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00:00:00,000 --> 00:00:14,360

The freezing cold waters of Loch Ness are deep, dark, and home to a monstrous mystery.

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00:00:14,360 --> 00:00:21,720

People claim to have spotted it thousands of times. Locals, tourists, even a saint.

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00:00:21,720 --> 00:00:24,560

But what are they seeing?

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00:00:24,560 --> 00:00:32,560

Frightening, fascinating. Some say it's even been caught on film, but it's never been captured by nets.

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00:00:32,560 --> 00:00:37,560

Is there really a terrifying beast alive deep in this mysterious Scottish lake?

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00:00:37,560 --> 00:00:41,560

Or does it just exist in our imaginations?

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00:00:45,560 --> 00:00:51,560

The Loch Ness Monster is coming for you. Next on Truth or Scare.

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00:00:55,560 --> 00:00:59,560

The Loch Ness Monster is coming for you.

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00:00:59,560 --> 00:01:04,560

The Loch Ness Monster is coming for you. Next on Truth or Scare.

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00:01:24,560 --> 00:01:30,560

North of England, in Scotland, a huge mysterious creature lives in a remote lake.

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They call it the Loch Ness Monster.

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But is it just a story? Over 3,000 people claim they've seen the monster with their own eyes.

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00:01:39,560 --> 00:01:44,560

But non-believers say that's just not enough evidence to prove it exists.

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00:01:44,560 --> 00:01:48,560

Who's right? There's only one way to find out.

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00:01:49,560 --> 00:01:57,560

Visit the Highlands of Scotland and head straight for the most mysterious lake in history.

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00:01:57,560 --> 00:02:00,560

Loch Ness.

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00:02:02,560 --> 00:02:08,560

But could a lake really be hiding a secret as gigantic as the monster some called Nessy?

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00:02:11,560 --> 00:02:17,560

This lake could. It's 24 miles long and 800 feet deep.

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00:02:18,560 --> 00:02:24,560

That's deep enough to put a 50-story building completely under water.

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00:02:24,560 --> 00:02:27,560

So who knows what could be living down there.

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00:02:27,560 --> 00:02:34,560

The mystery started about 1,500 years ago when a travelling monk got off of his life.

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00:02:34,560 --> 00:02:39,560

The year was 565 AD.

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00:02:39,560 --> 00:02:47,560

St Colomba, a holy man who was wandering the British Isles, stopped to pray at the edge of Loch Ness.

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00:02:47,560 --> 00:02:54,560

Suddenly, he claimed that something like a long-necked horse came rising out of the waves.

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00:02:54,560 --> 00:03:01,560

The monk was terrified. He held up a cross almost like he was fighting a vampire and yelled,

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00:03:01,560 --> 00:03:06,560

Stop! Go thou no further, nor touch man.

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00:03:06,560 --> 00:03:15,560

Then, according to the story, the monster backed off and dove back down into the cold, dark water.

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00:03:16,560 --> 00:03:21,560

Since then, plenty of other people claim to have seen things in the lake.

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00:03:21,560 --> 00:03:28,560

Things that convince them the monster is still there, alive and well after all these years.

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00:03:30,560 --> 00:03:35,560

In 1933, one shocking news story got the whole world wondering.

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00:03:35,560 --> 00:03:40,560

A British newspaper reported giant footprints on the shore of the Loch.

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00:03:40,560 --> 00:03:48,560

A big game hunter named Marmaduke Weatherill said he'd found the prince, and the newspaper took it from there.

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00:03:48,560 --> 00:03:52,560

If it were true, it would have been the biggest story of the century,

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00:03:52,560 --> 00:03:58,560

and scientists from the British Museum of Natural History rushed out to examine the evidence.

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00:03:58,560 --> 00:04:05,560

Their conclusion? The footprints were proof positive of a hoax.

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00:04:05,560 --> 00:04:13,560

It turns out Marmaduke was playing a prank. The prints in the sand were made with a stuffed hippopotamus foot.

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But just because one story is fiction, doesn't mean other reports can't be true.

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00:04:19,560 --> 00:04:27,560

Only one year later, monster hunters everywhere got what some say was the first good look at Nessie.

