THE VOICE OF THE LAGOON
What has happened to the Captain?!!
WILL THEY DISCOVER THE SECRET OF THE LAGOON?

YES!

AND YOU WILL SOON!
The creation of this little adventure of Tintin began in the tropics, where the story takes place: Madagascar. Some time ago, I began a long story, but years passed and still there had been little advancement. On the one hand, I wanted to continue "The O-Light Project" (that was the original title of this adventure), but on the other, I very much wanted to "try my hand" at another type of story, a simpler idea of less importance. To try my hand at inking, my rhythm of storytelling, my ability to create suspense, my sense of humour ...

... And the idea came, in a few hours, during a voyage between Tananarive and Tamatave (a harbour town where you can travel by plane or boat to Saint-Marie - Nosy Boraha - the island where the action unfolds).

In the beginning, the idea was basically that Tintin and Haddock went diving ... in wetsuits, which had been curiously absent in the work of Hergé (except in the film "Tintin and the Golden Fleece"). Again, I still failed to find any intrigue, other than that of a treasure hunt or the eternal struggle against villains. Suddenly, an idea popped into my head: "The Speaking Fish." Was Tintin going to discover a mysterious creature with the power of speech? Why not!

After many reflections, I began on this improbable tale, desperate to avoid the possible pitfalls of which I was well aware. The story, in my head only, not written, seemed to stay together to the end.

Upon my return to Paris, I drew the cover and chose one of the most beautiful fish of the coral masses of the Indian Ocean: the Leopard Triggerfish (marine aquariums are another one of my passions).

On the "TintinParodies" forum, I declared my intention to tell this little tropical story under the provisional title of "The Speaking Fish". A brief exchange of messages gave me a flood of alternatives, some more original than others. Such as: "The Ventriloquist Fish", "The Talkative Fish", "The Trail of the Triggerfish", "The Secret of the Coral"... and many others. A passionate thank you to all the members of "TintinParodies"!

Finally, thanks to this spontaneous creativity, I found THE title which we all now know picked up the pencil and set to work on the first image, the title now definitively set: "THE VOICE OF THE LAGOON".
Nosy Boraha, east coast of Madagascar. Tintin and the Captain are taking refuge in the tropics, away from the hustle and bustle of life at Martinspike...

Ah, the sea air! There's nothing like it - the waves, the spray... the quiet...

Exactly, lad! Here, there's no Jolyon Wagg! No Vagabond Car Club, no Jolly Follies... the calm...

TO BE CONTINUED
A NEW ADVENTURE OF TINTIN
THE VOICE OF THE LAGOON
DRAWINGS AND ORIGINAL TEXT BY HARRY EDWOOD, TRANSLATED BY RICHARD
BASED ON THE CHARACTERS CREATED BY HERGÉ

Ten thousand thundering typhoons! Is this shack falling apart or are we under attack?

What’s that thingummy?
A stone... but made of lead...

Lead? Another piece of junk from those blistering Sputniks?
Possibly... it could well be an aerolite...

What’s that you’re calling me?
Aerolite yourself! I’m not...
No, Captain - a meteorite...

Ah, a shooting star... and it had to fall on me! That’s a good start!
Strange, all the same.

A bit of the local tobacco... a siesta... that’ll do me nicely.

YEAARGH!

1b
TO BE CONTINUED...
Hukhh ... What is that? Hukkh ... what the ... Where did you get this?

A kid at the airport! He called it Tslan dimla ... Hang on, I've got a phrasebook...

Hmm ... Tsa ... Tse ... Ah! There: Tslanindimilay! It translates as ... um ... Five men could not stomach it. So it was...

Pepper - crushed pepper! The strongest they have! Beastly tropical Abdullahs ... WHAT?

Don't be angry, Captain! Let's go scuba diving! That's a nice, sober activity ...

Sober activity, you say? What do you take me for, Tintin, an old drunkard? I meant...

I've got a little surprise for you! Don't you move from there, my lad!
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No, Captain! I meant it was a calm activity... subdued...

Ostrogoth! Orang-outang! I'll show you something!

That is a diving suit, my boy.

It's useless to use that antique!

Thermoregulated, light, in pure elastomer!

And you expect me to dress up like a batrachian?

No, I'll stick with the diving suit - you have your head on your shoulders and your feet on the...

...GROUND?

