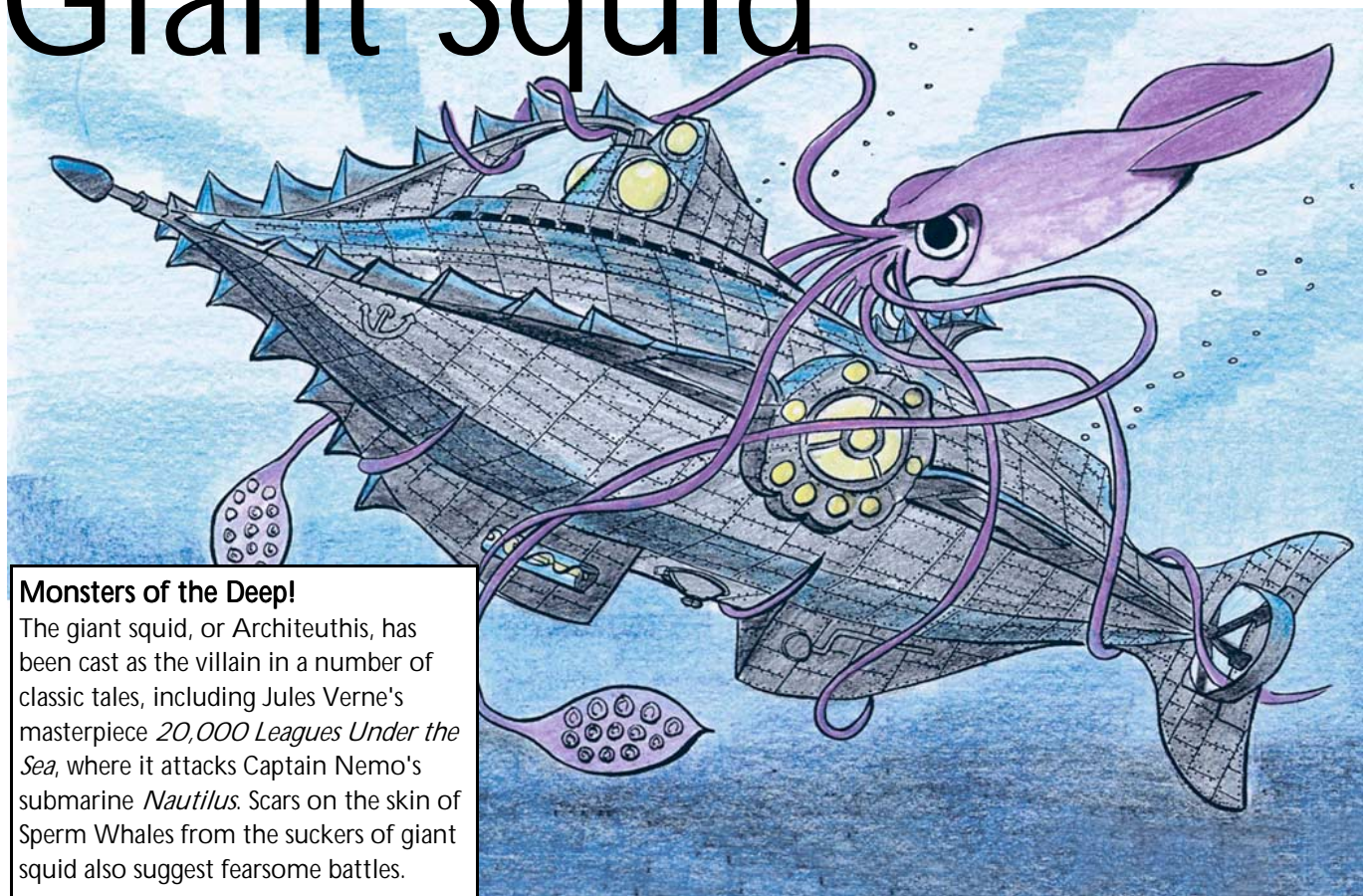


# Giant Squid



### Monsters of the Deep!

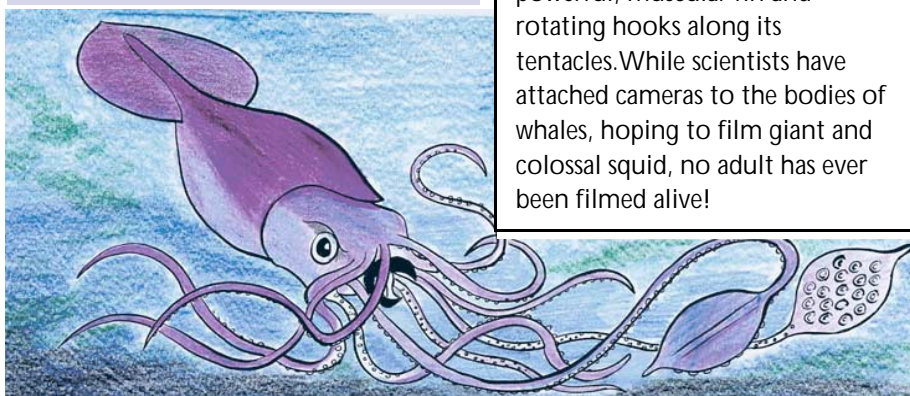
The giant squid, or Architeuthis, has been cast as the villain in a number of classic tales, including Jules Verne's masterpiece *20,000 Leagues Under the Sea*, where it attacks Captain Nemo's submarine *Nautilus*. Scars on the skin of Sperm Whales from the suckers of giant squid also suggest fearsome battles.



### Captain Cockle's Log

Welcome aboard shipmates! Together, we'll be taking a look at the world's greatest natural resource – the sea!  
Words & pictures by John Joyce  
John Joyce 2004

For more adventures from Captain Cockle, visit his website at  
[www.captaincockle.com](http://www.captaincockle.com)



### Big Softy ... or ....

New evidence suggests that giant squid are too soft and weedy to be real monsters. Instead, they just hang out in the darkness hoping to bump into a meal and that the real villain is ....

### Super-Squid!

The 'Colossal Squid' has a powerful, muscular fin and rotating hooks along its tentacles. While scientists have attached cameras to the bodies of whales, hoping to film giant and colossal squid, no adult has ever been filmed alive!

## Stop Press

Tasmanian squid scientist Steve O'Shea has researched a "Colossal squid" - *Mesonychoteuthis* - larger, stronger and more heavily armed than the giant squid. First described by scientists in 1925, it was only sixty years later before a complete juvenile specimen was trawled up from the depths. O'Shea thinks that colossal squid can have bodies up to four metres long with tentacles reaching out as far as 15 metres.