



Spectacular Stories for Curious Kids

An Official Statement on Mermaids



We live in an amazing world. We can fly long distances, even without wings. We can stay underwater for hours, even without gills. We can prolong our lives with medicine and healthy food. But what would make this earth of ours truly magical?



Finding proof of fairies, unicorns, mermaids or other mythical creatures. When Animal Planet aired a film set up like a documentary called Mermaids: The Body Found and then a year later, Mermaids: The New Evidence, everyone went wild because these shows claimed there was proof that mermaids really exist!



Unfortunately, it wasn't true. Although the movies were seen by millions of viewers, most of them missed the disclaimer at the beginning (which was shown for less than a minute), which explained that the following program was just science-fiction based on a scientific theory.



They based their “findings” on the so-called Aquatic Ape Theory, which is exactly what it sounds like. This controversial theory suggests that some of our ancestors were developed in such a way that allowed them to spend more and more time underwater.



They eventually substituted legs for a fish tail, all because of the necessity to find food. While most of our ancestors retreated from the water, these guys just went deeper becoming full ocean inhabitants.



The first video opened up with a supposed mermaid sighting in 2009, when someone shot a grainy cellphone video of a mermaid-like creature perched on the rocks before it quickly slithered back into the water.



What followed in the first and second videos were interviews with biologists and other scientists, as well as video material taken underwater, with what seemed to be the actual footage of real live mermaids!



It was amazing and so real looking that you wouldn't doubt it for a single second. The whole world bought it, hook, like and sinker.



As you'd imagine, the internet blew up. People were ecstatic about this! It seemed that the whole world, young and old, were just waiting for definitive proof of mermaids. But as the excitement built, an official explanation needed to be released.



The show's executive producer explained why they made this pretend documentary. "We wanted people to approach the story with a sense of possibility and sense of wonder."



The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration put out an official statement on the website (just in case): "Mermaids: The New Evidence is just entertainment. No evidence of aquatic humanoids has ever been found."

Still, don't let this stifle your belief. If they were real, mermaids wouldn't want to be found by humans anyway, right?





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