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00:04:27,560 --> 00:04:34,560

On April 19, 1934, Dr. Robert Wilson went hiking with a friend around Loch Ness.

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00:04:34,560 --> 00:04:43,560

It's a good thing the doctor brought his camera, because according to him, this was the day that the monster decided to come up for air.

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00:04:46,560 --> 00:04:54,560

Dr. Wilson couldn't believe his eyes. He took pictures as fast as he could, and hoped that just one of them would turn out well.

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00:04:55,560 --> 00:04:57,560

He got his wish.

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00:04:58,560 --> 00:05:04,560

And there it is, in black and white, a long neck coming up from the deep.

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00:05:04,560 --> 00:05:07,560

Monster, head and all.

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00:05:08,560 --> 00:05:12,560

Finally, proof that the stories about the monster were true.

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00:05:12,560 --> 00:05:17,560

But many still weren't convinced. They claimed the picture was a fake.

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00:05:17,560 --> 00:05:27,560

And in recent years, a reliable source released information claiming that the famous surgeon's photo was nothing more than a piece of carved wood on top of a toy submarine.

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At the center of the prank was none other than famed Nessie hoaxer, Amaduke Wetherill.

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It was starting to look like the only way to prove that Nessie existed was to go get her.

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00:05:41,560 --> 00:05:50,560

Although the monster seemed to stay well hidden for decades, by the 1960s, scientists were also starting to get interested in Nessie.

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00:05:51,560 --> 00:05:57,560

Tim Dinsdale was one of the first researchers to lead an all-out expedition into the unknown.

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00:05:58,560 --> 00:06:02,560

He loaded up his movie camera and hit the shores of Loch Ness.

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00:06:02,560 --> 00:06:07,560

People wanted hard evidence that the monster existed, and Tim believed he could get it.

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00:06:08,560 --> 00:06:13,560

On April 23rd, 1960, he says he did just that.

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00:06:15,560 --> 00:06:21,560

That day, Tim saw a strange shape was moving across the lake, and he was ready for it.

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00:06:21,560 --> 00:06:26,560

He followed the unbelievable sight with his camera, capturing it on film forever.

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00:06:28,560 --> 00:06:33,560

It stopped, turned, and then swam off to the other side of the lake.

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00:06:33,560 --> 00:06:39,560

Is this in fact the head of the monster as it swims away, or just another hoax?

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00:06:45,560 --> 00:06:52,560

The world's greatest monster hunter gets real deep as he searches for answers on the bottom of the lake.

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00:06:56,560 --> 00:06:58,560

Next on Truth or Scare.

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00:07:04,560 --> 00:07:09,560

The World's Greatest Monster Hunter

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00:07:11,560 --> 00:07:15,560

Reports come in all the time about strange sightings in the lake.

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00:07:15,560 --> 00:07:19,560

But sightings of what? Exactly.

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00:07:21,560 --> 00:07:27,560

Plenty of people want to uncover the truth about Loch Ness, but who's brave enough to go looking for it?

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00:07:27,560 --> 00:07:30,560

Real-life monster hunters, that too.

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00:07:33,560 --> 00:07:37,560

Dr. Robert Reins is president of the Academy of Applied Science.

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As a cryptozoologist, Dr. Reins studies mythical creatures, and just happens to be the world's foremost expert on the Loch Ness monster.

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00:07:46,560 --> 00:07:51,560

And for him, there's no doubt about it. The monster exists.

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00:07:51,560 --> 00:07:55,560

But Dr. Reins doesn't just rely on photographic evidence.

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00:07:55,560 --> 00:08:02,560

He claims that when he was visiting a friend at the lake, he saw the monster with his own eyes.

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00:08:02,560 --> 00:08:06,560

Basil went out to get his pipe, and he says,

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00:08:06,560 --> 00:08:10,560

Oh, I say that can't be an upturned boat.

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00:08:10,560 --> 00:08:14,560

And we all rushed out of the living room.

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00:08:14,560 --> 00:08:20,560

We grabbed binoculars, and there we saw a big bat of an animal.

