

---

# THE LEGENDS AND MYTHS OF FLIGHT

---

---

---

# DEFINITIONS

---

- Myth: a story with a symbolic meaning, usually trying to explain difficult concepts (origin of the world, fire, wind, etc)
  - Legend: a story that is presumed to have some basis in historical fact, but over time, being handed down from generation to generation, morphs or exaggerates the truth
-

---

# ICARUS AND DAEDALUS

---



- Origin: Ancient Greek Mythology
  - Synopsis: Daedalus was a master craftsman for King Minos and created the Labyrinth, a huge maze where the Minotaur (half man, half bull) lived. Daedalus, along with his son, Icarus, were imprisoned on the island of Crete to make sure that the secret of the Labyrinth was kept safe. Seeking to escape, Daedalus designed bird-like wings for him and his son to escape. Icarus foolishly flew too close to the sun, causing his wings to melt and thus, fell to his death.
-

---

# HERMES/MERCURY

---



- Origin: Ancient Greek Mythology
  - Synopsis: Hermes is the Greek god of commerce. His winged helmet and winged sandals allow him to move swiftly and serve as a messenger between the gods of Mt. Olympus and mortals.
-

---

# PEGASUS

---



- Origin: Ancient Greek Mythology
  - Synopsis: Pegasus is a white-winged, flying horse. He sprang to life when Medusa was decapitated by Perseus. Eventually, Pegasus made his way to Mt. Olympus where Zeus uses the stallion to bring him his lightning and thunder.
-

---

# CUPID/EROS

---



- Origin: Ancient Greek Mythology
  - Synopsis: Eros is the Greek god of love and the son of Aphrodite and Hermes. Eros has wings and flies around with a magical bow and arrow. A person hit by his bow will fall in love with the next person s/he sees.
-

---

# EMPEROR SHUN

---



- Origin: China
  - Date: 2000 B.C.
  - Synopsis: Imprisoned by his enemies, it is said that Emperor Shun escaped from prison, by putting on the “clothes of a bird” and flew himself to freedom
-

---

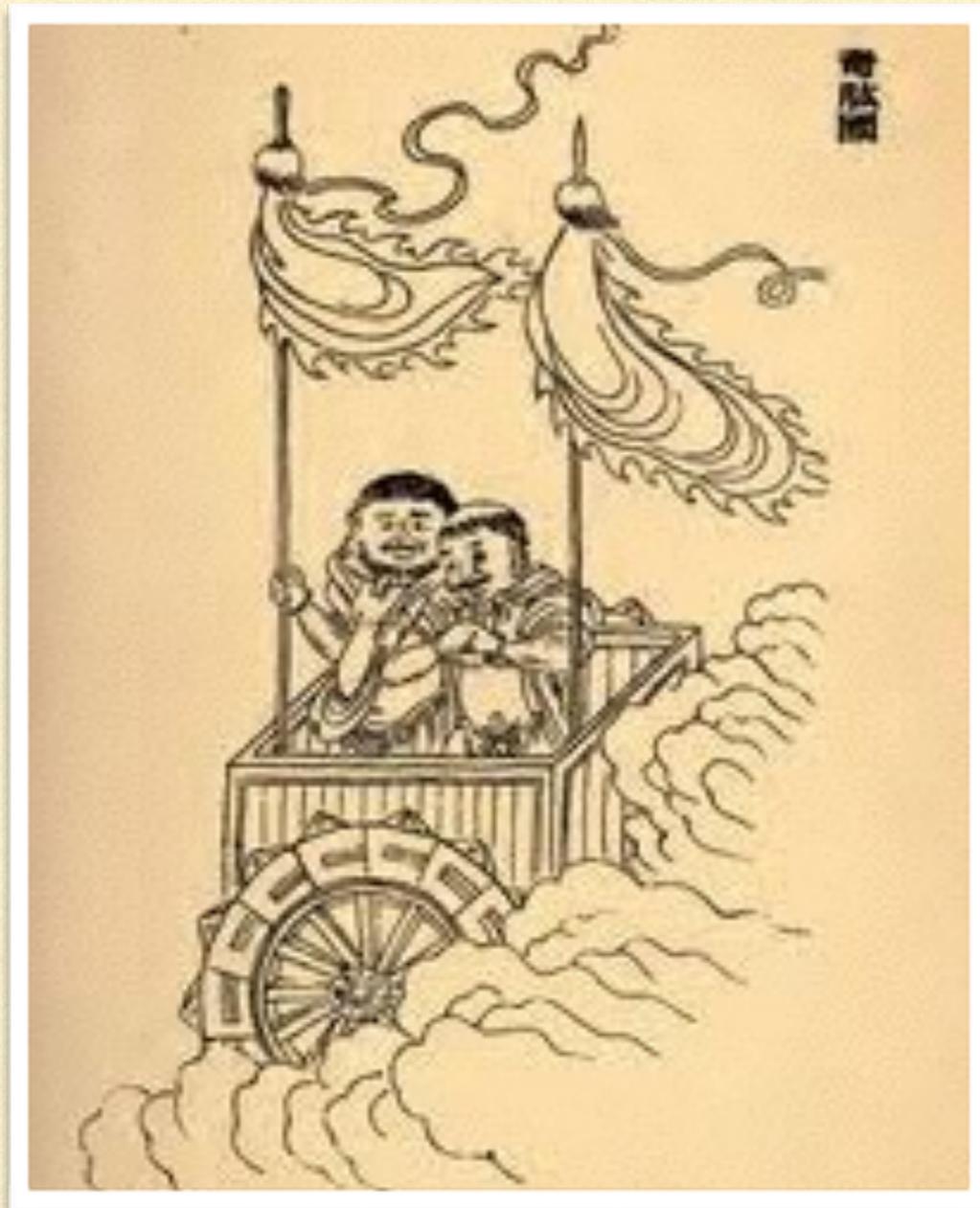
# KEI KUNG

---



- Origin: China
  - Synopsis: Kei Kung was seen as the Chinese god of thunder and lightning. He flew using the wings of a bat.
-

