

TEXT 1**SHIPWRECK IN THE FORBIDDEN ZONE**

Roff Smith, October 2009

1 History rarely unfolds like a fable. But consider this: A 16th-century Portuguese trading vessel, carrying a fortune and bound for a famed spice port of India, is blown far off course by a fierce storm and sinks on a mysterious coast sprinkled with more than a hundred million carats of diamonds. None of the castaways¹ ever return home.

5 This tale would have been lost forever had it not been for the astonishing discovery in April 2008 of a shipwreck in the rich and famously off-limits De Beers diamond-mining lease² near the mouth of the Orange River on Namibia's southern coast.

A company geologist found a copper ingot³, the type used to trade for spices in the Indies in the first half of the 16th century.

10 Archaeologists would later find 22 tons of these ingots beneath the sand, as well as cannons, swords, ivory and muskets⁴. And gold, of course, fistfuls of gold.

It is by far the oldest shipwreck ever found on the coast of sub-Saharan Africa, and the richest. Its dollar value is anyone's guess, but none of its treasures have fired the imaginations of the world's archaeologists as much as the wreck itself.

15 "This is a priceless opportunity," says Francisco Alves, the doyen of Portuguese maritime archaeologists. "We know so little about these great old ships. This is only the second one ever excavated by archaeologists. All the others were plundered by treasure hunters."

Treasure hunters are never going to be a problem here, not in the middle of one of the world's most jealously guarded diamond mines, on a coast whose very name—
20 *Sperrgebiet*—means "forbidden zone" in German. Namdeb, suspended their operations around the wreck site, called in a team of archaeologists, and for a few gloriously diverting weeks mined history instead of diamonds. It will take years to study the wealth of material collected from the Diamond Shipwreck, as it has come to be called.

And what of the people on board?

25 Archaeologists believe that many of those aboard made it to land, to one of the most inhospitable⁵ places on Earth. The crew might as well have been shipwrecked on Mars.

Whatever their final fate, the survivors of the *Bom Jesus* had no inkling⁶ of the irony with which their prayers had been answered. They'd set off on a great journey in search of riches, pledging everything for success. Now here they were, delivered onto a shore of
30 unimaginable wealth—a stretch of desert so rich in high-quality diamonds that in the early 1900s an explorer made a wager about the amount of time it would take to fill a tin cup with gems found loose in the sand. The job took all of ten minutes.

Billions of diamond deposits originating inland, spilled into the Atlantic carried by the same cold current that would one day sweep the *Bom Jesus* to its death.

[Adapted from: <<http://ngm.nationalgeographic.com/print/2009/10/shipwreck/smith-tex>>]

¹ castaways – shipwrecked crew

² lease – a contract by which one party rents land to another for a specified time in return for a payment

³ ingot – a block of metal, typically oblong in shape used in the place of money for trading

⁴ musket – an infantry man's light gun with a long barrel fired from the shoulder

⁵ inhospitable – an environment harsh and difficult to live in

⁶ inkling – a slight knowledge or suspicion, a hint

TEXT 2**500 YEAR-OLD SHIPWRECK LOADED WITH GOLD FOUND IN NAMIBIAN DESERT**

Walt Bonner, June 07, 2016

- 1 Diamond miners from De Beers recently discovered a ship that went down 500 years ago.

"The mining site was located in the surf zone⁷, so what the chaps do is push up a huge sea-wall with bulldozers parallel to the beach, with the ends running back to the beach. The result is a large man-made lagoon, with the surf pounding on the outside. Then they pump the sea-water out of the lagoon," chief mining archaeologist, Dr Dieter Noli explained.

5 It was in this drained lagoon near Namibia's coast where the wreck was discovered under the ocean floor. Noli, wasn't too surprised – with the abundance of shipwrecks on the coast, also called "The Gates of Hell" by Portuguese sailors, he knew something would eventually turn up.

- 10 While there are plenty of shipwrecks in the area, almost all of them are "recent" – having sunk only in the last 120 years. Noli realised quickly this new find would be the oldest one yet.

He tried to convince the Namdeb Corporation to let them work more on the site – no easy task, considering the huge cost of keeping the site dry for two weeks beyond the mining period and maintaining the sea-wall, which was a 24/7 job.

15 "Luckily we found the treasure chest on day six and the value of the site was no longer in doubt." The sunken ship was loaded down with treasure including 44,000 pounds of copper ingots. These ingots played a key role in the wreck's preservation.

"Marine organisms may like wood and so forth, but copper really puts them off their food, so a lot of stuff survived the 500 years on the bottom of the sea which should really not have done so."

