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**GREAT ILLUSTRATED CLASSICS**

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**GULLIVER'S  
TRAVELS**

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*Doctor Lemuel Gulliver*

## Chapter 1

### Shipwrecked!

I'm not an old man writing down my life story, for I expect that many years and many adventures lay ahead of me yet, for I'm only forty-two years old. Still, during those years, I've had many strange adventures in my travels to far-off lands of the world.

Perhaps strange adventures aren't what you'd expect from someone named *Doctor* Lemuel Gulliver, but being a doctor in London or anyplace in England or anyplace on land, for that matter, just didn't satisfy me. Even when I was a medical student, I made certain

## GULLIVER'S TRAVELS

to take courses in navigation, for travel to distant places in the world always fascinated me.

After graduating from medical school at the age of twenty-four, I signed up as a ship's doctor and spent three and a half years sailing around Europe and throughout the Mediterranean Sea.

On my return to England, I married and set up a practice in London. But at the end of two years, I realized that I couldn't make a success of medicine on land, and with my wife's approval I went to sea again.

For the next six years, I traveled to the East and West Indies as a ship's doctor, earning money to send home to my family and learning many languages during my time ashore in foreign lands. Because I have an excellent memory, I learned these languages very easily—a talent which would prove to be very useful during the voyages I would make afterwards.

At the end of those six years, I had grown



“Travel Fascinated Me.”