# KI-KUNG-SHI

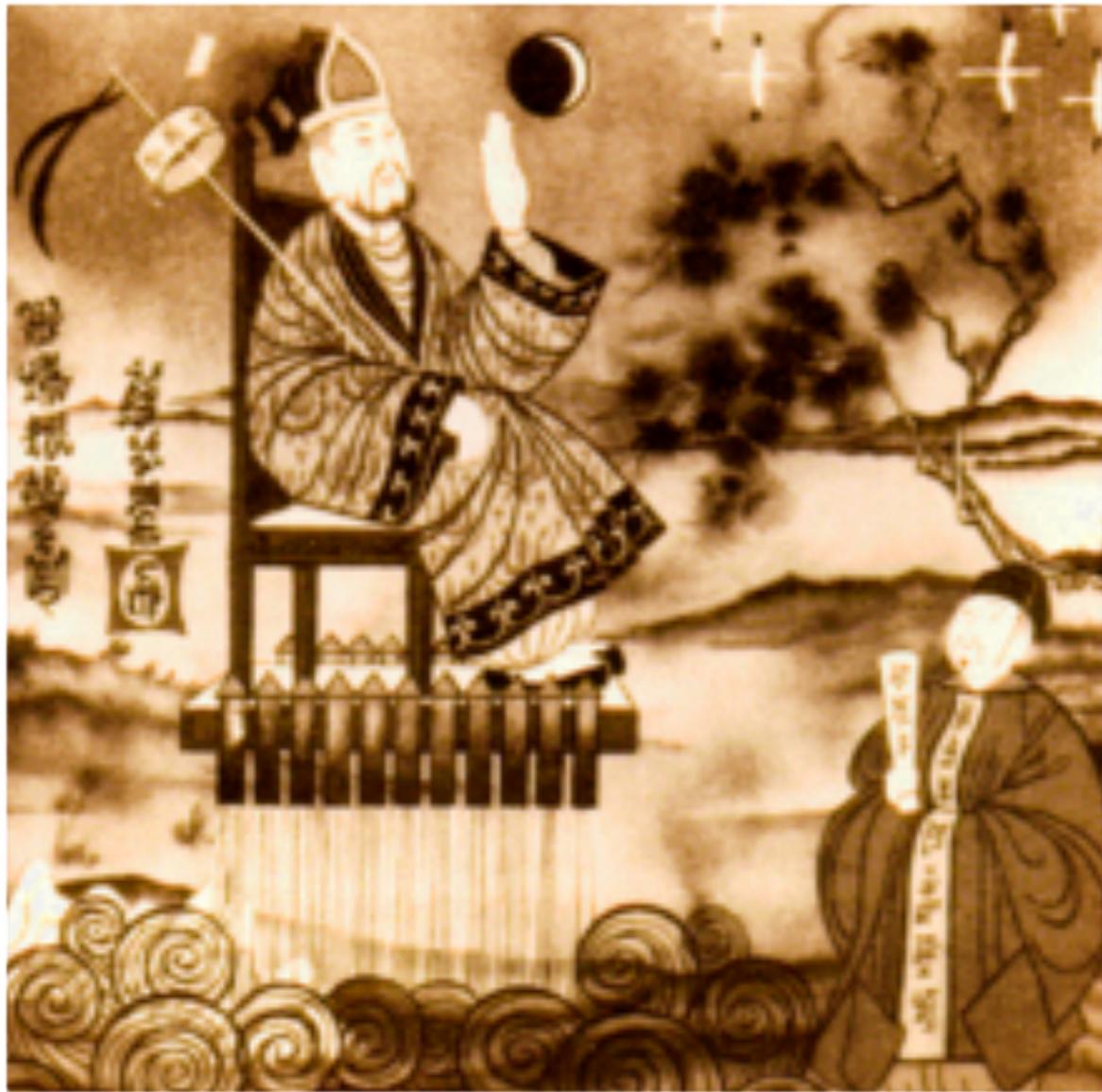


- Origin: China
- Date: 1800 B.C.
- Synopsis: Emperor Chen Tang ordered engineer Ki-Kung-Shi to build a flying chariot. It is said that Ki-Kung-Shi accomplished this and the chariot had the ability to rise and move through the air without any support. Upon the success of the project, the emperor ordered the plans to be destroyed so they would not fall in the wrong hands.

---

# WAN HOO

---



- Origin: China
  - Date: 2000 B.C.
  - Synopsis: Wan Hoo was a Chinese official who wanted to construct a vehicle that could carry him to the moon. It is said that he strapped 47 rockets on a wicker chair which were ignited. Wan Hoo disappeared in a cloud of smoke, and Chinese legend claims that Wan Hoo is the man in the Moon.
-

# KING KAWAS



- Origin: Babylon
- Date: 1500 B.C.
- Synopsis: King Kawas of Persia is said to have sat in a flying throne, carried by four eagles.

---

# ALEXANDER THE GREAT'S GRIFFINS

---



- Origin: Macedonia
- Date: 336 B.C.
- Synopsis: Alexander the Great of Macedonia was said to have ridden a cage drawn by winged griffins (half eagle, half lion)