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00:08:21,560 --> 00:08:26,560

An animal he'd never seen before, about 25 feet long.

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00:08:26,560 --> 00:08:33,560

For more than 10 minutes, he stared through his binoculars at the lake, watching the monster's surface,

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00:08:33,560 --> 00:08:38,560

and then disappear again under the freezing waves.

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After experiencing the monster for himself, Dr. Reins realized that the Loch Ness monster could be one of the most important discoveries of our time.

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00:08:49,560 --> 00:08:57,560

So Dr. Reins decided to prove once and for all that the mysterious Loch Ness monster was a lie.

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00:08:57,560 --> 00:09:00,560

It was 1970.

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00:09:00,560 --> 00:09:06,560

Dr. Reins put together a team of specialists and experienced deep sea divers,

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00:09:06,560 --> 00:09:11,560

and led them down into the unknown of Loch Ness.

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00:09:11,560 --> 00:09:15,560

To find the monster, they needed state-of-the-art technology,

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00:09:15,560 --> 00:09:19,560

so the team's boat was equipped with strobe lights and sonar.

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The waters of Loch Ness are dark and murky, the perfect hiding place for a monster.

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00:09:25,560 --> 00:09:32,560

So Dr. Reins used the sonar equipment to send sound waves out into the deep waters.

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00:09:32,560 --> 00:09:39,560

Then, using the echoes they made, he could actually take pictures in total darkness.

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00:09:39,560 --> 00:09:43,560

Unfortunately, the 1970 mission failed.

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00:09:43,560 --> 00:09:46,560

No sightings or pictures of Nessie.

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00:09:46,560 --> 00:09:52,560

But just two years later, Dr. Reins gave it another shot.

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00:09:52,560 --> 00:10:00,560

1972, the middle of a clear August night, the monster hunters had just lowered their cameras into the lake.

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00:10:00,560 --> 00:10:04,560

All of a sudden, fished out of the jump, out of the water,

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00:10:04,560 --> 00:10:08,560

and by golly, that was the extraordinary luck we had that year.

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00:10:08,560 --> 00:10:14,560

We got a number of those pictures of big animals or parts of animals.

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00:10:14,560 --> 00:10:19,560

The pictures weren't clear at first, but by using special photo techniques,

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00:10:19,560 --> 00:10:25,560

he managed to clean up the pictures and revealed an unbelievable image.

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00:10:25,560 --> 00:10:29,560

It was the shape of a huge diamond-shaped flipper.

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00:10:29,560 --> 00:10:36,560

It was the kind of evidence Dr. Reins had always hoped for, and now it looked like he finally had it.

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00:10:36,560 --> 00:10:41,560

Think of it, flipper, like a hannie, and he went from four to six feet long,

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00:10:41,560 --> 00:10:46,560

and that's a pretty big animal that has a flipper like that.

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00:10:46,560 --> 00:10:53,560

It looked like the kind of flipper that used to be on underwater dinosaurs called plesiosauce,

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00:10:53,560 --> 00:10:58,560

which we're told were dead 65 million years ago.

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00:10:58,560 --> 00:11:02,560

So the mystery deepens.

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00:11:02,560 --> 00:11:07,560

Extinct for millions of years, or alive and well in Scotland.

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00:11:07,560 --> 00:11:14,560

If he was right, the doctor's discovery would be truly historic, but it was just one blurry photo.

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00:11:14,560 --> 00:11:20,560

Then, a few years later, in 1975, another photo was taken,

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00:11:20,560 --> 00:11:25,560

and this one looked like the whole body of a plesiosaur.

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00:11:25,560 --> 00:11:32,560

This is the publication in Nature magazine scientific journal showing the body,

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00:11:32,560 --> 00:11:44,560

the long neck, the head, and the mouth, which has the shape of an elasmus auras or a plesiosaur.

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00:11:44,560 --> 00:11:48,560

Was this the answer to thousands of sightings over the years?

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00:11:48,560 --> 00:11:51,560

There's only one way to find out.

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00:11:57,560 --> 00:12:03,560

Prehistoric monsters come back to life, and the mystery of Loch Ness gets even bigger.

