

# Blurb

FOR READERS OF CHILDREN'S NOVELS

SUMMER 2024

MCCRACKEN COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY, PADUCAH, KY

## THE UNDERWATER ISSUE



The Mid-Ocean Ridge is the longest mountain range in the world...and it's underwater! The Mid-Ocean Ridge is about 40,000 miles long and wraps around the globe like seams on a baseball. How long is 40,000 miles? The distance between New York and Los Angeles is about 2800 miles. That means you'd have to drive across the the United States fourteen and a half times to travel the distance of the Mid-Ocean Ridge. The oceans are amazing!

Mr. Matt Recommends

### ODDER

by Katherine Applegate



For many years, Katherine Applegate has wowed young readers with her stories of animals. In books like *The One and Only Ivan*, *The One and Only Ruby*, *Crenshaw*, *Dogtown*, and *Wishtree*, she's taken us inside the minds of gorillas, elephants, dogs, cats, and crows. Now she's back with another phenomenal book that takes us into the world of sea otters.

Odder spends her days off the coast of central California, practicing her underwater acrobatics and spinning the quirky stories for which she's known. She's a fearless daredevil, curious to a fault. But when Odder comes face-to-face with a hungry great white shark, her life takes a dramatic turn, one that will challenge everything she believes about herself—and about the humans who hope to save her.

### Awesome Otter Fact



Otters hold hands and float while they're sleeping!

What do you do when you have to sleep but you spend all your time in the ocean? You hold hands! This behavior is called "rafting," and otters do it so they don't drift away from the group while resting. Otters have the thickest fur of any mammal and this helps them float. Sometimes they also anchor together by wrapping themselves in seaweed. Scientists have counted over a 1000 otters in one raft.

YOU CAN FIND PAST ISSUES OF BLURB AT [MCLIB.NET/BLURB](http://MCLIB.NET/BLURB)



## BIG WORD NATATORIUM

A NATATORIUM is a fancy word for an indoor swimming pool.

## IN THE DEEP END



### Barely Floating by Lilliam Rivera

Nat looks more like a submarine than a mermaid. Everybody underestimates her swimming abilities, but is that enough to keep her from learning synchronized swimming?



### The Mystery of the Purple Pool

by Gertrude Chandler Warner

Messed-up rooms, missing phones, and purple pool water. The Boxcar kids are trying to have a fun sightseeing trip in New York, but now they're involved in a mystery at their hotel.



### Starfish by Lisa Fipps

Ever since she wore a whale bathing suit at her fifth birthday party, people have bullied her about her weight. But she loves swimming too much to let the bullies win.

## WORLD'S DEEPEST POOL

The deepest swimming pool in the world is Deep Dive Dubai in the capital city of the United Arab Emirates. The pool is over 200 feet deep, enough to hold the space shuttle standing on its end or the Leaning Tower of Pisa. The pool is used by certified scuba divers and those in training, as well as a place to film underwater scenes for movies. The pool contains a whole underwater city that divers can explore. As well as being home to the world's deepest pool, Dubai is also home to the world's largest mall and tallest building.

## GO JUMP IN A LAKE

### Girl in the Lake by India Hill Brown



Celeste isn't looking forward to spending her vacation at her grandparents' lake house, particularly since she failed her swimming test. To make matters worse, she thinks the house is haunted by an aunt who drowned in the lake years ago.

### The Littlest Bigfoot by Jennifer Weiner



After being sent to boarding school, Alice is desperate to make new friends. One day, she happens to see a girl drowning in a lake. She rescues the girl, Millie. It turns out, however, that Millie is a Bigfoot.

### Fishing on Thin Ice by Art Coulson



Jimmy is excited to spend a week ice fishing with his friend Ryan in frozen Minnesota. Jimmy catches a beautiful northern pike, but a sudden snowstorm and an ATV accident turns a good time into a dangerous one.

## MYSTERIOUS LAKE



We think of lakes as being old, carved by moving glaciers or created by ancient asteroids. But every now and then, a new lake just pops up. In 2014, desert shepherds in Gafsa, Tunisia discovered that a lake had formed, virtually overnight (pictured above). Some called it a miracle, particularly since it happened in the desert. The most likely explanation is that a small earthquake opened an underground spring that filled the lake.



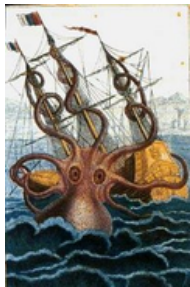
# MYTHICAL SEA MONSTERS

The ocean is vast and deep. Who knows what might swim under the surface?



The **LEVIATHAN** is mentioned six times in the Bible's Old Testament. The beast is often described as a sea serpent that can breathe fire, a swimming dragon.

The **ASPIDOCELEON** is mentioned in early Christian texts as a giant turtle or whale that has a whole beach on its back. It lures sailors to dock their boats on its beach and then drowns them when it submerges.



A **KRAKEN** is the legendary creature said to inhabit the waters between Iceland and Norway. Often depicted as a giant octopus, it is said to drag down ships.

A **UMIBOZU** from Japanese tradition is a giant, shadowy, human figure who appears to sailors during calm waters which quickly become stormy. If you see one, expect your ship to sink.



