sea; into your hand are they delivered.

3: Weird news: Bizarre & funny stories

Featured Image: Source By; Eva Gruber. Earth is a blue planet - one with an abundance of water. 70% of it's surface is covered in oceans. It is the "Last Frontier" for wilderness and true exploration.

In KeyForge, two players take on the role of Archons who are battling to uncover the secrets and powers of inside the Vaults of the Crucible. But what brought these houses together on this particular planet? Why do they struggle and what lies beneath the surface? But if you want to dive even deeper, there are a few links at the bottom of this article that will guide you to some FREE online fiction from FFG. But it all starts with The Crucible. Welcome To The Crucible The Crucible is at the heart of the universe – it is an artificial planet that is constantly under construction by a mysterious race known as the Architects. These creatures have harvested worlds beyond counting for their materials. Sometimes lifeforms also get carried away in this process. Lost, unable to return home and surrounded by this strange new landscape, these creatures are unable to communicate with other beings. Only the Archons, natives of the Crucible who are able to speak with all things, are their guides. The planet itself appears much like any other planet. It has all the things that make a planet and planet – gravity, atmosphere, biomes, etc. It also supports life with different plants, animals, and minerals – all things a person would expect on a life sustaining planet. But if you explored a bit deeper you would discover that there is much more to the Crucible than your average planet might provide. The planet is as diverse as the civilizations that have been brought to the Crucible. The surface hosts every environment imaginable. Dry deserts, snow-capped mountains, deep seas, dense jungles, and even the urban metropolises. Creatures who once lived literally light-years apart now share living space. Some biomes are complex and cater to every living beings need. Others are made of bustling cities or quiet villages. The world is growing, changing – evolving. As more and more life is brought to the planet, it will only continue to change with each day. But not all these areas are safe. Beneath the surface is a superstructure that divides the current layer from one s? This tunnel network runs throughout the planet and is inhabited by the demons of Dis. They have built furnaces and prisons here and collect victims who have gotten lost in the labyrinth. Above the surface floats island paradises. Some believe these improbable lands are the beginnings of a new layer of the Crucible. They are host to waterfalls, plentiful plant life and stunningly beautiful rock formations. The House of Sanctum inhabits these lands and they keep quiet about their origins – and they will defend their territory. However, the greatest mystery of the Crucible is the Spire. It is an enormous tower that rises above the floating islands and reaches into the heavens of space. But if you stare beyond the clouds you might see what could be construed as scaffolds in the sky. And for all the technology that has been developed on the surface, nothing and escape beyond the atmosphere of the Crucible. More Resources Fantasy Flight Games has an article you can read that goes into more detail about the planet and the houses that inhabit the world. As promised here are a few more links to help you get a ground level view of the world of KeyForge:

4: Wonderful Ethiopians of the Ancient Cushite Empire: Chapter XI. The Strange Races of Chaldea

Free kindle book and epub digitized and proofread by Project Gutenberg. The strange story of a wonderful sea-god -- The vision of Dante -- How little Cedric.

