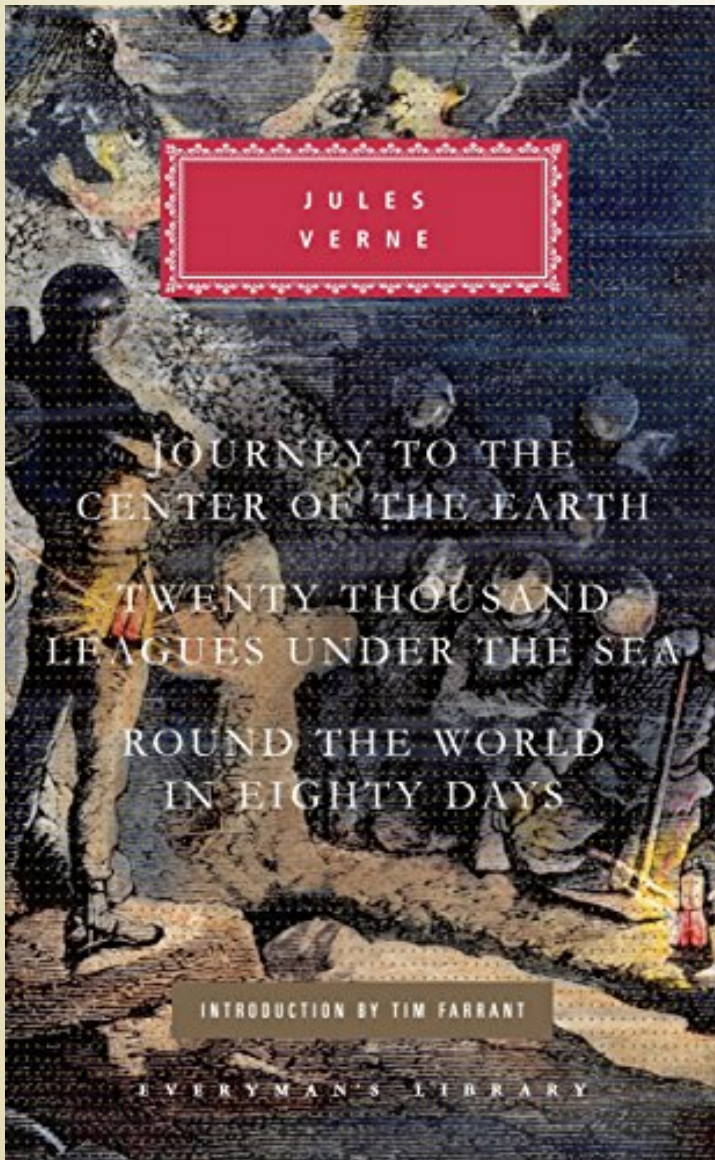


# WHAT WE ARE READING



Author: Jules Verne

**Journey to the Center of the Earth (1864)**

**Twenty Thousand Leagues Under the Sea (1870)**

**Round the World in Eighty Days (1872)**

Verne was one of the great pioneers of science fiction. Born in France in 1828, he wrote brilliantly about space, air, and underwater travel long before airplanes and space ships had been invented, and he is still one of the most widely read internationally of all science-fiction writers.

But beyond charting new territory for adventurous fiction, his creations have entered our culture and taken on the magnitude and vitality of myth. It is hard to imagine anyone who has not heard of Captain Nemo and his giant submarine exploring the ruins of Atlantis in *Twenty Thousand Leagues Under the Sea*, Phileas Fogg's frantic race around the world by every means of transportation in *Round the World in Eighty Days*, and the harrowing descent through a volcanic crater to underground caverns where prehistoric creatures roam in *Journey to the Center of the Earth*. These stories have seized the imaginations of readers for generations and are as vivid and exciting now as when their author first imagined traveling beyond the bounds of the possible.