From Greek tradition, the **CHARYBDIS** was a sea monster that would create a whirlpool when it opened its mouth. Odysseus and Jason and the Argonauts all had to battle Charybdis.

## SEE SEA MONSTERS SERIES?

### LONG TIME, NO SEA MONSTER

BY NANCY KRULIK

PART OF THE MS. FROGBOTTOM'S FIELD TRIP SERIES



Learning is an adventure in Ms. Frogbottom's class because she's got a magic map -- one that takes her students all over the world to do battle with mythical monsters. When Ms. Frogbottom's crew lands in Scotland, they come nose to nose with the legendary Loch Ness Monster!

### THE PRINCESS IN BLACK TAKES A VACATION

BY SHANNON HALE

PART OF THE PRINCESS IN BLACK SERIES.

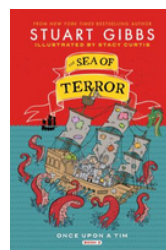


After battling monsters all night, a sleepy Princess in Black decides that she needs a seaside vacation. But just as Princess Magnolia is about to take a nap on her hammock, she hears a "ROAR!" Seriously? A monster? On the perfect beach? Could a sea monster really ruin this vacation for the Princess in Black?

### THE SEA OF TERROR

BY STUART GIBBS

PART OF THE ONCE UPON A TIM SERIES.

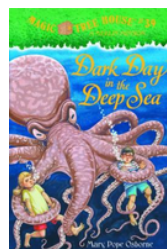


Junior knights Tim, Belinda, and Ferkle are on a new quest. The safety of all Merryland depends upon them. But first, they must face the deadly Sea of Terror and risk becoming flotsam on the waves

### DARK DAY IN THE DEEP SEA

BY MARY POPE OSBORNE

PART OF THE MAGIC TREEHOUSE SERIES.



The magic tree house leads Jack and Annie to a tiny deserted island in the middle of the ocean. The brother and sister team are soon rescued by a ship of explorers and scientists who are looking for...a sea monster!

## THE KINGDOM OF ATLANTIS



The legend of Atlantis states that it was once a powerful kingdom that fell out of favor with the gods and sank to the bottom of the sea.

Some people think this legend is based in truth, that Atlantis was once a real place, and they've spent millions of dollars and thousands of hours searching for this lost city on the bottom of the ocean floor.

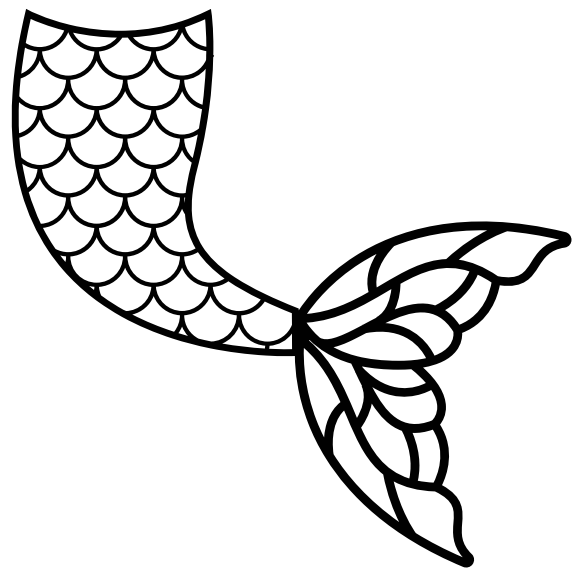
But why? The legend of Atlantis is fiction. In fact, we know who first wrote it and when.

The Greek philosopher Plato created the legend for his book *Timaeus* in 360 BCE (almost 2400 years ago). He wrote down the story of Atlantis to serve as a lesson, an allegory, that even the mightiest of cities and people will one day fall, or in this case, sink to the bottom of sea.

It seems that those who have spent a lot of time and money searching for the lost city missed the entire point of the story.

## MER - WHAT?

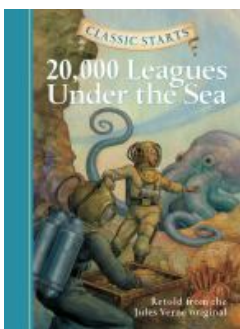
We have mermaids, mermen, mermicorns (half unicorn), purrmaids (half cat). Can you make up a new mer-creature?



## CLASSIC STARTS

THE CLASSIC STARTS SERIES FEATURES CLASSIC NOVELS RETOLD FOR YOUNGER READERS. WE HAVE SEVERAL IN OUR COLLECTION.

### 20,000 LEAGUES UNDER THE SEA BY JULES VERNE



Professor Aronnax of the Museum of Paris goes on a thrilling and dangerous journey far below the waves to see what creatures live in the ocean's depths. But will he survive in this fantastical electrical submarine run by the deranged Captain Nemo?

## MERMAID TALES

### COMB OF WISHES

BY LISA STRINGFELLOW



Kela is still mourning her mother when she finds a mermaid's comb while she and her friend are looking for sea glass; touching it opens a connection to the mermaid Ophidia who can grant her wish, to bring her mother back to life—but all wishes have consequences.

### POOR UNFORTUNATE SOUL BY SERENA VALENTINO



The story of the Little Mermaid told from the perspective of Ursula, the sea witch. Find out why she's so angry and twisted.