Icy Heights of Dark and Light

A FAN OF Jules Verne's "Journey to the Center of the Earth," the photographer Jan Erik Waider was drawn to shooting Snæfellsjökull, the 700,000-year-old Icelandic volcano where Verne set his book.

He spent the last five years documenting the behemoth from every angle. Last month, the German photographer, known for his images of icebergs, released the series, "What Darkness to You Is Light to Me," a line from Verne's book, on his website Northland-scapes.com.

It can be a challenge to capture the peak, around which
clouds build up quickly, obstructing the view (right). Mr. Waider
often had the volcano entirely to
himself. "I don't really know how
to put the feeling into words
when I'm close to the summit,
but maybe that's the reason I
take photos and don't write poetry," he says. —Alexandra Wolfe

