

Stori Gelert!

A Welsh legend about a Prince and his faithful hound



- A long time ago in North Wales there was a young prince named Llywellyn. He had a beautiful son he loved with all his heart. He also had a dog called Gelert .Unfortunately Llywellyn's wife had died in childbirth .



Llywelyn, prince of Wales, is said to have loved to hunt. The chase invigorated him and he always took with him his Irish wolf-hound; Gelert. Gelert was his favourite and was always there for the morning hunt.



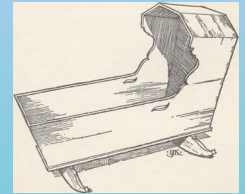


One day, Llywellyn went out hunting and put Gelert in charge of his baby.

He knew he could trust him to protect the baby. Gelert laid next to the cot where Llywellyn's baby was fast asleep and Llywellyn went hunting. Llywellyn went off with his followers and the hounds but could not enjoy his day and in the end hurried back home. He was met by Gelert and gave his usual greeting. But he noticed something was very wrong. Llywellyn was horrified to find that Gelert was covered in blood.



Fearing the worst, he hurried into the castle. He went to see his infant son but found the cradle overturned and empty, with no sign of the child, but noticed blood everywhere.



Concluding that Gelert must have killed and eaten the baby, Llywellyn drew his sword and plunged it into the hound.



The stricken Gelert gave a long-drawn out howl as he died. This cry was followed by a child's wail. Llywelyn searched for the source of this sound and found his child under a pile of bedding from the cradle, completely unharmed. Close by was the body of a gaunt wolf, which had obviously been slain by Gelert after a bloody battle.





Horrorified at what he had done, and stricken by remorse, Llywelyn had the body of Gelert buried with due pomp and ceremony. The Prince was said to have never smiled again. The place was afterwards known as Bedd Gelert (the grave of Gelert), as was the town near to it.

CELERT'S GRAVE

IN THE 13TH CENTURY, LLEWELYN, PRINCE OF NORTH WALES, HAD A PALACE AT BEDDCELERT. ONE DAY HE WENT HUNTING WITHOUT CELERT "THE FAITHFULL HOUND"

WHO WAS UNACCOUNTABLY ABSENT. ON LLEWELYN'S RETURN, THE TRUANT STAINED AND SMEARED WITH BLOOD, JOYFULLY SPRANG TO MEET HIS MASTER. THE PRINCE ALARMED HASTENED TO FIND HIS SON, AND SAW THE INFANT'S COT EMPTY, THE BEDCLOTHES AND FLOOR COVERED WITH BLOOD. THE FRANTIC FATHER PLUNGED HIS SWORD INTO THE HOUND'S SIDE THINKING IT HAD KILLED HIS HEIR. THE DOG'S DYING YELL WAS ANSWERED BY A CHILD'S CRY. LLEWELYN SEARCHED AND DISCOVERED HIS BOY UNHARMED. BUT NEAR BY LAY THE BODY OF A MIGHTY WOLF WHICH CELERT HAD SLAIN, THE PRINCE FILLED WITH REMORSE IS SAID NEVER TO HAVE SMILED AGAIN

HE BURIED CELERT HERE
THE SPOT IS CALLED

BEDDCELERT



Gelert's Grave



Write a Blurb...

Your task is to imagine there is a book outlining the story of 'Gelert' and create a cover for it. You will need to design a front cover (use the pictures as inspiration) and write a 'Blurb' for the back to entice the reader to read the 'book/story'.

Writing a 'Blurb'

- Start with a 'Hook'

e.g 'A welsh legend of love, supposed betrayal and loyalty...'

- Hint at the themes

e.g 'A tragic tale of devotion, devastation and despair...'

- Tease out the plot & use rhetorical questions

e.g 'A Prince trusts his faithful hound to protect his most precious possession. Is his trust and faith in his loyalty misplaced?'

Checklist

- Keep it short, be concise
- Make it dramatic - build up the atmosphere to engage the reader's interest
- Use emotive words - make the readers feel
- Relay some information - setting, main character(s), genre; legend, themes, conflict/resolution
- Don't give too much away...

WAGOLL!

This is a tragic tale of love, loyalty and judgement.

A man's best friend is his dog.

'Prince Llywelyn the Great' always considered his best friend to be his faithful hound; Gelert. At least, he thought so...

One fateful night he went out hunting and left his precious son in the care of Gelert. Llywelyn returned from hunting to find his baby missing and the cradle overturned. Had Gelert betrayed him?

Extension...

If you're ready to challenge yourselves, why not write the 'book' that you're creating a 'Blurb'/Cover for? Re-tell the story of Gelert in your own words. Add detail, description, chapters...we'd love to read them!