The foundations of ancient Chaldea, were laid as early as those of Egypt. In fact they were the sister colonies of a parent state. The earliest civilized inhabitants were Sumerians. The Sanskrit books of India, called Chaldea one of the divisions of Cusha-Dwipa, the first organized government of the world. These Sumerians were the inventors of the cuneiform system of writing, which was later adopted by their Semitic conquerors. In the later days their language was still cultivated in the ritualistic services until the time. It is thought that this civilization originated from southern Susiana. The pictorial hieroglyphics which made the cuneiform characters were probably invented in Elam. In Babylonia however this culture underwent a rapid development. North of Accad were the Semitic tribes which so largely made up the blood of Assyria in later days. The Babylonians were further mixed by Elamite and Cassite conquests. What was the original race of these Sumerians, Cassites and Elamites? Recent explorations upon p. The finds prove that the records and traditions of antiquity were in perfect accord with these new discoveries. The history of Babylonia like that of most nations begins with a myth; but we are beginning to realize that a deep significance lies beneath old myths. Ten kings appear in the primitive annals, corresponding with the ten patriarchs of the Hebrew Scriptures and the ten rulers of Egyptian chronology. Enormous cycles of years accompany their reigns, so do they in the Scriptures and the findings of geology accord. These come down to the Xisuthros of Greek tradition, our Noah. At his death colonies under the leadership of Titan Nimrod, arrived in the plain of Sumer and essayed to build a tower that would scale the sky. On this spot at Babylon stood the temple of Anu. Then in these early Babylonian traditions follow the names of Gilgamesh, the Melcarth of Tyre and the Hercules of Greece, identified with the name of Nimrod of the Hebrews. The epic of the adventures of Nimrod, was preserved in the library at Erech and is identical with the twelve labors of Hercules. What significance lies under this common hero under the names of the greatest of the, demi-gods of Egypt and Greece? This overlapping of the genealogy of antiquity shows that these heroes, Bel, Gilgamesh, Melcarth, Hercules, belonged to a common race. It was, for this reason that Greek and Armenian geographers applied the name of Ethiopia to Media, Persia, Susiana and Aria, or the entire region between the Indus and Tigris in ancient days. The records of the Hebrews connected the Chaldeans, Ethiopians and Egyptians in ties of kinship, and the findings of archaeological and philological research prove those records true. Rawlinson mentions a Cushite inscription found in Susiana, in which there is a date going back nearly to the year B. The language of later Babylon was Semitic but that of the earlier Chaldean monarchy was different, as can be proved by the inscriptions upon the ruins. They are distinctly Hamitic and like the Himyaritic of Southern Arabia. All the earliest traditions of Chaldea center about Belus or Nimrod. We know that Nimrod was the son of Cush. Babylon had two elements in her population in the beginning. The northern Accadians and the southern Sumerians were both Cushites. The finds of recent explorations in the Mesopotamian valley reveal that these ancient inhabitants were black, with the cranial formation of Ethiopians. On linguistic grounds a relationship with Turanians proves untenable. The Turanian is one of the oldest races of the world. Some historians attempt to suggest that Noah might have had other sons after the deluge. We do not have to introduce other races to understand the Turanian family. They were an important branch of the Japhetic race just as Cush became p. Once Turan and Cush occupied the greater part of Asia and Europe. The Turanians lived east of Lake Ural from remote antiquity. They possessed a peculiar civilization characterized by a gross Sabaenism. In them was complete want of moral development, though they had extraordinary advancement in some branches of knowledge. They were materialistic and incapable of having created the pure spiritual culture of the primitive, Chaldeans. Turanians had absolute sovereignty over a great part of Asia and Europe for fifteen hundred years. Bochart and other authorities translate the passage of the Scriptures that deals with the beginning of Nineveh to read that it was also founded by Nimrod and that he was the god Ninus of early Assyria, which in its beginning was Cushite. Moses of Chorene connects Babylonia in the closest way with Ethiopia. From the Tigris eastward the

