

THE BLACK DEATH

THE 14TH CENTURY



Plague Doctors



The Costume

Wooden Stick - to examine patient without touching them, to remove blankets and clothing, to keep others away

Gown/Jacket - coated with wax to protect the doctor's body and prevent infection

Leather gloves- protect doctor's hands from infection

Boots- for protection from infection



The Mask

Leather Hat - To protect Doctor's head and protect from infection

Beak- to hold dried herbs and flowers to keep away smells and "bad air"

Glass eye openings - to allow the doctor to see while protecting him from the "bad air"



What Did Plague Doctors Do?



heartbeasttattoos



sushidavetattoo



Hired by towns and villages and were not always actual doctors!

Some were doctors that were considered inferior

They were the only ones willing to provide medical treatment for plague victims, and treated patients from all classes.

They were also responsible to recording deaths and sometimes did autopsies

Methods

- Tried to give patients a balance by getting rid of toxins through lancing or cutting the sores and bubos, using toads, etc.
- Bloodletting with leeches (putting leeches on people so that the leeches would suck out the “bad” blood”
- Not usually successful
- Nostradamus- very famous plague doctor who was known for actually being successful. Nostradamus kept his patients clean and encouraged corpse removal from streets
- Also developed a herbal lozenge made with roses packed with Vitamin C

