

Competition

An African Legend Worthy of a Poem or Painting

According to tribal legends, about 400 years ago in Timbavati South Africa, "white animals" started appearing after a paranormal encounter with the Rain Queen Numbi and "Star Beings" who landed in her kingdom. King Npepo later declared this sacred land, and banned all hunting in the region, especially after the repeated birth of "white lions" and "white leopards" with blue and green eyes.

Sacred White Lions

The white lion, a genetic rarity that suddenly re-appeared in Timbavati in the 1970's, is now revered as a "Sun God" and regarded by Zulu shaman Credo Mutwa, as Africa's most sacred animal.*

**Linda Tucker - "Mystery of the White Lions"*

After nearly 14 years of technical extinction in their natural endemic habitat, three snow white lion cubs were born to the project in the Greater Timbavati region. There are also now 2 white cubs on an adjoining reserve to Greater Timbavati born naturally to two Tawny Lions.



White Leopards... White ghosts?

But what of the legendary white leopards (referred to as white ghosts)? Do they still exist? Could our wild leopards also be carriers of a unique white gene?

Competition Information:

Please submit a poem or electronic image of what the White Lions or White Leopards mean to you. Get creative, and come up with something novel and worthy of being published. Please include a brief outline of yourself and your aspirations. Prizes include having your poem or image published in a very special limited edition coffee table book (of which the top 10 will receive a copy), a trip to Tsau (home of the White Lion) and an outing with our Leopard conservationists.

Submit your entries to:

Facebook causes: The Leopard Conservation Project.

OR

leopardlioncomp@gmail.com

Further information can be viewed on:

www.leopardcon.co.za

www.whitelions.org

Entries must be in by the 31st January 2010. The best poems and artwork will be used in a coffee table book with all proceeds going to the conservation organisations mentioned below. This is just the start. We are planning a full series. Incorporating as many mystical beings as possible.