names of the country and its formations in numerous cases were in honor of Belus and Cush. Some of these names have extended down to our times as Beluchistan and Hindu Cush. The precious document Toldoth Beni Noah, said that the primitive people of Babylonia were a subdivision of the Cushite race. There is no doubt that in later ages these Ethiopians became mixed with Turanians. The art, science and culture of the earlier unmixed Chaldeans was Cushite. The tendency of the modern book to make this commingling of the races extend back to earlier ages is unscientific, for all the kings whose monuments are found used the same language, professed the same religion and followed the same traditions, this proves continuity of race. It was universally attested by antiquity that from the Cushite element sprang the civilization of Chaldea. The Scriptures say that Cush begat Nimrod and that he began to be mighty upon the earth. Rawlinson says that Nimrod set up a kingdom in lower Mesopotamia that attracted the attention of surrounding nations. The people that he led probably came from the sea. Their earliest settlements were upon the coast. Ur was the primitive capital. Nimrod was king of the city where the confusion of tongues took place. The people whom Nimrod found were probably Turanians or Semites. Babylonian traditions said that they were unlettered barbarians. Cushites pushed these people back and as the traditions of the fish-god reveal, taught them the arts of civilized life. Semitic inhabitants crowded back to Nineveh, later became predominant and appeared as the fierce Assyrians. Rawlinson decided that the ruins of Chaldea p. The names of Chaldea and Ethiopia are linked in a way to render any other interpretation impossible. The great city of the earlier period was Niffer a corruption of Nimrod. The language of the ruins is radically different from the Semitic tongue of the Assyrian empire. This is the report of all investigators who have studied the ruins. Long before the day of later Babylon, the land was full of all that would make a cultivated and flourishing nation. At least as early as the time of Moses, his name had passed into proverb. He was known as the mighty hunter before the lord. In his own nation he was deified and continued down to the latest times as the chief object of worship. In Arabian tradition Nimrod played a conspicuous part. Orion in the Arabian astronomy bears his title. His name lives in the tales of the people of Chaldea today. Wherever a mound is to be seen in Babylon or the adjoining countries, the local tradition attaches to it the name of Nimrod. The most striking ruins of the upper and lower Mesopotamian valley are thus made the monuments of his glory. Indisputable proofs of the extreme antiquity of Chaldea have been unearthed. These evidences show that under the oldest cities lie the successive foundations of still older cities, seemingly stretching back into the antediluvian world. Rawlinson says that the race of Nimrod passed from east Africa by way of Arabia to the valley of the Euphrates before the beginning of history. Loftus speaks of this powerful stream of colonization from the south. The emigrants were called Accadians, the Accad of Genesis. Delineations found among the ruins of Nineveh, on the walls of the palaces, prove that there were two Ethiopian types, one the ancient Cushite and another a heavy southern face having the protuberant lips, the receding forehead, broad thick nose and crisp hair of Africa. These were the native inhabitants of Susiana as well as Babylon. His works have unfortunately perished; but we have quotations of his in other authentic writings. His history of the deluge is almost identical with the one of the cuneiform tablets. Berosus wrote a history of the Chaldeans in nine books. He gave the oldest traditions of The human race. We do not possess his works, only fragments remain in the writings of the Greek, Hebrew and Roman fathers. Men once claimed that ancient Troy was a myth and that the Labyrinth of Minos was fiction; but archaeologists have unearthed the Troy of the Greek legends and the Labyrinth of Crete. Berosus mentioned Median and Arabian dynasties that ruled over Chaldea. The Medians were, Baldwin thinks, the Midianites of Arabia, for this was ages prior to the Medes of history. The Arabian dynasties were of the race of Southern Arabia for the language of the Chaldean inscriptions is the same as that of the South Arabian, called Himyaritic. Berosus begins his story of Chaldean times with the primitive era, when a multitude of barbarous men of various tribes inhabited the Mesopotamian valley. These were very probably Turanian and Semites. The Japhethic people were not far from this first center of human life and we know that Abraham came from Ur of the Chaldeans. In the beginning Berosus said, that these men lived like animals without any order of government. Bel Nimrod, god of the Chaldees and later Babylonians, saw the fruitfulness of the land.

5: Amazing Coincidences, Real and Unbelievably Weird! 7 True Stories

The Strange Story of Noah We've all heard the basic story of Noah as recounted in Genesis. But if you look outside of the bible, you find a whole lot more about him, from reputable sources like the Dead Sea Scrolls and the Book of Enoch.

