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Opening extract from **How Pirates Really Work!**

Written & Illustrated by **Alan Snow**

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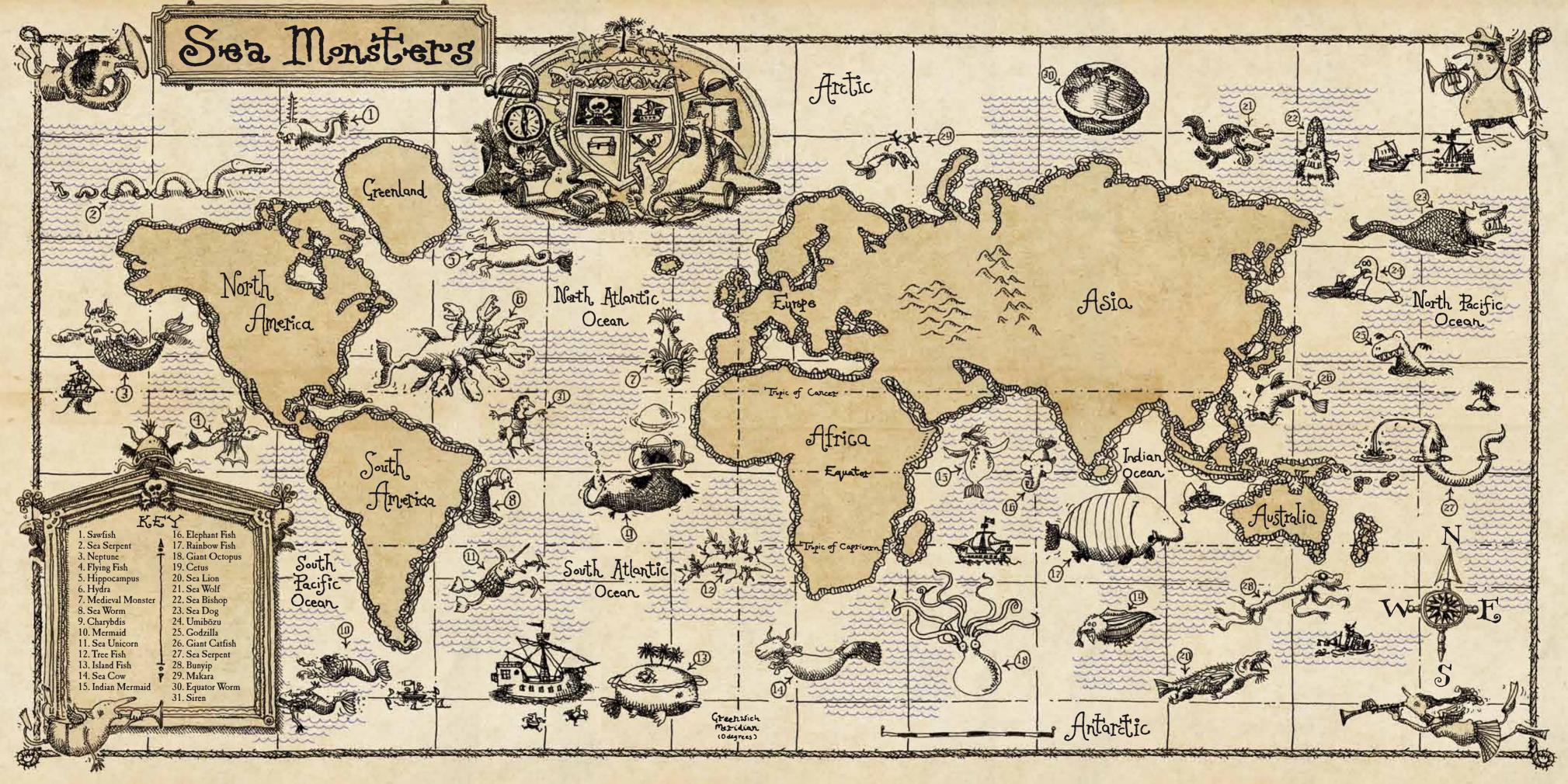
How Pirates Really Work!

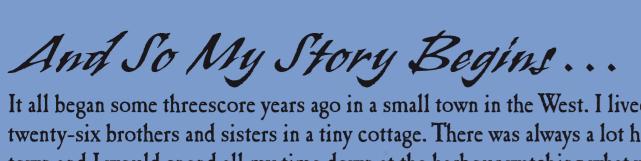


by Alan Snow

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It all began some threescore years ago in a small town in the West. I lived with my mother and twenty-six brothers and sisters in a tiny cottage. There was always a lot happening in our busy little town and I would spend all my time down at the harbour watching what went on. I never grew tired of seeing the fishing boats and merchant ships come and go with all their varied cargoes.

The sailors sang hearty songs and would sometimes throw a small part of the day's catch or some other titbit my way. I always wondered what it might be like to live out on the open seas, rolling in the deep.

One night, I noticed a ship arrive very quietly. I watched as the crew tied up and made their way to the pub. I crept along behind them.

After seeing how jolly they were, I decided to stow away and

go to sea with them.