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00:12:07,560 --> 00:12:10,560

Next on Truth or Scare.

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00:12:19,560 --> 00:12:25,560

The most famous lake in Scotland is home to legendary stories,

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00:12:25,560 --> 00:12:30,560

and maybe even a monster straight out of the age of dinosaurs.

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Plesiosaurs haven't been seen alive for over 60 million years,

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00:12:35,560 --> 00:12:42,560

but some monster hunters claim one of these ancient marine reptiles is living in Loch Ness.

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00:12:43,560 --> 00:12:49,560

At the end of the Mesozoic Age, the Earth was totally dominated by the dinosaurs,

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00:12:49,560 --> 00:12:53,560

but the oceans were ruled by the plesiosaurs.

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00:12:53,560 --> 00:12:59,560

This was 70 million years ago, way before evolution started working on humans.

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00:12:59,560 --> 00:13:04,560

Fast forward to the modern world, and humans are all over the place.

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00:13:05,560 --> 00:13:10,560

But to see a plesiosaur, you've got to check out the Natural History Museum.

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00:13:10,560 --> 00:13:13,560

Does marinosaurus look familiar?

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00:13:13,560 --> 00:13:18,560

Way back when it lived in the Pacific Ocean along the coast of California.

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00:13:18,560 --> 00:13:20,560

But don't call it a fish.

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00:13:20,560 --> 00:13:26,560

Paleontologists know that plesiosaurs, like this one, were water-loving reptiles.

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00:13:26,560 --> 00:13:30,560

But the fact that they were born in the Pacific Ocean,

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00:13:30,560 --> 00:13:36,560

they know that plesiosaurs, like this one, were water-loving reptiles, like crocodiles.

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00:13:36,560 --> 00:13:40,560

And their swimming skills came from giant flippers.

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00:13:40,560 --> 00:13:43,560

Now do you recognize marinosaurus?

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00:13:43,560 --> 00:13:48,560

Some say it looks a lot like Dr. Ryan's photo.

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00:13:48,560 --> 00:13:50,560

And guess what?

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00:13:50,560 --> 00:13:53,560

Plesiosaurs sometimes had to come up for air,

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00:13:53,560 --> 00:13:59,560

which would explain why there have been so many sightings at the surface of Loch Ness.

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00:13:59,560 --> 00:14:04,560

But how in the world could an ancient sea creature still be alive today?

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00:14:04,560 --> 00:14:07,560

It wouldn't be the first time.

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00:14:07,560 --> 00:14:15,560

Not too long ago, some fishermen off the coast of South Africa caught a fish called a silo-canth.

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00:14:15,560 --> 00:14:19,560

Only one problem. The silo-canth was extinct.

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00:14:19,560 --> 00:14:21,560

Or that's what everyone thought.

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00:14:21,560 --> 00:14:28,560

But paleontologists know that once in a while, animals from the ancient past can, in a way,

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00:14:28,560 --> 00:14:30,560

come back to life.

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00:14:30,560 --> 00:14:35,560

Dr. J.D. Stewart is an expert at the Natural History Museum in Los Angeles.

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00:14:35,560 --> 00:14:37,560

Silo-canth is a good example.

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00:14:37,560 --> 00:14:40,560

Now in that case, we didn't know that they were alive.

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00:14:40,560 --> 00:14:44,560

We knew 150 years ago that we knew them as fossils.

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00:14:44,560 --> 00:14:48,560

And it wasn't until about 50 years ago that we found out they were still alive.

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00:14:48,560 --> 00:14:50,560

And that was quite remarkable.

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00:14:50,560 --> 00:14:57,560

And Dr. Stewart says there are also still plenty of new species in the ocean, just waiting to be discovered.

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00:14:57,560 --> 00:14:59,560

Emery Kristoff agrees.

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00:14:59,560 --> 00:15:05,560

He's an underwater photographer, and he thinks we've only just begun to see what's lurking near the ocean floor.

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00:15:05,560 --> 00:15:10,560

I think it's very fair comment that we know more about the backside of the moon than we do about the bottom of the ocean.

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00:15:10,560 --> 00:15:16,560

This is the water planet. We have maybe looked at 1% of the bottom of the ocean right now.

