

Scary Creatures

第38回 English Extravaganza(Rebecca 先生放送原稿) Fri. October 20, 2017

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Hi everyone! Welcome back to another English Extravaganza! This week, I will tell you about popular Halloween monsters and other scary creatures.

The most popular spooky (薄気味悪い) Halloween character is probably the witch. Today, we think of witches wearing a black dress, a pointy black hat, and sometimes have green skin and a warty (いぼのある) nose. They used plants and animals for medicine and potion. However, they were demonized (悪魔にされた) by Christianity and many women were killed because they were accused of (非難された) being a witch. In the U.S., there was a famous witch hunt in the city of Salem, Massachusetts, called the Salem Witch Trials.

Another popular monster is the werewolf. Werewolves are normal people until the night of a full moon when they change into a wolf-looking beast. When there was a murder that could not be explained, it was blamed on a werewolf. Because of this, werewolves were hunted like witches.

Vampires are another popular Halloween creature. Vampires live by drinking blood. They can change into bats but can only come outside at night because they will die in sunlight. A vampire can only enter a house when they are invited. The story comes from eastern Europe because of a man named Vlad the Impaler. Vlad was a prince who killed about 80,000 people by impaling (突き刺す) them on spikes (大くぎ). His story started the legend of Dracula and other vampires.

Frankenstein is a more recent (最近の) addition to the Halloween creatures. The story of Frankenstein first started as a book written in the 1800's. The author, Mary Shelley, and her friends were stuck (動けなくなった) in a house for several days because of a storm. They decided to pass the time by telling each other stories and so the story of Frankenstein was born. I really enjoyed the book. I think you should read it, too! Well, that's all for this time. See you next week!