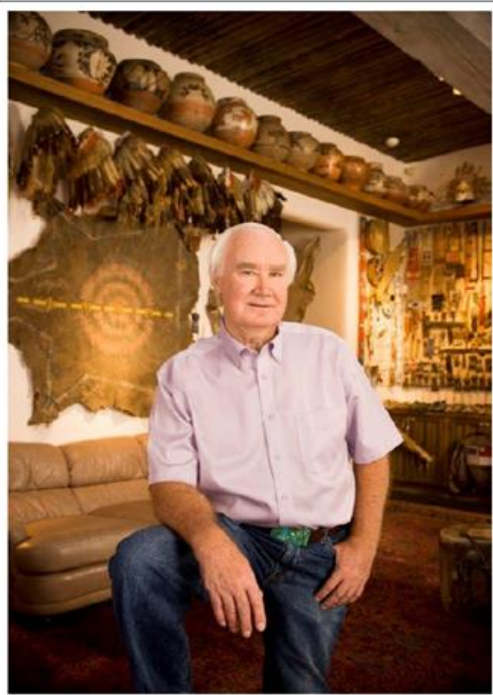
20 So who gets the gold?

"The ship belonged to the King of Portugal, making it a ship of state – with the ship and its entire contents belonging to Portugal. The Portuguese government, however, very generously waived that right, allowing the Namibian government to keep the lot."

25

[Adapted from: <<http://www.foxnews.com/science/2016/06/07/500-year-old-shipwreck-loaded-with-gold-found-in-namibian-desert.html>>]

⁷ surf zone – the region in the sea where the waves break

TEXT 3

Forrest at home in Santa Fe

THE THRILL OF THE CHASE BLOG

Forrest Fenn lives in New Mexico where he started an art gallery, raised a family, collects artefacts, writes books and made a fortune.

He has hidden approximately a million dollars of his fortune in a bronze chest. The hidden treasure is one of the ways in which Forrest enjoys life.

Everyone is invited to go out and look for Forrest's treasure chest. Forrest versus the rest of the world and the winner gets to keep a million dollars.

There are some essential items that will help you find the treasure. Forrest wrote and published a poem on his website which contains nine clues and supposedly leads directly to the treasure.

He also wrote a memoir, *The Thrill of the Chase*, which has lots of hints as to where the treasure chest is hidden. Forrest's newest memoir, *Too Far to Walk*, includes a map of the treasure search area.

There are also additional clues Forrest has handed out since the hunt began back in 2010.

Furthermore, our blog has been able to obtain additional information from email exchanges between Forrest and those hunting the treasure.

Take caution however, what Forrest has said repeatedly is that only the poem and what he has written in his books contain honest hints and clues that will lead to the treasure.

Another reliable source however is Forrest's own blog. Here he writes about the hidden treasure and in his writings you might just find the puzzle piece you were looking for.

[Adapted from: <<http://dalneitzel.com/>>]

TEXT 4**the night train**

By Fhazel Johennesse

1 there is no comfort here
 2 in this third class coach
 3 on this green resisting seat
 4 i twitch and glance around –
 5 there are few too few travellers
 6 on the night train
 7 crossing my legs and flicking
 8 my cigarette i turn to stare
 9 through the window
 10 into the darkness outside
 11 (or is it my reflection i stare at)
 12 and glance impatiently at the wrong
 13 stations we stop at
 14 *out*
 15 i must get out of here soon
 16 for in this coach there is a smell
 17 which haunts me
 18 not the smell of stale man but
 19 the whispering nagging smell of fear



[Taken from *Whisperings, an anthology of poetry in English* by Malcolm and Morag Venter, p. 120]

