

# Quetzalcoatl

A Mesoamerican deity found across the region and through a long timespan. The Aztec/Nahuatl name [Quetzalcoatl](#) means "Feathered Serpent," referencing the [quetzal](#) bird's bright plumage. Some anthropological interpretations indicate he was a sky god, and he was the creator god of the Nahuatl/Aztec. Likely the same being as Kukulcan and Q'uq'umatz; though his earlier names are not known, he predates the [Olmec](#) civilization, which began roughly 1600BCE, and was already one of their most important deities. More, the same concept/being is found in the indigenous peoples across North America as far afield as the Appalachians, where the [Uktena](#) of the Cherokee was considered a supernatural, ornately-decorated horned dragon monster. If the description is allowed to vary, this creature may have been known worldwide -- to the Celts, Greeks, Mesopotamians, Indians, and Orientals.

This may have been the first human encounter with a [Star Drake](#).

See also [Kukulcan](#), [Q'uq'umatz](#).

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