Source By; Eva Gruber Earth is a blue planet – one with an abundance of water. We still know relatively little about the diversity of life that inhabits it, as for most of human history it has remained out of our grasp. Having ancestors that emerged from the water hundreds of millions of years ago, I think there is still a part of us that yearns for the freedom and serenity that being underwater provides. And over the course of history, people have strived towards ingenious methods to remain below the surface, eye-to-eye with marine life. Snorkeling was and still is often the tantalizing introduction to the world beneath the surface. However, it also soon became apparent that this was very restricting. A reed longer than two feet was not possible due to the water pressure restricting oxygen flow. A vessel or bag full of air brought to depth was also not a great option as it only contained a couple breaths, and there was the problem of carbon dioxide. The first successful tries to stay at depth were the result of diving bells – cumbersome, heavy contraptions that were lowered a few feet below the surface. They were essentially upside-down bell jars that open to the water below, but full of air. The diver could surface in the opening, grab a breath, and leave the bell to explore or collect from the surrounding bottom, then return for a breath until there was no more left to breathe. The first records of this is from the 4th century BC, by the Greek philosopher Aristotle. This use of simple physics persisted through the 16th century. Two windows allowed the diver to see out. Gio von Wryneck But, the push to develop a method of remaining underwater was strong due to the promising and rewarding world of marine salvage. There were plenty of shipwrecks that remained out of reach of humans for far too long, often filled with coveted riches. If only someone could think of a way to reach them – they would be very well-rewarded. In 1580, a salvage of two Spanish shipwrecks was incredibly successful, recovering a significant amount of silver and gold using a larger diving bell that allowed two divers to remain underwater for over an hour. They would pop under the bell for a breath, then emerge to salvage the wreck. The two divers were paid in an interesting way – each time they re-emerged, they were allowed to keep whatever they could fit in their hands and mouths. In England and France in the 16th century, diving bells were improved on and expanded to full suits which could be used to depths of 60 feet. Breathable air was supplied from the surface using manual pumps. Air would be sent down in weighted barrels. It could hold up to three men, and a further innovation: This expanded the maneuverability of divers at depth. Source In Poland, Karl Heinrich Klingert was the first to develop a full-body diving suit made of a metal helmet, wide metal girdle, and pants and a vest made of waterproofed leather. With the use of a pump turret, air could be supplied to the diver via a long, weighted tube. The diving helmets developed for this were used for over a century. The diving helmet suit made it possible for divers to move underwater more freely. In 1818, Alphonse and Theodore Carmagnolle in Marseille, France, developed an armored suit with twenty small portholes and articulated limbs, which they were granted a patent for. It weighed 100 pounds. Source Sadly, the suit never worked properly and the joints were never completely waterproof. The same year, Henry Fleuss of London became the very first scuba diver with his invention of the first self-contained underwater breathing apparatus SCUBA using compressed oxygen. He was granted a patent in 1828, and it eliminated the need for a diver to rely on surface-supplied air. Source A rubber mask was connected to a rubber air bag, copper oxygen tank, and a scrubber for removing CO2 so that exhaled air could be re-breathed. This device was originally developed to save trapped miners, but immediately was recognized for its potential underwater. While it did limit the divers working depth due to the danger of oxygen toxicity, this was a revolutionary design. In 1842, Louis Boutan develops the first underwater photograph. Below, a self-portrait he took at over 100 feet depth wearing one of the early dive suits. Source While marine salvage and repair continued to be the main use of divers, the tides slowly starting shifting towards curiosity to its possible uses in the military and warfare. The British Navy was the first to train and recruit divers for their purposes, and the US Navy followed suit in a training program in 1863. However, again a concrete diving program was put on the back burner until 1917, when Chief Gunner George Stillson set up an experimental diving program at the

