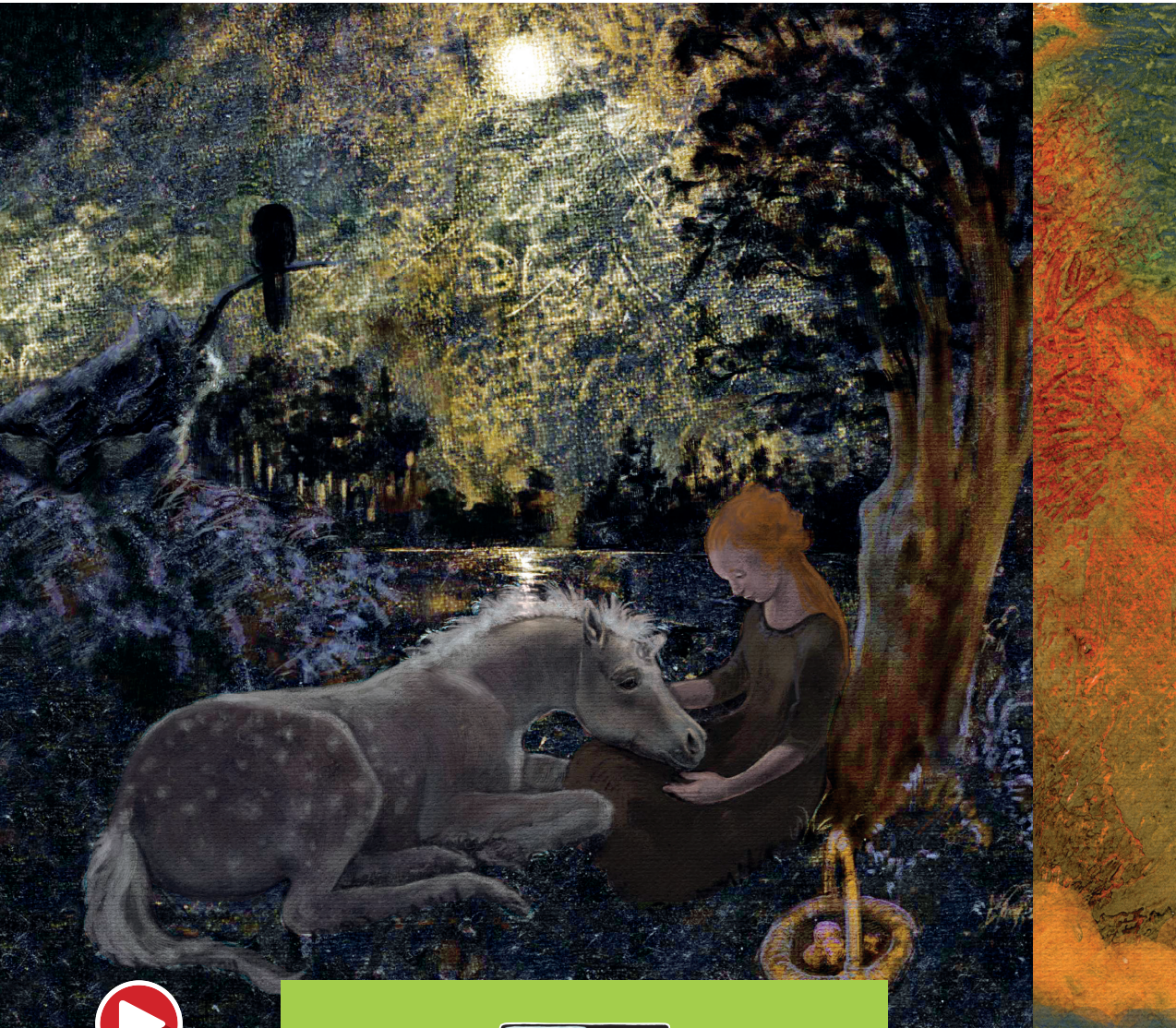




Legends from the British Isles



free Audiobook



Legends from the British Isles



Illustrated by Lucia Mattioli

Retold by Deborah Meyers

Activities by Eleanor Donaldson



Editor: Michela Bruzzo
Design and art direction: Nadia Maestri
Computer graphics: Simona Corniola
Picture research: Laura Lagomarsino

