



**CHICKCHARNEY**

The Chickcharney is a mythical creature rooted in Bahamian folklore, particularly from the island of Andros. According to legend, it is a small, owl-like bird with a twisted or deformed appearance, standing about 3 feet tall, with large glowing eyes, and sometimes described as having three toes on each foot. It is said to live in the dense forests of Andros, building nests in tall pine trees or even hiding within the thick underbrush. The Chickcharney is often portrayed as mischievous and temperamental, but it also possesses magical qualities.

Legend has it that if a person encounters a Chickcharney and treats it with respect or kindness, the creature will bestow good luck on them. However, if the Chickcharney is mistreated or disrespected, misfortune and bad luck will follow. The creature is believed to be very old, with stories passed down through generations of Bahamians, and it has become a symbol of mystery and wonder in the folklore of the region.

Some believe the stories may be inspired by actual encounters with large, now-extinct flightless owls that once inhabited the Bahamas, though this is speculative. The Chickcharney remains an important part of Bahamian culture, blending myth, nature, and the island's deep connection to its environment.