Brooklyn Navy Yard. He himself began experimenting with dive tables and reaching new depths. He set a world-acclaimed record in when he dove to a depth of feet. This spurred Congress into investing more money into the diving program, and a few years later another record was made to a depth of feet. With the advent of submarine technology, and more accidents happening underwater, people became aware of the need of trained divers available for rescues. Spurred on by this pressure, the Navy developed better gas mixtures, diving techniques, and methods for saving men trapped on submarines. In , the first regulator appears â€” initially developed for use by firefighters it was soon adapted for underwater exploration. The two begin to work on the first modern demand regulator. After the war, Jacques Cousteau is ordered to create the underwater research unit for the French Navy. Following this, public interest in scuba diving takes hold, and National Geographic Magazine publishes an article about Cousteau and his underwater adventures. Source Since then, scuba diving has seen rapidly advancing technology in the form of better rebreathers, dive computers, and gas mixtures, allowing for safer and more efficient dives. Who knows what the future will hold for diving and underwater exploration!

6: The Strange and Wonderful History of Scuba Diving

Song of the Sea God is a novel to be absorbed, reaching a place where reality is suspended. Told through the eyes of Bes, a stranger, John Love, arrives on an island on a grey tide. The island's disparate mix of characters is all affected Song of the Sea God by Chris Hill.

It is such a wonderful story that even grown people read it again and again. Three thousand years ago Greek mothers used to tell it to their children as they sat together on the seashore. It is about a famous king, named Menelaus, who after a long and cruel war was over, started in his good ship for his much loved home in Sparta. We shall soon see what trouble his thoughtlessness brought upon him, and not him alone, but all his followers. In those days there were no great ocean steamers such as we have now, therefore Menelaus and his men had to cross the dark, [] mysterious sea in small boats which they rowed with oars. Sometimes when the wind was favorable they would hoist a sail and thus be helped along on their journey. As it was impossible for them to go forward when the strong, though invisible, wind was not blowing in a favorable direction, you can easily imagine their dismay when, having stopped one evening in a sheltered bay on the coast of a small island, they awoke next morning to find the wind blowing steadily in the opposite direction from the one in which they wished to sail. They waited all day hoping that the strong breeze would die down, or change its direction. The next day and the next passed and still the wind blew steadily away from their beloved homes. Had they not watched it lift huge waves high in the air and dash them against the sharp rocks? And yet they knew at other times how gentle it could be. Had they not listened to its soft, low song as it rustled over the tall grass? How glad they always were when it [] rattled and stirred their white sails, filling their hearts with promises of help on the way? They could not always understand what it was saying, but they felt sure that it came from the ever-living gods and always brought some message of love, or command to them. So, as day after day it blew a fierce, wild gale over their heads, and on beyond, hurrying clouds across the sky, dashing the waves against the shore, whirling the dust into their faces and hurriedly uttering hoarse whispering sounds as it passed them, they knew that it was warning them against daring to continue their homeward journey. Twenty days had come and gone, and still the wind kept up its fierce, loud tone of command as it rushed from the far away west, shook the waters of the vast ocean, swept over the small, rocky island and sped on toward the east. The courage of the poor sailors was almost exhausted. Their provisions were giving out. Menelaus, their chief, was wandering alone upon the seashore. He was very unhappy, for he feared much that all this trouble had come upon his comrades because he had not obeyed the law of the gods before he left Egypt. So he was [] much distressed in mind as he walked along the sandy beach. The sun was sinking to rest, the evening shadows were settling down between the rocky hills, the darkness of night was approaching, when suddenly there stood before him a beautiful being, of so dazzling an appearance that he knew she could not be a woman, she must be an immortal. Her saffron robes gleamed with light as do the sunset clouds. Her face was as radiant as are the last rays of the departing sun. It was the beautiful goddess, Idothea. Her face suddenly became stern as she looked at King Menelaus and asked him why he tarried idly upon the small, rocky island. He replied that he did not willingly remain, but that he must surely have sinned against the gods, as they had sent a strong, fierce wind to hinder his homeward voyage. Then he earnestly begged her to tell him what to do. The stern look left her face as she heard him confess that he had done wrong. She came nearer to him, and her glittering robes changed from saffron to pink, and blue, and even gray, and the lights played above, around and about her in the most wonderful fashion, changing each moment as she spoke. She told him that she was the daughter of [] Proteus, the Ancient of the Deep, who, living for thousands and thousands of years in the bottom of the great ocean, had gone wherever the restless waves of the sea had gone, and had learned the secrets of both land and water. He knew the song of the winds and could interpret every message which they brought from the gods, therefore he, and he alone, could tell Menelaus what it was that the strong, fierce wind had been crying out to him and his companions for the past twenty days. Now comes the strange part of our story. This sea-god, Proteus, was a most remarkable being. He had the power to change himself into whatever form he chose, as you will soon see. Idothea told Menelaus that this strange father of hers would rise out of the