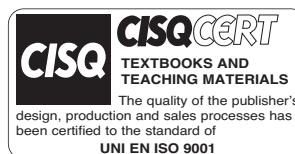
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We would be happy to receive your comments and suggestions, and give you any other information concerning our material.
info@blackcat-cideb.com
blackcat-cideb.com



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The CD contains an audio section (the recording of the text) and a CD-ROM section (additional fun games and activities that practise the four skills).

- To listen to the recording, insert the CD into your CD player and it will play as normal. You can also listen to the recording on your computer, by opening your usual CD player program.
- If you put the CD directly into the CD-ROM drive, the software will open automatically.

SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS for CD-ROM

PC:

- Pentium III processor
- Windows 98, 2000 or XP
- 64 Mb RAM (128Mb RAM recommended)
- 800x600 screen resolution 16 bit
- 12X CD-ROM drive
- Audio card with speakers or headphones

Macintosh:


- Power PC G3 or above (G4 recommended)
- Mac OS 10.1.5
- 128 Mb RAM free for the application

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Special Features:

 KET-style activities	13, 22, 23, 24, 36, 41, 42, 48, 55, 56, 64, 72, 74, 84, 86, 92, 93
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The text is recorded in full.



These symbols indicate the beginning and end of the extracts linked to the listening activities.

Introduction: the British Isles



Before you read the legends from the British Isles let's do some  geography.

Look at the map. Britain, sometimes called Great Britain, is the name for the big island on the right and most of the small islands near it. It includes Scotland, Wales and England. The island on the left is Ireland: about 80% is the Republic of Ireland and about 20% is Northern Ireland.

The two islands of Britain and Ireland, and all the smaller islands near them – there are more than 6,000! – are often called the British Isles ('isle' means 'island'). But remember that people in the Republic of Ireland don't usually say 'the British Isles': they talk about Britain and Ireland.

There are two different states in these islands. The United Kingdom ¹ of Great Britain and Northern Ireland includes England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland. This is a lot to say! So people often say 'the United Kingdom', 'the UK', 'Great Britain' or just 'Britain'. The adjective is 'British' and its flag ² is the Union Flag, often called the Union Jack. The other state is the Republic of Ireland. The adjective is 'Irish' and its flag is a tricolour.

At the time of the legends in this book (about 450 to 1000) the United Kingdom didn't exist. England, Scotland, Wales and Ireland were geographical areas, but most of the time there wasn't one single king in each country.

Now let's do some history. More than 2,000 years ago, a Greek writer called the people of the British Isles 'Priteni'. Because of this name, the Romans gave the name 'Britannia' to the island on the right. The Romans invaded ³ it in the year 43 and left in about 450. The area that is now England and Wales became part of the Roman Empire, but Scotland and Ireland didn't.

After the Romans left, people called Angles and Saxons from the north of Europe invaded 'Britannia'. Perhaps a leader fought against the invaders, and the legend of King Arthur was born. But no one could stop the Angles and Saxons, who stayed in what is now England: 'England' means 'land of the Angles'.

In 1066 Normans, people from the north of France, invaded England. In the 13th century they invaded Wales: Wales later was united ⁴ with England. In 1603, a king of Scotland, James, became king of England, too: he was called the 'King of Great Britain'.

Ireland was united with Great Britain in 1800. But the Irish people always wanted to be independent and in 1921, after fighting, it became

1. **kingdom** : a country with a king or queen.

2. **flag** :



3. **invaded** : entered by force, with an army.

