

The history of chocolate...



When most of us hear the word chocolate, we picture a bar, a box of bonbons, or a bunny. The verb that comes to mind is probably "eat," not "drink," But for about 90 percent of chocolate's long history, it was strictly a beverage, and sugar didn't have anything to do with it.



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*The Latin name for the cacao
tree,
means "food of the gods."*



*Many modern historians
have estimated
that chocolate has been
around
for about 2000 years,
but recent research
suggests
that it may be even older.*



- *Both the Mayans and Aztecs believed the cacao bean had magical, or even divine, properties, suitable for use in the most sacred rituals of birth, marriage and death.*



Sweetened chocolate didn't appear until Europeans discovered the Americas. Legend has it that the Aztec king Montezuma welcomed the Spanish explorer Hernando Cortes with a banquet that included drinking chocolate. Chocolate didn't suit the foreigners' taste buds at first - one described it in his writing as "a bitter drink for pigs" - but once mixed with honey or cane sugar, it quickly became popular throughout Spain.



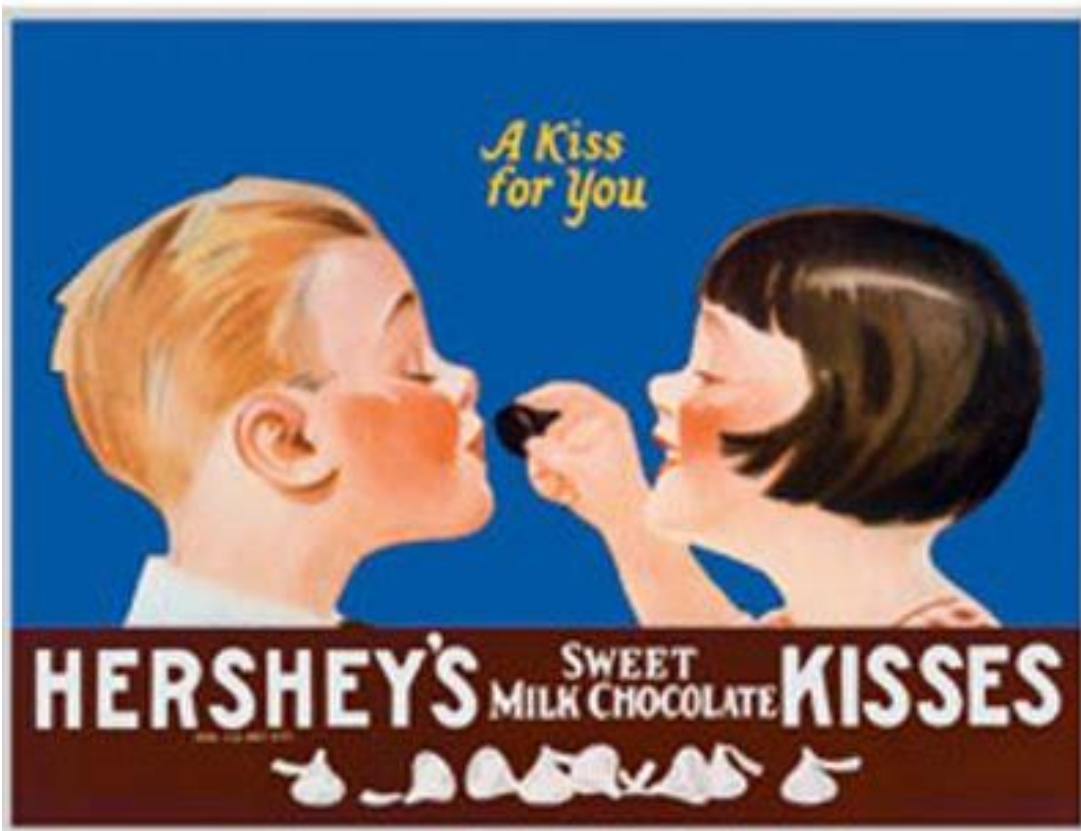
- *By the 17th century, chocolate was a fashionable drink throughout Europe, believed to have nutritious, medicinal and even aphrodisiac properties . But it remained largely a privilege of the rich*



- *Portuguese poet Fernando Pessoa once wrote, “There is no metaphysics on earth like chocolate.”*



Hershey's produces over 80 million chocolate Kisses--every day. day.

