

Slå katten af tønden

Det har været en udbredt folketro, at hvis man slår en sort kat ihjel, slipper ens by for pest.

Når man slog katten af tønden i gamle dage puttede man en sort kat ind i en tønde og slog til tønden indtil at den gik i stykker. Da tønden var gået i stykker måtte børnene prygle den med kæppe og pinde.

Man mente at en kat var månens listige, hellige dyr, og at de var repræsentanter for det onde.

Franskmændene smed en levende kat ind i et bål, og tyskerne smed dem i det bål man brændte ved påsketid. Eller også smed man dem ud fra et kirketårn.

Man slog kattens poter i stykker for at de døde ikke skulle gå igen.

Det siges at det var Pastor Holm der fik stoppet denne skik i 1830 med at slå katten af tønden.



To turn the cat of the barrel.

It has been a widespread belief, that if you kill a black cat, the city you live in will not be hit by plague.

In the old days, when you turned the cat of the barrel, you locked a black cat into a barrel, and hit the barrel until it broke. When the barrel was ruined, the kids were allowed to hit the cat with sticks.

People thought, that the cat was the subtle and sacred animal, and that they were representing the evil.

The French throw a living cat into a bonfire, and the Germans throw the cat into a bonfire as well during the Easter. Or you throw it out from a church tower.

The people also hit the paws of the cat until they were of no use, to prevent the death from coming back.

It's told, that reverent Holm made the tradition with the living cat in the barrel stop in 1830.