sea at about noon the next day, and would walk over to a large cavern not far distant, where his sea-calves took their daily sleep, and that when he had counted them to see if they were all [] there, he would lie down in the midst of them and go to sleep also. This, said she, would be the time for Menelaus and three of his trusted sailors to spring upon him and seize him firmly, and she added that they must hold on to him, no matter what happened, until he changed back into his own form, that of an old man; then they could ask him any questions they wished and he would be compelled to answer them. Having given Menelaus these instructions, the beautiful goddess suddenly plunged into the ocean and the green waves closed over her. With bowed head and mind filled with anxious thought Menelaus returned to his men. They gathered round their boats on the seashore and ate their scanty evening meal. Silently and solemnly the night settled down upon the landscape and made the trees look like dark, shadowy forms, and the outlines of the hills grew dim, and the ocean was covered by the hush of the darkness, and silence reigned over all. The sailors threw themselves down upon the sand and were soon fast asleep. Menelaus lay beside them, but I fear much that he did not sleep. His mind was troubled. What would the next day bring forth? He was to meet the [] strange and terrible Ancient of the Deep, and was to struggle fiercely with him. Would he be able to cope with the monster? Would he have the courage to hold on to him? What awful and unknown shapes might not the creature take? These and a hundred other questions kept rising in his mind and banished all sleep from his eyes. One by one the stars came out in the deep, black sky above his head. Had not the gods kept them in their places for unnumbered ages? Could not these same gods protect and strengthen him when they knew that in his heart he was striving to learn what was their will? The night slowly wore away, and when the faint purplish light softened the eastern sky, he arose and going apart from his sleeping comrades, he knelt down and prayed earnestly to the ever-living gods. Then returning to his men, he awoke the three whom he could trust the most, and taking them with him he sought the spot where the goddess Idothea had promised to meet him. She, radiant as the dawn, was already there awaiting him. As they approached she plunged into the sea and was lost to sight. In a few moments, however, she re-appeared bringing with her the newly flayed skins of four sea-calves. Then [] quickly digging four oblong holes in the wet sand she commanded Menelaus and his three companions to lie down in there. This they did, and she skillfully spread over each of them, one of the skins which she had brought from the bottom of the ocean. After they were so closely covered that even the shrewd Proteus would mistake them for sea-calves, the radiant goddess seated herself on a rock not far distant, to await his coming. The horrible smell which came from the skins of the newly-slain sea-calves was so sickening that Menelaus and his three comrades could not stand it, and were about to give up the attempt to capture the sea-god, when the shining goddess came to the rescue. Bringing from, they knew not whence, some fragrant ambrosia, the food of the immortals, she placed it beneath their nostrils and its sweet perfume made them forget the loathsome coverings with which they were concealed. Its refreshing odor soon restored their strength and thus they were able to remain hidden until the noon hour. Then the sea-calves floundering much rose from the depths of the ocean and began crawling along the sand. They came in throngs and laid themselves down in rows upon the sandy [] shore beside the brave but anxious heroes. Soon the sunlit waves parted from right to left and slowly and solemnly Proteus, the Ancient of the Deep, appeared. His hair and beard and garments were covered with white foam. He walked over to where his sea-calves lay basking in the sun and counted them. This was a trying time for Menelaus. His heart beat loud and fast, so great was his fear that he and his companions might be discovered. But the goddess had done her work too well for that. Proteus did not notice any difference between them and the beasts which lay about them. Having finished his task, he stretched his body upon the sand beside his flock, ready for his afternoon nap. Now was the critical moment! Menelaus and his men throwing off the skins of the dead sea-calves sprang forward with loud shouts, and before the old sea-god knew it, they had fast hold of his arms and legs. Proteus having the power to change his body into whatever shape he pleased, suddenly transformed himself into a roaring lion, so fierce and strong that it seemed as if he might crush anything that came in his way. Still Menelaus and his stout-hearted men held on. Then, in an instant the lion became a fiery panther whose glaring eyes struck terror into their hearts, but still they held on. In a moment more a large snake was twisting and writhing in their hands, hissing and darting his forked tongue out as if he would gladly poison all of them, still they held on. Shape after shape the monster assumed,