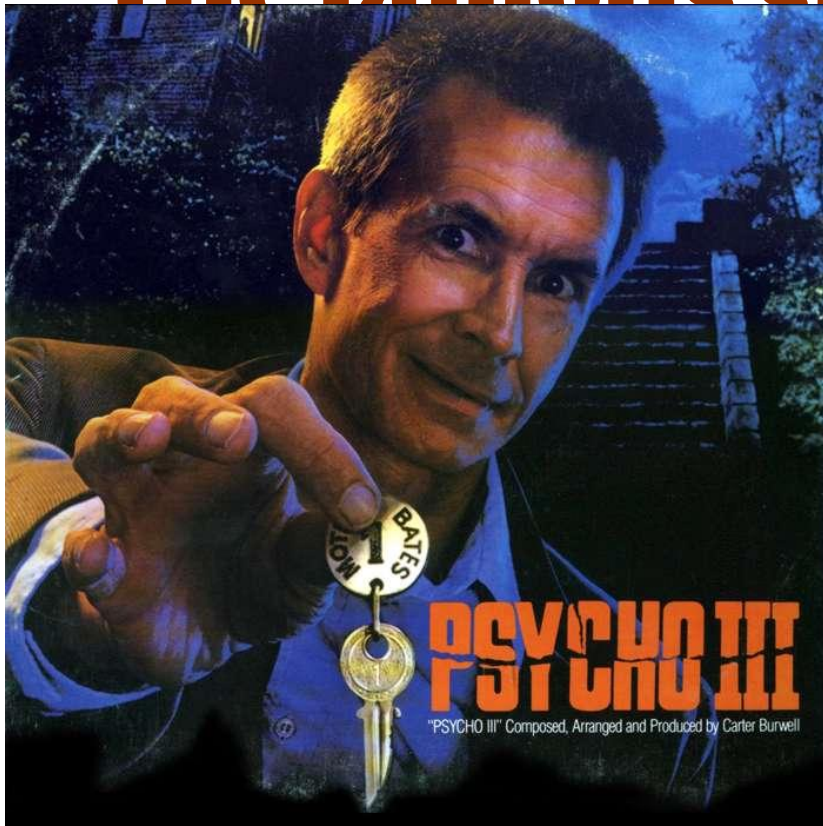


- *The English chocolate company Cadbury made the first chocolate bar in the world in 1842.*

Cadbury



- In the film *Psycho*, Alfred Hitchcock used Bosco chocolate syrup for blood in the famous shower scene.



- *Dark chocolate has been shown to be beneficial to human health, but milk chocolate, white chocolate, and other varieties are not.*



The Catholic Church once associated chocolate with heretical behaviors, including blasphemy, extortion, witchcraft, seduction, as well as being an observant Jew.



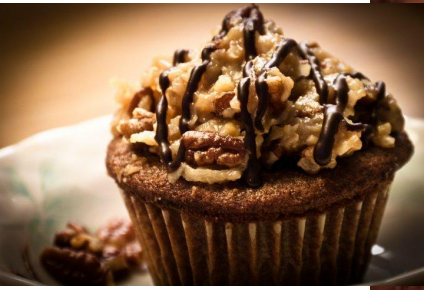
*There are actually zero
cacao solids in white
chocolate*





- *One chocolate chip can give a person enough energy to walk 150 feet.*

- *Chocolate Helps You Live Longer*
Research proves that candy eaters live almost a year longer than those who abstain



- *Chocolate Makes You Feel Great*
- *Chocolate is part of a healthy, balanced diet and it makes you feel great!*



