

The Strange Monster

Story

Hercules, once journeying along a narrow roadway, came across a strange monster that raised its head and threatened him. The hero gave it a few lusty blows with his club. Hercules thought the monster would be on its way. The monster, however, was now three times its size and more threatening. Hercules struck the monster even more violently; but the harder and quicker the strokes of the club, the bigger and more frightful grew the monster, until it completely filled up the road.

Athena then appeared upon the scene. "Stop, Hercules," said Athena. "This monster is the spirit of aggression. Leave it alone, and it will soon become as it was before. But if you fight it, see how it blows up."