but still they held on. Now it was a clear, harmless stream of water flowing gently through their hands. Again it was a flame of fire darting here and there threatening to scorch their faces and even to burn out their eyes; still they held on. Then it became a beautiful tree, tall and stately, with broad spreading branches and shining green leaves, still they held on. At last, finding that his enchantments were of no avail he changed back into his real form and turning to Menelaus he said, "What wouldst thou have? Then Proteus, the Ancient of the Deep, who knew all secrets of both gods and men, told him that he must go back to Egypt where he had sinned, and do all that he could to atone for that sin before he might hope to reach his beloved home. Menelaus now understood what the wind had [] been trying to tell him. Each hoarse whisper as the gale rushed by, meant "Return to Egypt! Due worship was paid to the gods, and then right merrily the wind whistled and sang about their ears as it filled their white sails and helped them to speed across the blue water, and in a few days they had reached their beloved home-land. And oftentimes they told the story to their children and grandchildren, just as I am telling it to you, to-day. Hundreds of additional titles available for online reading when you join Gateway to the Classics.

7: FFG: The Strange & Wonderful World of KeyForge - Bell of Lost Souls

Wow, what a strange and wonderful book, which I was hoping to love. It's not a bad book, but there were lots of things that I didn't like. About pages in the book is about tragic love stories about Ava's ancestors.