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00:15:16,560 --> 00:15:19,560

And what about the bottom of Loch Ness?

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00:15:19,560 --> 00:15:22,560

It's 800 feet below the surface.

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00:15:22,560 --> 00:15:29,560

Is it hiding an ancient reptile? Or maybe even a totally new undiscovered species?

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00:15:29,560 --> 00:15:33,560

A dive to the bottom of Loch Ness would be nothing to Emery.

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00:15:33,560 --> 00:15:36,560

He's gone as deep as 6,000 feet.

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00:15:36,560 --> 00:15:41,560

Way down there, he's seen new kinds of sharks that no one's even heard of.

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00:15:41,560 --> 00:15:43,560

Big ones.

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00:15:43,560 --> 00:15:47,560

The largest meat-eating sharks, you don't see them.

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00:15:47,560 --> 00:15:50,560

Down there, it's 4,000 and 6,000 feet.

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00:15:50,560 --> 00:15:53,560

Those sharks in the deep ocean would make a great white look like a guppy.

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00:15:53,560 --> 00:16:00,560

Emery's run into sharks as big as 28 feet, as long as a school bus.

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00:16:00,560 --> 00:16:02,560

Pretty terrifying.

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00:16:02,560 --> 00:16:07,560

But back in their day, plesiosaurus ate sharks like fish sticks.

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00:16:07,560 --> 00:16:11,560

Plesiosaurus teeth were deadly weapons.

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00:16:11,560 --> 00:16:15,560

They were designed to close and lock down on all victims.

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00:16:15,560 --> 00:16:19,560

Get bitten and there was no escape.

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00:16:19,560 --> 00:16:24,560

So if Nessie is a prehistoric predator, we know one thing.

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00:16:24,560 --> 00:16:30,560

There would have to be tons of fish in the murky depths of Loch Ness for it to survive all this time.

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00:16:30,560 --> 00:16:35,560

Emery Kristof says the lake is filled with a fish called arctic char,

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00:16:35,560 --> 00:16:38,560

which would be just fine with a plesiosaur.

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00:16:38,560 --> 00:16:43,560

There are enough arctic char in Loch Ness to really defeat any number of large animals.

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00:16:43,560 --> 00:16:47,560

And that is the basis for a food chain.

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00:16:47,560 --> 00:16:49,560

Is science getting closer to an answer?

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00:16:49,560 --> 00:16:53,560

Is the ancient Scottish lake really a plesiosaurus playground?

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00:16:53,560 --> 00:16:57,560

Or is the legend of Loch Ness just sucking more people in?

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00:17:03,560 --> 00:17:07,560

Emery Kristof explores the bottom of Loch Ness in search of the truth

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00:17:07,560 --> 00:17:11,560

and barely escapes with the scare of his life.

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00:17:14,560 --> 00:17:18,560

Next on Truth or Scare

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00:17:31,560 --> 00:17:36,560

Witnesses have been telling stories about the Loch Ness monster since the Middle Ages.

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00:17:36,560 --> 00:17:38,560

Could they be true?

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00:17:38,560 --> 00:17:40,560

Could Nessie actually be real?

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00:17:40,560 --> 00:17:44,560

Or were people just seeing what they wanted to see?

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00:17:46,560 --> 00:17:50,560

That's exactly what Emery Kristof thinks happened with Dr. Ryan's picture.

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00:17:50,560 --> 00:17:56,560

I think that the camera actually in some bad weather was dragged on the bottom

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00:17:56,560 --> 00:18:00,560

and the camera fell down on the side of the shooting sideways on the bottom.

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00:18:00,560 --> 00:18:07,560

It looks like it's a pebbly brown and it looks to me like the bottom of the lake.

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00:18:08,560 --> 00:18:13,560

Emery has been a deep sea photographer for years, so he knows his stuff.

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00:18:13,560 --> 00:18:20,560

If this picture is just the bottom of the lake, well, then maybe there's no monster after all.

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00:18:20,560 --> 00:18:26,560

According to him, there could be other explanations for all the best photographs of Nessie.

