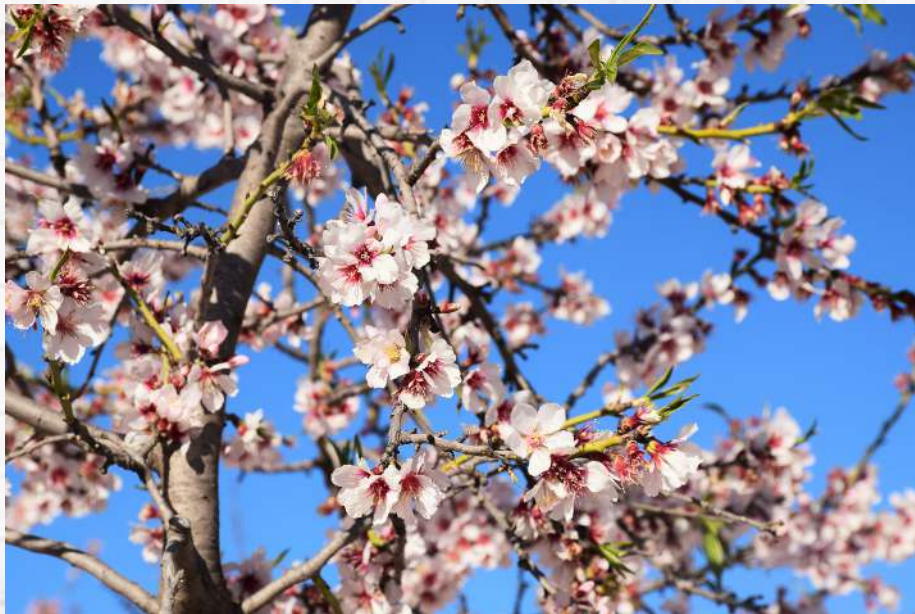


A Lenda das Amendoeiras em Flor



The Legend of the Almond Tree Blossoms

Há muito, muito tempo, antes de Portugal ser Portugal, havia um Rei mouro que reinava no Al-Gharb (mais tarde viria a ser O Algarve). Este rei nunca tinha conhecido uma derrota.

Um dia, entre os prisioneiros duma batalha, pousou os olhos sobre uma linda princesa alta, loira, de olhos azuis do Norte. Impressionado, o rei mouro deu-lhe a liberdade.

Com o passar do tempo ele conquistou a confiança dela e confessou-lhe o seu amor. Eles casaram e foram felizes. Mas um dia, a bela rainha do Norte adoeceu sem razão aparente. Parecia não haver ninguém que a pudesse ajudar ou curar.

Quando um dos outros prisioneiros de guerra soube o que se passava, pediu para ser recebido pelo rei, e revelou-lhe que a rainha sofria de nostalgia da neve do seu país distante. Foi então que o rei mandou plantar muitas amendoeiras por todo o seu reino.

Na primavera seguinte, o rei levou a sua rainha a uma janela do castelo. Ao ver as flores brancas das amendoeiras, ela começou a sentir-se melhor, pois davam-lhe a ilusão da neve. A rainha ficou curada da saudade que sentia.



A long, long time ago, before Portugal was Portugal, there was a Moorish King who reigned in the Al-Gharb (which later would become The Algarve). This king had never known defeat.

One day, among the prisoners of a battle, he set his eyes upon a lovely tall blond and blue-eyed princess from the North. Impressed, the moorish king gave her her freedom.

Over time he gained her trust and confessed his love to her. They married and were happy. But one day, the beautiful northern queen fell ill for no apparent reason. No one seemed to be able to help or cure her.

When one of the other northern prisoners of war heard of what was going on, he asked to see the king and he revealed to him that the queen was feeling nostalgic and missing the snow from her distant country. It was then, that Moorish king ordered the planting of many almonds trees throughout his kingdom.

The following spring, the king led his queen to a window of the castle. Upon seeing the white almond blossoms, she started to feel better, for they gave her the illusion of snow. The queen was cured of the saudade she was feeling.

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