

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

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

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

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

CINEMA

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