

¿ÓG? AENGUS SI OHM

Aengus Óg is an ancient Irish deity, one of the Tuatha Dé Danann and son of the Dagda. He's the god of love, youth, and poetry, and is heavily associated with birds, especially swans.



(Aengus, Baintice Elvay, 1914)

The story of Aengus's birth is a long one. The Dagda had an affair with Boann, goddess of the River Boyne, who lives at Bri na Bóinne with her husband Elcmar.

After Boann falls pregnant, the Dagda sends Elcmar away on a one-day errand in order to hide Boann's pregnancy. The Dagda casts a spell to make the sun stand still, and the day stretches out to the length of Boann's pregnancy. Once Aengus was born, the Dagda ended the spell and Elcmar returned. This story is told in Tochmarc Étraine, or The Wooing of Étraine.



Bri na Bóinne (ireland.com)

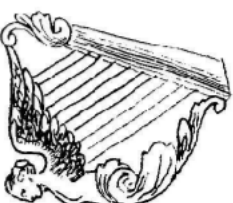
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If you're interested in learning more about Irish paganism in general, read Paganachd's Celtic Paganism FAQ (<https://www.paganachd.com/faq/index.html>).

If you're interested in reading more Irish pagan myths, check out <https://celt.ucc.ie/ir/page.html> CELT is a collection of texts put together by the University of Ulster, and has plenty of stories from several different cycles of Irish mythology.

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Or anything else you think is fitting

Offerings to Aengus might include:
 ~ Poetry written for him or recited
 ~ Honey
 ~ Music
 ~ Devotional artworks
 ~ Milk
 ~ Cinnamon
 ~ Candle flame

The Dagda, king of the Tuatha Dé Danann, sent a message to Bodb, another of his sons and king of the side of Munster. Bodb continued his own search, for another year, and eventually found a woman who he believed may be Aengus's dream figure.

Bodb took Aengus to where she was thought to be, and led him to a lake where many young women were, all linked in pairs by a silver chain. Aengus's dream-woman was among them, but with a silver necklace and a golden chain. The woman was Cáer Iborneith, the daughter of Ethal Anbúaiil. Ethal refused to let the two speak, let alone be together. He told them that she had a power, that for one year she was in the form of a swan, and the next in the form of a person.

Aengus went back to her then, and saw many white birds, with silver chains. He called out from the side of the lake for Cáer. As she came to him, he took on the form of a swan himself and the two flew off together.



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Then they called for the Dagda for his help.

They sent for Boann, who was told of the reason for Aengus's sickness. She commenced a search to locate the woman. The search went on for a year, but still she could not be found.

A year passed like this, the woman visiting Aengus night after night, and slowly he fell in love with her. Eventually, he fell sick. Nobody could tell why. All the physicians in the land came together but none could tell what was wrong, until one was able to determine what it was. Aengus's love for the mysterious woman had caused his lovesickness.