4. **united** : put together with. We use it about countries (for example: the United Kingdom, the United States of America).

the Republic of Ireland. But the north of Ireland stayed with Britain, and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland was born.

You can call someone from Northern Ireland both Irish and British. Remember that people from Scotland and Wales have a separate culture from the English. You must never say that a person from Scotland, Wales, or any part of Ireland, is English!

Look out for these differences in sport. There isn't a 'British' football team. England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland all have their own teams. But at the Olympic Games all the British athletes are in one British team. You can see another example in the European 'Six Nations' rugby competition, where the teams are Ireland, Scotland, Wales, England, France and Italy. It isn't easy to understand... but it's interesting!

1 COMPREHENSION CHECK

Answer these questions.

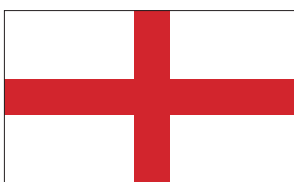
- 1 The British Isles include more than six hundred islands. True or false?
- 2 But there are only two states. What are they?
- 3 Where does the word 'Britain' come from?
- 4 Where does the word 'England' come from?
- 5 A boy called Angus McAlister is from Edinburgh. Is he English? Scottish? British? Irish? Two answers are correct, and two are wrong.

2 FLAGS

Which flags are not included in the Union Flag?



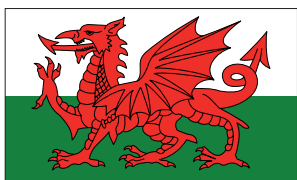
United Kingdom



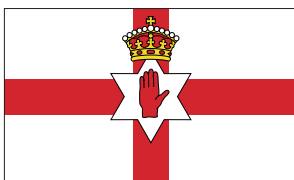
England



Scotland



Wales



Northern Ireland



Republic of Ireland

The Legend of the Unicorn

A Legend from England



BEFORE YOU READ

1 VOCABULARY

Find these words in the picture. Use a dictionary if necessary.

