

# CYCLOPAEDIA 23 – UNDERWATER

BY T.R. KNIGHT (INNROADS MINISTRIES \* ARTICLE SERIES)

## OVERVIEW

From the earliest stories of mermaids in 1000 BC Assyria to the modern movies with Aquaman as king of Atlantis, we have been intrigued by what lies below the depths of these massive oceans that cover our planet Earth. Early seafaring explorers returned from voyages with tales of great sea monsters, sirens singing to them, and mermaids beckoning them to leap from the ship. Even in modern times, the vast depths of our oceans remain largely unexplored.

Jacques Cousteau and Robert Ballard exhilarated us with their undersea adventures, giving us a glimpse of the beauty and mysteries of the deep. Even with their scientific instruments and cameras, the images they bring to the surface remain alien and otherworldly to us. Not even the science of these expeditions can dampen our fear and fascination with life beneath the water.

As air breathers, we have limited access to the undersea world. Fiction writers for centuries have imagined what life must be like to live underwater. How man might live there or what other creatures and civilizations might call the deep sunless waters home. From horror to romance, the denizens of the sea capture our attention.

With tales of mermaids, underwater civilizations, and monsters of the deep, we envision what the great depths must hide from us denizens of the dry land.

## COMMON ELEMENTS OF UNDERSEA STORIES

The Undersea genre has some common elements across fiction, cinema, and games.

- Atlantis (See **Cyclopaedia: Atlantis**)
- Giant Sea Creatures
- Merfolk
- Underwater Cities
- Sea Monsters
- Submarines
- Sunken Ships
- Tridents
- War with those on dry land

Following are sources of information pertaining to Underwater to assist prospective game masters, game designers, writers, and storytellers in knowing where to start their research.

## ARTICLES

### **The Folklore of the Merfolk**

By Waugh, Arthur

Source: Folklore, v71 n2 (19600601): 73-84

### **The Literary Underwater World.**

By Yolen, Jane

Source: Language Arts, v57 n4 p403-12 Apr 1980

### **Medical aspects of undersea living.**

By Workman, RD

Source: Journal of the Iowa Medical Society, 1967 Nov; 57(11): 1097-9

### **Undersea Habitation: The Perils and Promises of Sea Living**

By Docksai, Rick

Source: The Futurist. 42, no. 5, (2008): 30.

# BOOKS

***Above World***

By Reese, Jenn

***The Abyss***

By Card, Orson Scott and Cameron, James

***Aquaman* - Comic**

By DC Comics

***Aquarius Mission***

By Caidin, Martin

***BioShock Rapture***

By Shirley, John and Levine, Ken

***Crisis on Conshelf Ten***

By Hughes, Monica

***The Dolphins of Pern***

By McCaffrey, Anne

***A Door Into Ocean***

By Slonczewski, Joan

***The Dragon Dreamer***

By Burke, J.S.

***The Dragon in the Sea***

By Herbert, Frank

***Fathom* - Comic**

By Image Comics

***Fluke***

By Moore, Christopher

***Howard Lovecraft and the Undersea Kingdom***

By MacPherson, Dwight and Brown, Bruce

***The Kraken Wakes***

By Wyndman, John

***The Little Mermaid***

By Andersen, Christian Hans

***Lucky Starr and the Oceans of Venus***

By Asimov, Isaac

***The Maracot Deep***

By Doyle, Arthur Conan

***Mermaids: The Myths, Legends, and Lore***

By Alexander, Skye

***Neptune Rising: Songs and Tales of the Undersea Folk***

By Yolen, Jane and Wiesner, David

***Ocean Outpost: The Future of Humans Living Underwater***

By Seedhouse, Erik

***Oceanspace***

By Steele, Allen

***Reefsong***

By Severance, Carol

***The Scar***

By Mieville, China

***Sealab: America's Forgotten Quest to Live and Work on the Ocean Floor***

By Hellwarth, Ben

***The Shadow over Innsmouth***

By Lovecraft, H.P.

