

## **Rick Wakeman**

### **"The Forest"**

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Brownish hue dictates my eye no color hides their fear  
Flowers faded dull and cold now bleached by  
atmosphere  
Creatures twisting under trees, huge monsters soaked  
with rage  
Hidden deep below our earth a frightening bygone age  
Their shepherd came now long extinct, a huge  
primeval man  
The three men filled with disbelief just turned as one  
and ran

Dumb with astonishment and amazement  
Which bordered on stupefaction they fled the forest  
Instinctively they made towards the Lidenbrook Sea  
Discovering a rusty dagger on the beach  
And the carved initials of the explorer  
Before them on a slab of granite

They realized that they were once again treading  
The route of Arne Saknussemm  
Following a short sea journey around a cape  
They came ashore where a dark tunnel plunged deep  
into rock  
And venturing down their progress was halted by a  
piece of rock  
Blocking their way

After deciding to blow their way through and setting  
the charge  
They put out to sea for safety, with the explosion  
The rocks before them opened like a curtain  
And a bottomless pit appeared in the shore  
The explosion had caused an earthquake  
The abyss had opened up and the sea was pouring into  
it

Down and down they plunged into the huge gallery  
But on regaining their senses found their raft rising at  
tremendous speed  
Trapped in the shaft of an active volcano  
They rose through the ages of man  
To be finally expelled out on a mountain side

Riddled with tiny lava streams

Their journey was completed and they found  
themselves 3000 miles  
From their original starting point in Iceland  
They had entered by one volcano and they had come  
out by another  
With the blue mountains of Calabria in the east they  
Walked away from the mountain that had returned  
them  
The frightening Mount Etna

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