TO BE CONTINUED
A little later...
That old diving suit looks fine!
But who’ll pump...

You’re sitting on it! An electric compressor - a gift from Cuthbert!

Oh yes! How ingenious!

And a watertight helmet!

Click

What happened? It was a tropical storm - a tornado, wasn’t it?
No Captain - you lent back too far on the rocking chair!

One thing after another!
Oh! I’m ... I’m sorry, Tintin, I didn’t see it spring back!

Are you OK? How did that happen?
The law of moments - but now it’s at equilibrium we’re safe!

To be continued...
Hukkh! Turn it off ... quickly!

There, you’re fine now - you’ve deflated nicely.

Nothing serious, Captain! It was only the air valve.

You think so? Ha! To be turned into an underwater blimp is nothing serious!?!?

You come up with some good ones. I’m at the end of my tether with all these happenings!

RKMPXKFRTRTVT! Come free, you blistering ...

... thundering rubber-necked cytoplasm! ... Aha, that’s it!

I thought that sort of thing only happened to the Captain!

Ah! ... Peace! ... finally!

TO BE CONTINUED...
What's that blistering pisciform?  
Thundering typhoons! It's a ...  
... and it's coming right for me!

Meanwhile ...  
Hmm, according to this map, 
we should dive to the south.

Snowy, you wait here. I'm just going to join the 
Captain and ...
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TINTIN! HELP ME!

A baba! ... A cocoo! ... A dada!
What? Calm down, Captain.
What's happened?

I was attacked by a bakoo! No!
A rada ... A Barracuda?

Hmm ... Yes! ... But ... How did you know?
Let's see, Captain.
You aren't hurt at all?

Phew, no! Not a scratch! But the diving suit is ruined!
That's funny ...

How's that funny? You can laugh at anything!
No, I meant it was curious - bizarre ...

LOOK OUT!

TO BE CONTINUED
Fresh-water flounder! Let go of my helmet!

Let go, Captain! Now!

Bravo! It's a nice trophy, no?

Look out! It's still alive!

Splash!

Too late, Captain, it's dived again.

Ten thousand...
Look, Captain! It's a stone like the one that fell on you...
Another meteorite?

No! I don't think so... The fish spat this out when the helmet hit it!

Then the stones must come from the lagoon!
And how do you explain the first one, that fell out of the sky?

A fish swallowed it... and a seagull swallowed the fish...
And the stone!

Exactly, Captain! The gull must have spit the stone out again in flight! We'll have to check it out!
What? Go back in the water in what remains of my diving suit? Thundering typhoons, are you mad?!
But with the wetsuits...

You will never get me to dress up like a rubbery gargoyle, by thunder! Nothing would look worse on me than that...

Dlop

TO BE CONTINUED
A little later ... 

Mm! Ready yet?

Billions of blue blistering barnacles in a thundering typhoon! Who's the gherkin that cooked up this plate of elastic spaghetti?

?! ?

Well, it looks like it's pretty fast food, doesn't it?

Well, if I've got to go in there again, I might as well get it over with...

I 'ope 'ere's no 'ore 'arracuas...

... out!

Your flipper, look...

It would probably be better if you put the flippers on when you get in the water...

Not another word, lad.
Not one...

To Be Continued...
This is the last time I join you in your adventurous jokes! You and your ideas will end up turning me into flotsam!

I'll go first! It's safer in the sea than here!

Just in time to settle the score with that pithecanthropus with flippers!

But Captain, the fish...

Useless; he didn't hear me.

Perhaps I shouldn't have forced him?

Snowy, I'm going to join the Captain - you stay here.

Trrriiiiiouuuudzziiiiiiii!
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The Captain!

I only hope...

How odd... the noise has stopped.

There he is... but what's he...?

A simple perch?

Thundering sardines, get back in your tin!

TRRIIIOUUU!ZZZZZ!!KREEUUUU!

TO BE CONTINUED...
VAOVAO...VITSIIZZZ

I see...it's the signal to go back up!

You heard it? That fish spoke! It's incredible!

If you can call it speaking! It sounded like the Castafiore with flippers!

TRR...

I'm not dreaming?!?

That gesture means what? This is great! Go back up? Be clearer, blistering barnacles. Speak up, lad!

It went south, in the direction of the wreck!

Quick, after it!

But what wr...

...EEEECK?

TO BE CONTINUED...