Werewolves and Their facts.

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Period 1st
Third quarter project
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What is a werewolf? How did this all start? What’s the legend? How does a werewolf look like? What is a lycanthrope? These are the questions I am going to answer in my factual report on werewolves. In addition, I will help you understand the ways of this so called mythical creature. werewolves have been second to vampires in being used in horror movies. In the same time, children are being scared of these beasts. Some have the ability to change shape at will. Others in whom the condition is hereditary or acquired by having been bitten by a werewolf, change only because of the sight of the moon. Some say they don't exist. Likewise, others still believe that werewolves are among us and are just in hiding till the moon shows itself.

Okay, “what is a werewolf?” you might ask. Now, in European folklore, a werewolf is a man who turns into a wolf at night and devours animals, people, or even corpse, but by day returns to human form. Accordingly, people would never know that someone else is a werewolf. Unless that one person was to be caught by someone else who stays up at night. And, now in modern time almost every one stays awake all night or at least half of the night. According to the website, Werewolves: the myths & truths, “The first recorded Werewolf sighting took place around the countryside of German town Colongne and Bedburg in 1591. An age-old pamphlet describes those shivering moments vividly. Few people cornered a large wolf and set their dogs upon it. They started to pierce it with sharp sticks and spears. Surprisingly the ferocious wolf did not run away or tried to protect itself, rather it stood up and turned out to be a middle-aged man he was Peter
Stubbe from the same village.” He was then put on a torture wheel and he confessed to the sixteen murders he had committed which involved to women who were pregnant and thirteen children which means that he only killed one man. Young girls playing together or milking the cows in the fields were his frequent victims. He used to chase them, catch the slowest one, rape and kill her. Then he would drink her blood from her veins and eat the meat from her body. However; the most horrible sin he committed was against his own son. He took him to a nearby forest, cracked the poor child’s skull open and ate his brain.

Werewolves have the characteristics of the animal they take form of and also have the abilities of those animals. The theory is that werewolves are big, hairy, dangerous and much more. But, others contradict this and say that werewolves are just harmless creatures who are scared to show themselves and because of this it could explain most of a werewolves behavior. For example, the habit of not coming out at night could only be because they are scared of us humans. Being able to turn into a wolf or even half wolf has said to be such an evil ability to have. And only because of one person who claimed to be a werewolf. There are even some people out there who look as these descriptions say but they are not a wolf or even a werewolf at that. These legend are beginning to die out and people are starting to forget werewolves and are giving up on trying to find traces and evidence of werewolves. There is also a sickness linked to it called “lycanthropy.”
What is a lycanthrope? (From Greek *lykos*, “wolf”; *anthoropos*, “man”) lycanthrope is a mental disorder in which the patient thinks that he/she is a wolf or some other non-human animal. Undoubtedly stimulated by the once popular belief that lycanthropy is a supernatural sickness when the infected actually turn into a wolf or some other animal. The delusion has been most likely to occur in people who believe in reincarnation and the transmigration of souls. Usually, a person is deemed to take form of the most dangerous beast of the prey of the region: the wolf or bear in Europe and northern Asia, the hyena or leopard in Africa, and the tiger in India, China, Japan, and elsewhere in Asia. But, other animals are mentioned too. Both the superstition and the psychiatric disorder are linked with the belief in animal guardian spirits, vampires, totemism, witches and werewolves. The folklore, fairy tales, and legends of many nations and people show evidence of the existence of lycanthropic belief. Furthermore, even the act of all these nations having the same description and legends of this belief shows that maybe there are werewolves and, or lycans. There are many individuals today who believe they are werewolves, and some of the lycanthropes have been studied and treated by psychologists and psychiatrists. The November 1975 issues of *The Canadian Psychiatric Association Journal* reported in details on several recent cases of lycanthropy.
Werewolves have been debated over for more than 5 centuries. They have so many legends and stories about them and they are just second to only vampires and nothing else. This must make them really famous and most of all scary. Being able to do a report on this is truly a privilege. I have learned a lot about werewolves I didn't even know about. Wolves are all over the world and have been terrified even though they are harmless. That has made humans kill them even more. As a result, more and more wolves have died and have almost become extinct. That is a very sad thing. For, wolves were suffering for the tales of many and have begun to come to endangerment, but now that most people don't believe in werewolves, the killings are starting to slow down and people who care about wolves are making reserves to protect them.
References

Sited

   “Werewolves: the myths & truths.”

werewolf history, werebeasts, werewolfs: mythica.” retrieved on Feb. 29, 2008 at 