

WHAT IS A BIRD?

- They are carriers of heavenly messages.
- They are the embodiment of divine love for humans.
- The fate.
- The flight of imagination.
- The white dove representing the Holy Spirit.
- The soul.
- The redeemed human soul.

Swallow

The harbinger of spring. Symbol of birth and rebirth. In Christianity, it represents Jesus Christ.

Blackbird

The symbol of the devil according to Christian belief.

Nightingale

Symbol of the soul's longing for paradise.

Woodpecker

A bird that makes rain in the Greco-Roman tradition.

Christianity associated it with heresy.

It was also revered as the embodiment of fervent prayer because of its persistent cawing.

Crossbill

According to Christianity, he tried to pull the pin out of Jesus' body.

It is a symbol of Christ's suffering because of its reddish colour.

Great egret

A symbol of purity, pride and nobility.

Goldfinch

In the hands of the child Jesus it's represents his future sufferings.

Eurasian wryneck

The Greeks considered it the sacred bird of the moon and used it for love charms. It was even used in rainmaking rituals.

Parrot

According to Christianity, it represents the Virgin Mary. In the East it is a heroic wise bird and a storyteller.

Magpie

A symbol of alertness, chatter and thievery.

The Chinese consider it a bird of good luck and joy. It is believed to detect and hush up all marital infidelities.

The Romans sacrificed magpies to Bacchus so that the wine would dissolve tongues.

Christians see it as the devil, a thief who seeks to steal the souls of the faithful.

As a prophet bird, it's whispers the death of man.

The English consider it a symbol of evil because it was not in full mourning at the death of Christ (because of it's black and white feathering.)

Sparrow

Symbol of the soul. In the hand of the child Jesus it's refers to the redeemed human soul.

Owl

It is closely connected to the under-, over- and otherworld. Because it sees well in the dark, it is a symbol of hidden knowledge and wisdom. It is a bird of death, but as a soul carrier, it is believed in some places that the owl brings the soul of the unborn child from the otherworld. Among the Celts, it is the bird of the blacksmiths. In Christianity it is synonymous with evil and is considered the bird of witches.

Grey partridge

The embodiment of feminine beauty. The sacred bird of Hera and Aphrodite. At the greeks it is the embodiment of evil. In the Christian tradition, it is a symbol of damnation, a the figure of the devil.

Common quail

Symbol of the southern sky and fire in China. During their wanderings in the wilderness, the Jews were fed with manna and quails by God. Quails may also have been symbols of love, loyalty and lust.

Pigeon

Soul symbol. It is the bird of Aphrodite, the goddess of love, and it has been associated with lust. Christians identify it with the soul of God. Symbol of peace.

Goose

Symbol of the water and the soul, but also a solar symbol - unlike other water birds. In ancient Egypt it represented the souls of kings. According to popular belief, the ghost, the wraith and the witch can also appear in the form of a goose. For the Romans it is a symbol of vigilance. It is also an essential element in the legends of Saint Martin.

Peacock

A symbol of wholeness and immortality. Its outstretched tail symbolises the starry sky and the universe. In China it is a symbol of dignity and beauty. It represents the immortal soul. Its flesh is imperishable, making it a symbol of eternal life. It is a symbol of vanity, pride, eternal love and a messenger of love.

Pelican

A symbol of self-sacrifice and parental love. The legends say that the pelican slit its chest with its beak to feed its young with its own blood and flesh.

Eagle

Symbol of divine power and the sun. The bird of light and enlightenment, able to fly all the way to the sun. The bird of thunder, perched at the top of the world's trees, and the enemy of creatures living among the roots. In Greek mythology, Zeus, the chief god, often takes the form of an eagle. In the Judeo-Christian tradition, it is a symbol of the resurrection. The eagle and the fish held in its talons are a combined symbol of Christ, who flies the souls of believers to heaven. The totem animal of the peoples of the prairie/steppe/puszta. In folk tradition, the name of the doorpost's wood is „sasfa” – means „eagle-tree”.

Stork

An unclean animal in the Old Testament, but Christianity sees it as the conqueror of evil. A symbol of wisdom, piety and purity.

Swan

Symbolizes loneliness, wisdom, purity, death, rebirth and poetry. It is not hunted or eaten for its meat by most peoples. In European mythology it is the bird of the afterlife, and the bird of death.

Falcon

Symbol of the Egyptian sun god, Ra.

Crow

Symbol of mourning, misfortune and death. The devil's and witch's companion. Considered by some Native American tribes and some Asian peoples to be the companion of the Creator (God). In China it is a symbol of infant death. It appears as a "messenger" in Greek and Germanic mythology. In the Judeo-Christian tradition it appears as a messenger of God. The Moldavian csángó people sometimes call the devil "hollu".

Kingfisher

Symbol of rebirth and resurrection. In Christianity, it refers to the motherhood of the Virgin Mary, and its colourful feathers bear the colours of Mary.

Duck

In the myths of many Siberian peoples, the duck helps for the Lord of the Upper World in the creation. A Russian myth depicts God and Satan as a white and a black duck. In China, a pair of ducks symbolizes spiritual unity and the happiness of the spouses.

Rooster

A symbol of resurrection, vigilance and the measurement of time. In China it was painted on the walls of houses to protect against fire. Symbol of birth, rebirth and sexual potency. According to Hungarian folklore, dead people can come back in the form of a rooster. In Islamic culture, the white rooster is the bird of the Prophet.

Cuckoo

Symbol of rebirth. According to Hungarian folklore, it is a fortuneteller bird, that predicts how many years a person will live.

Eggs

The symbol of the cosmos. A female symbol. The hemispherical part of the Buddhist stupa is called „the egg”. Symbol of the spring renewal of nature and rebirth. In the past centuries eggs were placed in graves as grave goods next to the dead. In Christianity, it represents Christ. It can also be a means of achieving malevolent, magical power.

Feather

A symbol of belonging to the divine world, a symbol of celestial power. On the four corners of the canopy of European monarchs and the Pope, feathers symbolise the celestial power that extends over the whole earth. According to popular belief, the feather hidden in the linen („dunyha” in hungarian) was used as a curse.