1 basket

2 deer

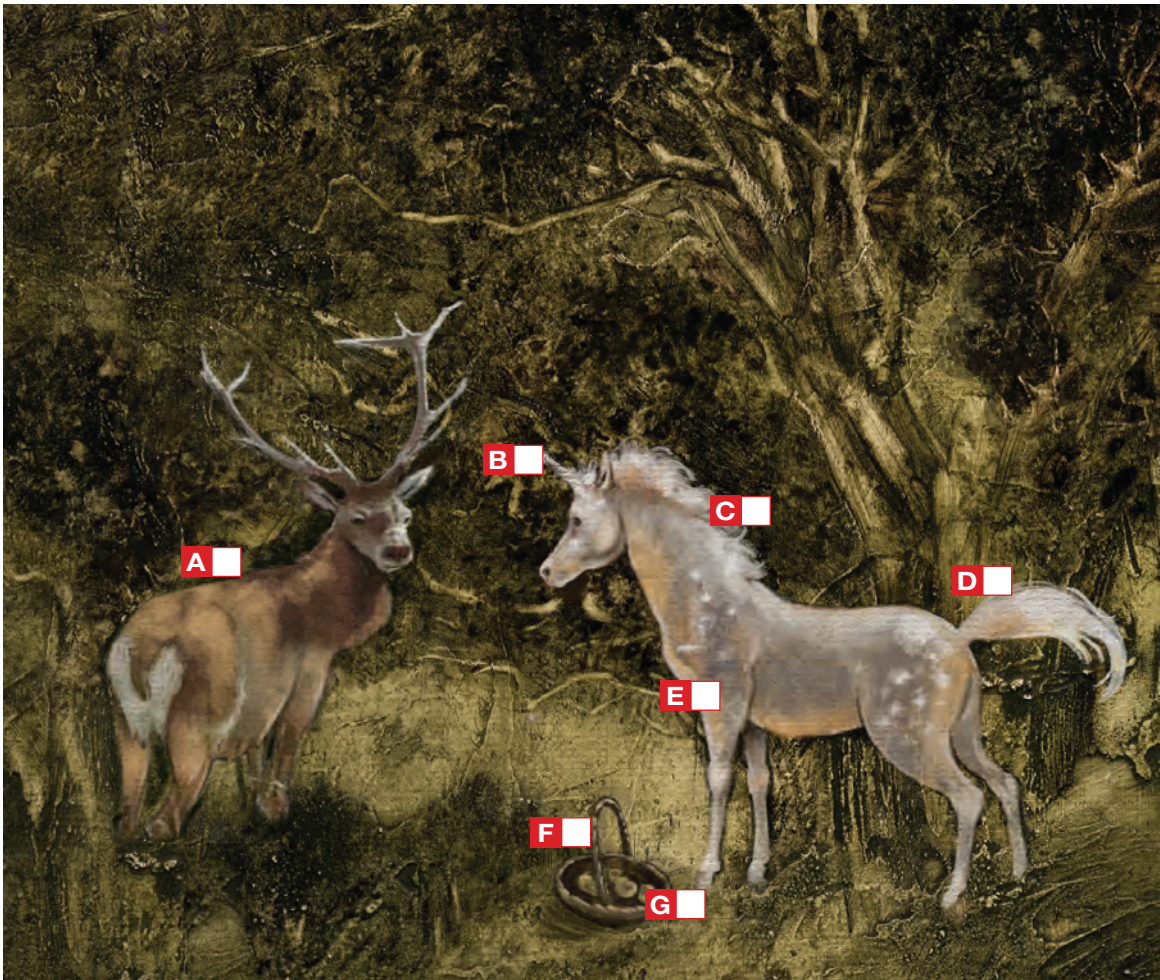
3 horn

4 mane

5 tail

6 truffles

7 unicorn




2 WHAT DO YOU THINK?

- 1 In the story, do you think the deer and the unicorn know each other?
- 2 Which of the two animals do you think will be connected to the basket of truffles?
- 3 Do you know anything about unicorns?



CHAPTER ONE

Sir Brangwyn



Rhiannon lived in the days of King Arthur and his knights ¹ in the part of Britain which is now England. She was twelve years old and had long red hair and green eyes. She lived with her mother and father in a small village near Sir Brangwyn's castle.

Sir Brangwyn was the lord of the castle and the village, and everyone was afraid of him. He was a big, fat man with black hair and cold, black eyes. He was bad and greedy. ² He always wanted more taxes ³ from the poor people of the village.

Simon Grimstone was Rhiannon's father, and he was brave ⁴ and kind. He was a tall, thin man with blond hair and kind brown eyes. The people of the village liked Simon because he always helped them. He was not afraid of Sir Brangwyn.

1. **knights** : these important people fight for the king.
2. **greedy** : a person who wants everything for him/herself.
3. **taxes** : (here) money you have to pay to the lord because you live on his land.
4. **brave** : not afraid.



The Legend of the Unicorn

One day Sir Brangwyn and his knights rode ¹ to the village and stopped in front of Simon's house.

'Simon Grimstone!' cried Sir Brangwyn. 'You killed a deer in my forest! No one can go into my forest! My men are taking you to prison.'

'That's not true!' said Simon. 'I didn't go into your forest and I didn't kill a deer.'

'Take him to prison!' said Sir Brangwyn to his men.

'You want to put me in prison because I'm not afraid of you!' said Simon. 'You're a greedy man. The people of this village are hungry because you take all their money.'

'Be quiet!' cried Sir Brangwyn angrily. 'You'll be quiet in prison, Simon Grimstone!'

Simon's wife, Marian, was standing behind her husband and started crying.

'Take his wife too,' said Sir Brangwyn. 'She can work in the castle kitchen and pay for the food her husband eats.'

'Oh, please don't take me away from my daughter,' said Marian, crying.

'There's no one who can look after her. She'll be alone!'

