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opening extract from

Classics Illustrated: A Journey to the Centre of the Earth

written by

Jules Verne

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A JOURNEY TO THE CENTRE OF THE EARTH

JULES VERNE

GO DOWN THE CRATER OF SNEFFEL, THAT THE SHADOW OF SCARTARIS SOFTLY TOUCHES BEFORE THE BEGINNING OF JULY, BRAVE TRAVELLER, AND YOU WILL COME TO THE CENTRE OF THE EARTH. I DID IT.

Arne Saknussemm

BUT THE MONSTERS PASSED US AND ATTACKED EACH OTHER WITH INDESCRIBABLE FURY.

WE WATCHED, HORRIFIED.

HOW MANY ARE THERE?

THERE ARE ONLY TWO.

BUT WE SAW MANY.

NO. ONE IS AN ICHTHYOSAURUS, WHICH HAS THE BACK OF A PORPOISE, THE HEAD OF A CROCODILE AND THE FINS OF A WHALE. THE OTHER IS A PLESIOSAURUS, A SERPENT WITH A SHELL LIKE A TURTLE'S.