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00:18:26,560 --> 00:18:30,560

When a boat goes by, it leaves ripples in the water called awake.

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00:18:30,560 --> 00:18:34,560

He believes those ripples are the humps that people see.

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00:18:35,560 --> 00:18:38,560

But when Emery went diving in the lake to check it out for himself,

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00:18:38,560 --> 00:18:43,560

he did get a creepy feeling, a feeling that he had company.

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00:18:43,560 --> 00:18:47,560

You're waiting for something to tap you on the shoulder back here.

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00:18:47,560 --> 00:18:50,560

I mean, it was very spooky. It was very spooky diving.

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00:18:50,560 --> 00:18:54,560

Ralph White knows exactly what Emery's talking about.

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00:18:54,560 --> 00:18:58,560

He still remembers the night he was diving in Loch Ness with Emery.

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00:18:58,560 --> 00:19:01,560

The night they almost didn't make it back to shore.

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00:19:01,560 --> 00:19:07,560

I think the spookiest we ever got at Loch Ness was very late one night,

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00:19:07,560 --> 00:19:11,560

and everybody was real apprehentious about going into Loch Ness at night,

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00:19:11,560 --> 00:19:13,560

which is the normal feeding time for most animals.

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00:19:13,560 --> 00:19:20,560

When I flipped off the boat, I remember going underwater and it was pitch black.

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00:19:21,560 --> 00:19:24,560

Suddenly, Ralph and Emery were hit.

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00:19:24,560 --> 00:19:29,560

Hit by something powerful enough to knock off their diving masks.

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00:19:30,560 --> 00:19:34,560

They had it straight for the surface, terrified that they wouldn't make it.

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00:19:34,560 --> 00:19:36,560

What was it?

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00:19:36,560 --> 00:19:40,560

Luckily, they got a photograph of the attacker.

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00:19:40,560 --> 00:19:44,560

At last, evidence of Loch Ness's historic secret.

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00:19:45,560 --> 00:19:46,560

Or not.

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00:19:46,560 --> 00:19:50,560

It turned out to be nothing but an eel.

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00:19:50,560 --> 00:19:53,560

Emery isn't giving up hope, though.

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00:19:53,560 --> 00:19:54,560

It could be hibernating.

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00:19:54,560 --> 00:19:57,560

I mean, it may have gone south to Florida.

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00:19:57,560 --> 00:20:01,560

There's all sorts of things that just because you don't see it for a few years,

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00:20:01,560 --> 00:20:03,560

that doesn't mean that maybe it has a sleep cycle.

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00:20:04,560 --> 00:20:07,560

And the other experts are right there with him.

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00:20:07,560 --> 00:20:13,560

Paleontologist J.D. Stewart is looking forward to seeing his favorite monster again.

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00:20:13,560 --> 00:20:22,560

I think that as long as people continue to report unidentified animals in Loch Ness,

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00:20:22,560 --> 00:20:26,560

I think the search for Nessie should continue.

222

00:20:27,560 --> 00:20:32,560

And the most famous monster hunter of them all is getting ready for another deep safari.

223

00:20:32,560 --> 00:20:34,560

Because as big as Loch Ness is,

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00:20:34,560 --> 00:20:40,560

Dr. Reigns believes there's always plenty of room for this shy monster to hide.

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00:20:40,560 --> 00:20:45,560

And probably just as much room for our imaginations to run wild.

226

00:20:46,560 --> 00:20:52,560

Could thousands of witnesses for almost 1,500 years just be seeing things they want to see?

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00:20:52,560 --> 00:20:55,560

Or is the Loch Ness monster real?

228

00:20:55,560 --> 00:21:01,560

Could it be a totally new animal species, or maybe a link from Earth's prehistoric past?

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00:21:01,560 --> 00:21:04,560

Unfortunately, we're not much closer to an answer

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00:21:04,560 --> 00:21:09,560

than the day Saint Columba claims he saw something in the waters of Loch Ness.

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00:21:09,560 --> 00:21:13,560

And anytime the truth is this, Merky, be careful.

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00:21:13,560 --> 00:21:16,560

You might just find a good scare anywhere.