TEXT 5**Sonnet 116: Let me not to the marriage of true minds**

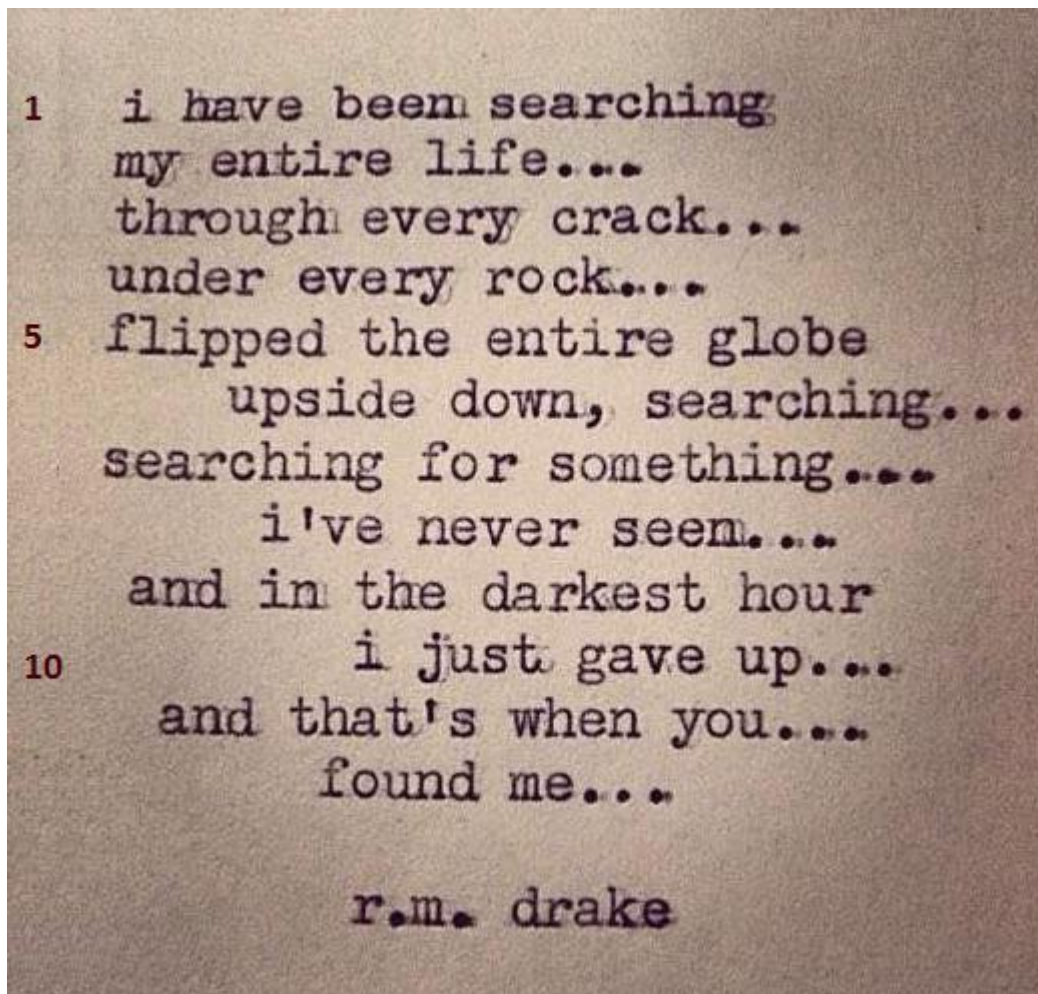
By William Shakespeare



[<<https://onmogul.s3.amazonaws.com/uploads/article/thumbnail/43764/bebbad6005.jpg>>]

