

STEEL DONKEY



The Steel Donkey is a figure from Caribbean folklore, particularly associated with Barbados and other parts of the West Indies. This supernatural creature takes the form of a ghostly donkey with a metallic sheen, often described as being made entirely of metal. Its hooves make a distinct clattering sound, like metal striking metal, enhancing its eerie presence. The Steel Donkey is closely linked to themes of witchcraft and dark magic, with some versions of the tale suggesting that witches or malevolent individuals could summon or transform into the creature to carry out their mischievous or harmful deeds at night. It is said to roam under the cover of darkness, causing fear and chaos, sometimes tormenting people in their sleep or chasing unsuspecting victims.

The creature also serves as a symbol of punishment, appearing to those who have crossed moral or spiritual boundaries. Encountering the Steel Donkey is considered dangerous, and people are often advised to stay indoors when it is near, as its appearance is thought to signal impending misfortune or doom. This folklore reflects the cultural blending of African, European, and indigenous beliefs in the Caribbean, acting as both a cautionary tale and a reflection of societal values, warning against immoral behavior and dabbling in the supernatural. While not as widely known as other Caribbean folktales, the Steel Donkey remains a captivating part of the region's rich storytelling tradition.