

## The Giant Pearl and the Shark

We travelled in the Indian Ocean for ten days. The *Nautilus* did not seem to have any particular direction. I did not see Captain Nemo for some days after the man's death. He stayed locked in his room. The ship was quiet.

One day Conseil, Ned Land, and I were in the museum room. We were looking through the underwater windows at the beautiful fish. I wanted to know what the others thought of Captain Nemo. Conseil said:

"I think he's a scientist who never had any success. That's why he's here, under the sea. He's not famous and he's angry about that."

"I think he's crazy and we will die here unless we escape."

"I think you're both wrong. He's angry about something. He is not free here. He loves the sea, yes, but there is something missing from his life. Maybe he blames someone for that, and I think he wants to hurt that person."

As I said this, the walls closed over the side windows and Captain Nemo walked in.

"Would you like to go pearl fishing? This is the richest part of the world to fish for pearls."

We all looked at each other and agreed. We were prisoners, but it was exciting to see all of the mysteries under the sea.

The ocean near India has thousands of oysters. The pearls inside them can cost hundreds of dollars. There are many sharks