'Please, don't take my mother away!' cried Rhiannon.

But the Lord's men didn't listen to Rhiannon and took her parents away.

'When can I see my parents again?' she asked, crying.

The Lord's men laughed and rode away. The villagers ² were angry but they could do nothing. After that day they called Rhiannon 'Sir Brangwyn's orphan'. ³

1. **rode** : past simple of the verb *to ride* – went on horses.

2. **villagers** : people who live in the village.

3. **orphan** : a child who hasn't got parents.





The Legend of the Unicorn

Rhiannon went inside her house and sat by the small fire in the cold room. She was very sad and lonely. 'What will I do without my parents?' she thought. 'I must find a job.'

Sir Brangwyn liked eating all kinds of food, but truffles were his favourite. It was very hard to find them because they grew under the ground, on the roots¹ of trees.

Rhiannon decided to look for truffles for Sir Brangwyn. Now she had a job.

Every morning Rhiannon went to the forest with a big basket. She looked for truffles all day long. At the end of the day she looked in her basket but she saw very few truffles.

'I only found three truffles today,' she thought sadly. 'And Sir Brangwyn wants lots of them for his dinners! He'll be angry. How can I find more truffles?'

At night she always thought about her poor father and mother.

Sir Brangwyn liked hunting² in the forest with his knights. He often rode through the forest when Rhiannon was looking for truffles. He and his men always made a lot of noise and scared the animals.

The villagers said there were strange animals in Sir Brangwyn's forest... like unicorns and dragons.³

1. **roots** : parts of a plant or tree that grow under the ground.

2. **hunting** : killing animals for food.

3. **dragon** :



UNDERSTANDING THE TEXT



1 COMPREHENSION CHECK

Are these sentences 'Right' (A) or 'Wrong' (B)? If there is not enough information to answer 'Right' (A) or 'Wrong' (B), choose 'Doesn't say' (C). There is an example at the beginning (0).

- 0 Rhiannon lived in Sir Brangwyn's castle.
 A Right B Wrong C Doesn't say
- 1 Sir Brangwyn was a kind lord.
 A Right B Wrong C Doesn't say
- 2 The people of the village liked Simon Grimstone.
 A Right B Wrong C Doesn't say
- 3 Rhiannon's mother went to prison.
 A Right B Wrong C Doesn't say
- 4 Rhiannon went to find truffles early in the morning.
 A Right B Wrong C Doesn't say
- 5 Rhiannon found a lot of truffles.
 A Right B Wrong C Doesn't say
- 6 Rhiannon spoke to the unicorns in the forest.
 A Right B Wrong C Doesn't say

2 ADJECTIVES

Look at the adjectives in the box. Do you think they are positive or negative? Complete the table with adjectives from the box. There is an example at the beginning.

sad generous ~~greedy~~ rich brave kind
 lovely clever terrible ~~happy~~ poor

Positive	Negative
happy	greedy
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....

3 CHARACTERS

Use the adjectives from exercise 2 to describe these people from the story.

Sir Simon

.....

.....

.....

Rhiannon

.....

.....

.....

Sir Brangwyn

.....

.....

.....

4 VOCABULARY – JOBS

Look at the pictures of people working in the countryside. Match them to their job.

shepherd

postman

vet

farmer



1



2



3



4

T: GRADE 3

5 SPEAKING: JOBS

Talk about jobs in your area.

1 What kinds of jobs can you do in the area where you live?

2 Choose one of the jobs and describe the daily routine.

Example: *Every morning...*

At the end of the day...

6 VOCABULARY

Find these places in the picture of the village below.

- | | |
|---------------------|--------------------|
| 1 The greengrocer's | 4 The baker's |
| 2 The shoe shop | 5 Rhiannon's house |
| 3 The castle | 6 The forest |

7 DIRECTIONS

Imagine you arrive at the village. You want to get to the places in exercise 6. Ask another student to give you directions from the entrance to the village.

