

The tide was now far up in the cave, and the base of the first pillar was lapped by the tiny wavelets, which indeed covered the said base in the spring tides, creeping up and leaving but a small space between the high-water mark and the entrance to the passage and the little recess in which the women's mattresses were laid. Even before their repast was over, Miss Dodds was nodding and waking up again with profuse apologies to the company, and it was not long before their arrangements for the night were made, and soon all were fast asleep, with the sole exception of Standen, whose deep anxiety on Lois's account and whose dread of the future kept him awake for hours, wondering how they should escape from their perilous position.