***The Silent World - the Story of Undersea Discovery***

By Cousteau, Jacques-Yves

***Sphere***

By Crichton, Michael

***Starfish***

By Watts, Peter

***Startide Rising***

By Brin, David

***Sub-Mariner - Comic***

By Marvel Comics

***The Swarm***

By Schätzing, Frank

***The Threat From the Sea***

By Odom, Mel

***Twenty Thousand Leagues Under the Sea***

By Verne, Jules

***Undersea***

By Morrison, Geoffrey

***The Undersea Adventures of Capt'n Eli***

By Piscopo, Jay

***Undersea Colonies***

By Chamberland, Dennis

***Undersea Fleet***

By Frederik, Pohl and Williamson, Jack

***Undertow***

By Buckley, Michael

***The Watch Below***

By White, James

***Waterworld***

By Collins, Max Allan

## GAMES

*Abyss* - Tabletop Game

*ABZÛ* - Computer Game

*AD&D GA1: The Murky Deep* - RPG

*AD&D of Ships and the Sea* - RPG

*AD&D The Sea Devils* - RPG

*AD&D Sea of Fallen Stars* - RPG

*AD&D U1-U2: Sinister Secret of Saltmarsh,*

*Danger at Dunwater, & The Final Enemy* -

RPG

*AquaSphere* - Tabletop Game

*Atlanteon* - Tabletop Game

*Atlantis* - Tabletop Game

*Atlantis Underwater Tycoon* - Video Game

*BioShock/BioShock 2* - Computer Game

*Blue Planet* - RPG

*Cerulean Seas* - RPG

*Deep Sea Adventure* - Tabletop Game

*Escape from Atlantis* - Tabletop Game

*Flow* - Computer Game

*GURPS Atlantis* - RPG

*Nautilus* - Tabletop Game

*Nemo's War* - Tabletop Game

*Pathfinder Campaign Setting: Aquatic*

*Adventures* - RPG

*Polaris* - RPG

*Poseidon's Kingdom* - Tabletop Game

*Red November* - Tabletop Game

*Reef Encounter* - Tabletop Game

*Rifts: Lemuria* - RPG

*Rifts: Underseas* - RPG

*SOMA* - Computer Game

*Subnautica* - Computer Game

*Traveller: The Undersea Environment* - RPG

*World of Darkness: Blood-Dimmed Tides* -

RPG

## CINEMA

*20,000 Leagues Under The Sea*

*The Abyss*

*Around the World Under the Sea*

*Atlantis: The Lost Empire*

*Captain Nemo and the Underwater City*

*City Beneath the Sea*

*City in the Sea*

*Creature from the Black Lagoon*

*The Deep*

*Deep Star Six*

*Doctor Who - The Underwater Menace*

*Finding Dori*

*Finding Nemo*  
*Hello Down There*  
*Leviathan*  
*The Little Mermaid*  
*Marine Boy - Anime*  
*Sanctum*  
*Sealab 2020/2021 - Cartoon*  
*SeaQuest DSV*  
*Shark Tale*  
*Sphere*  
*Stargate Atlantis*  
*Stingray - TV*  
*Surface – TV*  
*Underwater City - Living Under The Sea*  
*Voyage to the Bottom of the Sea - TV and Movie*  
*War-Gods of the Deep*  
*Waterworld*

Ithaa Undersea Restaurant  
<http://conradhotels3.hilton.com/en/hotels/maldives/conrad-maldives-rangali-island-MLEHICI/amenities/restaurants-ithaa.html>

Jules' Undersea Lodge at Key Largo  
Undersea Park  
<http://jul.com/index.html>  
Poseidon Undersea Resorts  
<http://www.poseidonresorts.com/>

Shedd Aquarium  
<https://www.sheddaquarium.org/>

Subsix Dining  
<http://www.niyama.com/en/dining/subsix>

Woods Hole Oceanographic Institute  
<http://www.whoi.edu/>

## LOCATIONS

Atlantis Adventures  
<https://atlantisadventures.com/submarines/>

Dubai Aquarium & Underwater Zoo  
<http://www.thedubaiaquarium.com/en/Default.aspx>

Georgia Aquarium  
<http://www.georgiaaquarium.org/>

H2OME  
<http://ussubstructures.com/h2o.html>

Hydropolis  
<https://dubaiunderwaterhotel.net/hydropolis.html>

## PEOPLE

Dr. Robert Ballard  
William Beebe  
William Bourne  
David Bushnell  
James Cameron  
Jacques Cousteau  
Leonardo da Vinci  
Cornelis van Drebbel  
Sylvia Earle  
Guglielmo de Loreno  
Matthew Maury  
Jacques Piccard  
Jules Verne