

KING SOLOMON'S MINES

SUMMARY

At the beginning of the story Allan Quatermain met Sir Henry Curtis and Captain Good. Sir Curtis told Mr Quatermain about his lost brother, who got lost while searching for the legendary King Solomon's mines. Those three men decided to search for Sir Curtis's brother and for the legendary treasure. They began with their journey. First they found some help. One of their new helpers was a man named Umbopa. Later, he turned up to be the most important helper. Beside him, they got two more helpers. Their journey was very difficult. They had to travel across high mountains and hot badlands. Finally they ran into some men. They turned out to be members of the Kukuana people, whose king was the terrible Twala. Later they found out that Twala is not their true king. Their true king died in the mountains. At least that's what they thought. Later, a big surprise followed. It turned out to be that Umbopa is their true king. His true name was Ingosi. With his friends' help, he reclaimed the throne. The other men continued with their search. Ingosi commanded an old woman to help them. She really helped them! After they had found the treasure, she buried them alive! But fortunately, they managed to find the exit. They rescued themselves, while the old woman died. They came out of the mines rich and more important, alive.

MAIN CHARCTERS

The most important characters of the story are:

- ❖ Allan Quatermain; centre of our story, a honest man, cruel for present time, but quite normal for the time in which the story was written (killing elephants)
- ❖ Sir Henry Curtis; very similar to Quatermain, loves his brother very much
- ❖ Captain Good; is more "man of the nature", doesn't like civilisation very much
- ❖ Umbopa/Ingosi; a true king, quite modest for a king, honest, good man
- ❖ Twala; the opposite of Umbopa, represents evil and everything bad
- ❖ Gagool; a true witch, even worse than Twala, Satan himself (like Mr. Hyde in Dr. Jekyll And Mr. Hyde)

+ Other Kukuana people

VOCABULARY

These were unknown or strange words I have found in the story:

- plume: a feather
- airtight: not letting air in
- anxiously: worriedly
- charged blindly: ran without seeing where they were going
- forked: having branches in a y-shape
- shield: a piece of metal, wood or leather used in battle to protect the body
- throne: the chair on which a king or queen sits
- pronouncement: something said
- over balanced: fell over
- punishment: the suffering or pain someone is given for doing something wrong

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS FROM THE BOOK

- Because he wanted to ask him if he had any information about his brother.
- He wore an eyeglass.
- They were brothers. They quarrelled.
- Jose da Silvestra. He died in the mountains.
- Silvestra's grandson gave it to him.
- Khiva died. Elephant ran over him.

- True
- False
- True
- False
- True
- True

- C
- A
- B
- C
- B
- C
- B

- He was unconscious.
- To attack immediately.
- So they couldn't surround them.
- Because of the law.
- In a cave transformed into stone.
- While she was trying to run out, the door fell on her.
- Because it seemed that there is no exit.

- False
- True
- True