

The Pied Piper of Hamelin

The legend of “The Pied Piper of Hamelin” is about a mysterious man that lured with his pipe all the rats and mice of the town into the river Weser. As he didn’t get the promised money, he got angry and left the town.

He came back later in the garment of a hunter. To get back at the people of the town instead of rats and mice he lured children out of the town to the mountain “Poppenberg” near Hamelin this time.

They disappeared in the mountain and never came back.

Today in remembrance of the 130 children there are two crosses on the mountain and the legend can be found in the town chronicle.

Setting

We are in the year 1284 in a little village called Hamelin which is cut off from any civilization. This little village is surrounded by high mountains and woods. From these mountains runs a brook through the village. In the village some bridges cross the brook there are a church and a little marketplace. As a protection against robbers and wild animals the ca. 2500 people of Hamelin built a wall around the village. Near the village there are moor lands. Hamelin is in the south of Hanover.

Characterisation

The legend “Pied Piper of Hamelin“ is mainly about a man who in 1284 made 130 children and rats follow the tunes of his flute and disappear from the town.

He wears the garment of a pied piper. An outfit which is, at this time, unbelievably stylish. This consists of a skirt which is made of coloured cloth and which is named lovingly “Bundding”.

On his strange flute which is always in his pocket he can play magical tunes which the children and the rats love. In his hunter costume, which he wears on Sundays, he can confuse people which shows that he can change his look fast.

He is mean, trust others blind and he likes revenge, which are his bad features.

Nevertheless, he’s a sweet, fun-loving guy, which explains why he wants to help the people of Hamelin get rid of the rat plague.

He’s good-looking that satisfy the townspeople that he’s a good pied piper and this makes him the heartbreaker of the girls and because of this the men hate him.

All in all he’s a friendly person but he has got a few obsessions, e.g. he is short-tempered.