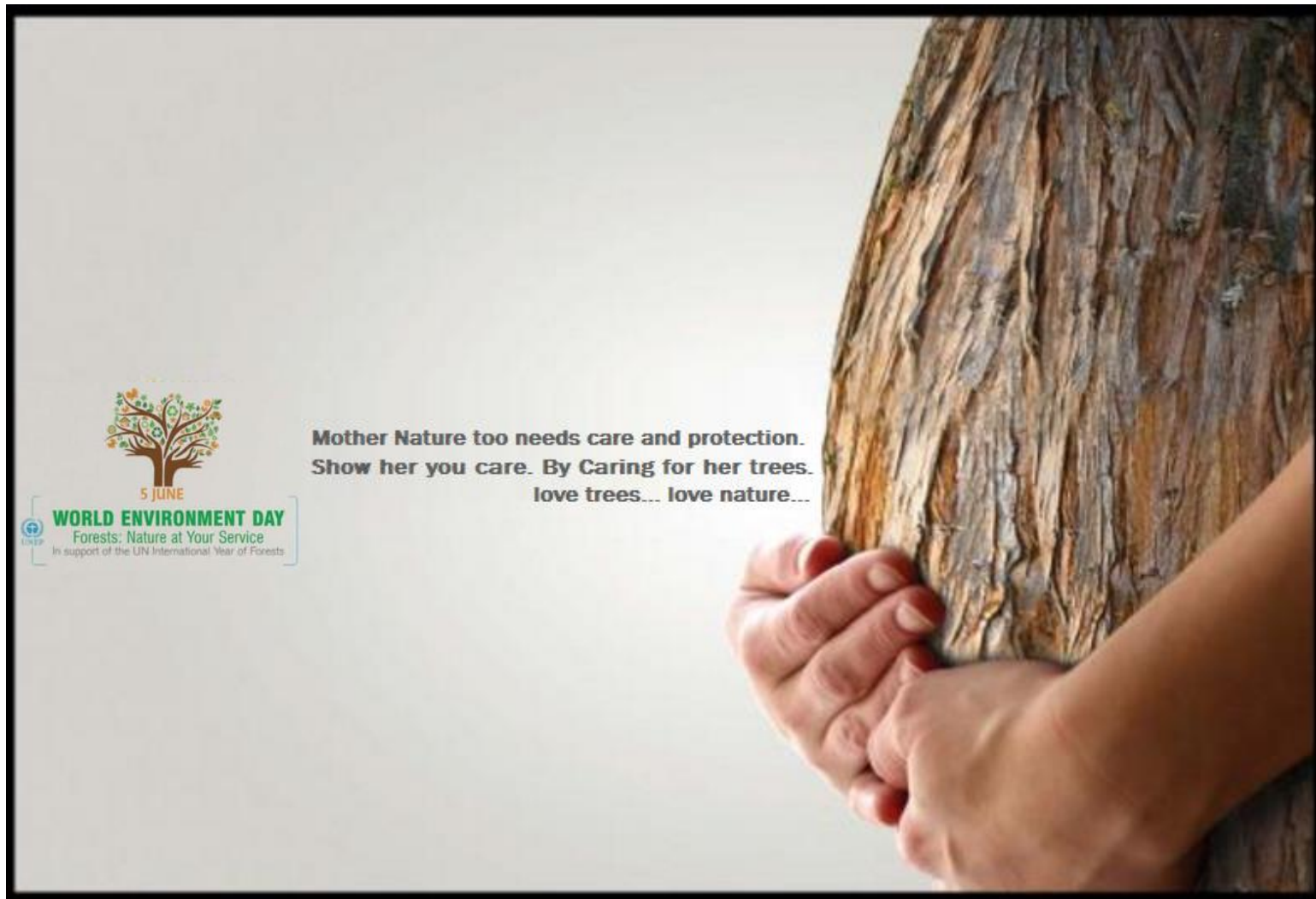
1 Let me not to the marriage of true minds
 2 Admit impediments. Love is not love
 3 Which alters when it alteration finds.
 4 Or bends with the remover to remove.
 5 O, no, it is an ever-fixed mark
 6 That looks on tempest and is never shaken;
 7 It is the star to every wandering bark,
 8 Whose worth's unknown, although his height be taken.
 9 Love's not Time's fool, though rosy lips and cheeks
 10 Within his bending sickle's compass come;
 11 Love alters not with his brief hours and weeks,
 12 But bears it out even to the edge of doom.
 13 If this be error, and upon me proved,
 14 I never writ, nor no man ever loved.

[Taken from *Whisperings, an anthology of poetry in English* by Malcolm and Morag Venter, p. 192]

TEXT 6**i have been searching
by r.m. drake**

[Source: <<https://s-media-cache-ak0.pinimg.com/564x/c8/87/eb/c887eb42b418359a42b17dfc3c2e9b04.jpg>>]

TEXT 7



[Source adapted from: <http://files1.coloribus.com/files/adsarchive/part_1681/16818155/file/world-environment-day-mother-nature-600-35167.jpg>]

**Clarification of Text: 5 June World Environment Day
Forests: Nature at Your Service
In support of the UN International Year of Forests**

TEXT 8





[Source: <https://aotw-pd.s3.amazonaws.com/images/adventure_down_under.jpg>]

TEXT 9

[Adapted from source: <<https://s-media-cache-ak0.pinimg.com/originals/57/39/da/5739dac3972bbe0c4a9b1409ee31ce4e.jpg>>]

TEXT 10

(NOTE: DELIBERATE ERRORS WERE MADE IN TEXT 10)

Raiders of the Lost Ark (1981)

REVIEW

by John Wiggins

1 The year is 1936. An archaeology professor named Indiana Jones are venturing in the jungle of South America searching for a golden statue. Unfortunately, he sets off a deadly trap but miraculously escapes. Then, Jones hears from a museum curator named Marcus Brody about a biblical artefact called The Ark of the Covenant, which can hold the key to human existense. Mankind's future depends on Jones. Jones has to venture to vast places such as Nepal and Egypt to find this artefact. However, he will have to fight **7.6.1 (he)** enemy Rene Belloq and a band of the **7.6.2 (bad)** Nazis ever in order to reach it. This movie is **7.6.3 (high)** recommended – you will be amazed!

[Adapted from source: <<http://www.imdb.com/title/tt0082971/plotsummary>>]