

Tír na nÓg

Word bank:

son	fierce	land	haired	songs	years
story	fell	princess	warriors	love	father
return	stories	horse	man	green	

Fill in the blanks.

Ireland has many myths and legends told over time and one of those is the _____ of Tír na nÓg. It is a story dating back to the times of the Celtic warriors in Ireland.

Na Fianna were a group of _____ warriors who protected the High King of Ireland. They spent their days roaming the _____ hills, protecting the land. When their day was done, they would listen to poetry and enjoyed singing _____.

Fionn Mac Cumhaill was the leader of Na Fianna. He had a _____ called Oisín and they would roam the scenic hills with the other _____ of Na Fianna. One day, Fionn and Oisín were down by the sea when they noticed a figure coming towards them. A golden _____ woman dressed in a blue dress, rode on a white horse, over the waves and approached them. The woman was called Niamh and she was a _____ from the land of Tír na nÓg. She had heard stories of Oisín and was keen to meet him. She rode up to Fionn and Oisín and started to speak to them. "My name is Niamh and I am the princess of Tír na nÓg. Tír na nÓg is the land of youth where time almost stands still and people live in complete happiness. I have heard many _____ about you Oisín. Will you come with me back to the land of eternal youth?"



Oisín fell in _____ with Niamh the moment he saw her. He was eager to go with Niamh and so he said his goodbyes to his father and the other warriors of Na Fianna. He got up on the _____ and they rode off over the waves to the magical land.

Oisín and Niamh spent many happy years together, but a part of Oisín always longed to _____ to Ireland. He begged Niamh if he could go back and she agreed on one condition. "Take my horse when you go back to visit Ireland. However, it is very important that you do not get off it and do not step foot on the _____. If you do, you will never be able to return to Tír na nÓg"

Oisín agreed and set off for Ireland. On his return, he noticed that Ireland had changed greatly. Oisín was not aware that he had been away from Ireland for over 300 _____. He began to roam around looking for Na Fianna. He came across some old men trying to move a huge rock. He leant down from his horse to help, but he lost balance and _____ to the ground.

The moment Oisín fell to the ground, he aged 300 years. He became a frail, old _____. He asked the men about his father Fionn and Na Fianna and they informed him that they had all died many, many years ago.

Oisín shared the stories and legends about his _____ Fionn, the Fianna and the magical land of Tír na nÓg, before he passed away.

These stories and legends are still told around Ireland and live on as part of Irish culture!