Featured Articles Webzine 0 Comments 0 Legendary. But there are circumstances when this powerful word finds itself attached to figures in real life. Rarely is the accolade given to an entertainer let alone a rock band, especially in a conservative country such as Japan. However, LUNA SEA is one of very few Japanese rock groups that not only are honored for their role as rock pioneers, but also as one of the greatest legends of rock in Japan. It began at the tender age of three, for both SUGIZO and Shinya, when their respective parents placed classical instruments in their hands. Both musicians were rigorously trained; the training continuing from childhood throughout adolescence and into their teens, until they met in high school. Unlike SUGIZO and Shinya, who had the luxury of being trained in music from an early age, J and INORAN had to teach themselves how to play bass and guitar on second-hand instruments, meticulously honing their technique and developing theory without the help of a teacher. The convergence of five different members with very different musical backgrounds resulted in the coining of a completely original, innovative, fresh sound that later on became known as the trademark "visual kei sound" so many bands today now boast. The band made their first appearance May 29, , at Machida PLAY HOUSE, playing a small set that immediately began to win over fans with a sound that was unlike anything else in the market at the time. The period of time without public activity was largely attributed to the fact that the band was unsigned, and forced to work in order to pay for the high cost of equipment, studio, and other fees. Such success immediately guaranteed LUNA SEA was one of the hottest, ripest products on the market, waiting to be picked by a major label. The boom of Visual Kei was surging, and the public was just beginning to accept it. The tour took them to 14 stops across the country; all sold out mid-sized concert halls. In many ways, LUNA SEA had become a veritable industry leader by that point in time, pushing forth the Visual Kei revolution and helping to set the pace along with their predecessors for would-be hopeful arrivals to the industry. Perhaps this was but one of many factors that helped propel them up the charts and the ladder of success, with their third album, MOTHER, debuting at No. By , Japan was settled in a LUNA SEA fever, with every release flying off the racks and topping the charts, in tandem with sold out venues across the country in a stop, performance tour. From a small high school band playing at tiny clubs in Kanagawa to selling one of the largest concert venues in Japan, LUNA SEA had come a long way, clawing and tearing their way to the very top of the music industry, amassing an enormous following; and they were hardly slowing down. Unlike many artists who become content once they have achieved the height of success, languishing in the spotlight and enjoying their new A-listing celebrity status, LUNA SEA revved up their engines to work even harder than before. It was at the final stop on their tour, at Yokohama Stadium, to an audience of 40,, that LUNA SEA would announce a one-year hiatus for the members to work on solo projects. Few artists have made such risky moves and actually succeed. While their Japanese fanbase continued to grow, the rate of their success was predictable: Fans would wait for days in advance to secure their first copy of releases, lest it sell out before they could get their hands on a copy. The risks involved in such a tour prompted a considerable amount of criticism from Japanese press and industry experts before they embarked upon it, especially in consideration of the fact that even on the day of the concerts, they were unaware of how many tickets had been sold, or how large the audience would be when they stepped on stage. Essentially, this tour was a gamble on faith alone, and belief that there were fans out there, who wanted to see them live. They hear the opening tune, and they cheer. And this is what we wanted. How will the audiences react to us? We should normally know that! If we do the best we can do today, I think our live can impress the audience enough to tell their friends that it was a great live! Most people know about us. We wanted to keep it no matter how long we continue this band. We want to make everyone, including ourselves, happy. It makes me look forward to the future. However, as expected of "The Band that Invites Storms," a typhoon happened to strike Japan on May 27, , two days before the live was originally scheduled. One could only imagine what the experience was like; the exhilaration of being part of such a

historical event; the surprise at the way the stage looked, with metal tumbled into a disjointed, fragmented work of postmodern art, rising skeletal behind the shell of its substitute, shattered equipment, gear, and wires still hanging from their original positions. The millennium began with yet another live event that was broadcasted to several Asian countries, this time, at Zepp Tokyo whose small capacity resulted in tens of thousands of fans lining up outside the event hall in hopes of catching an errant note or overhearing the wail of a guitar despite being unable to attend the actual event itself. Such a move was unheard of in the Japanese music industry, and virtually no artist in the industry had ever attempted such an event before. We wanted to do what we used to do when we were in live houses. We wondered, "What if we perform new songs as a live band? But on November 8, , the scheduled release date of their newest single, in an unexpected twist of events, LUNA SEA called an emergency press conference in Hong Kong which created a frenzy at airports when scores of Japanese press had to rush to Hong Kong. Even from here on out. To everyone close to meâ€¦ I love you so much. How was this a "positive answer? As fifty thousand fans joined with LUNA SEA in a final jump that rattled the heart of the dome, and the hearts of both the band and their fans, another chapter in rock and roll had come to an end. Seven years after the drawing of the final curtain, the newest incarnation of their official website, lunaseagodblessyou.

8: Oddee - Oddities, Weird stuff, Strange things of our world.

"A Strange Game" by Daniel Lovat Clark "Dextre's Price" by Nate French From the looks of things, FFG isn't going to be slowing down expanding the fiction of this universe either.

9: The Faery Folklorist: The Sea-Gods of Iona & Mull

7 Strange Coincidences that Actually Happened! What some people call weird coincidences others call "Synchronicity." Here are seven incredible stories that might change your view of strange coincidences.

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