

abyss[əˈbɪs] *n*

1. бездна, пропасть, пучина
the abyss of despair - *образн.* безысходное горе
abyss of hopelessness - *образн.* бездна /пучина/ отчаяния
2. первозданный хаос
3. *океан.* абиссаль, глубоководная зона

abyss

Oxford Advanced Learners Dictionary 8th Ed.

abyss [ˈabɪs ˈabɪsɪs] *BrE* [əˈbɪs] ^ˈ *NAmE* [əˈbɪs] ^ˈ **noun usually singular**

(formal or literary)

a very deep wide space or hole that seems to have no bottom

- Ahead of them was a gaping abyss.
- (figurative) an **abyss of ignorance/despair/loneliness**
- They took a long look into the abyss before deciding whether to jump.
- (figurative) The country is stepping back from the edge of an abyss.

Word Origin:late Middle English (in the sense 'infernal pit'): via late Latin from Greek **abussos** 'bottomless', from **a-** 'without' + **bussos** 'depth'.Example Bank:

- teetering on the edge of the abyss of total political wipeout

abyss

Longman DOCE 5th Ed. (En-En)

a **abyss** /əˈbɪs/ *BrE* ^ˈ *AmE* ^ˈ **noun [countable]**

[Date: 1300-1400; Language: Late Latin; Origin: abyssus, from Greek, from abyssos 'bottomless', from a- 'without' + byssos 'depth']

1. a very dangerous or frightening situation
abyss of
" The country might plunge into the abyss of economic ruin.
" At that time Bosnia was standing on the edge of an abyss.
2. a deep empty hole in the ground
3. a very big difference that separates two people or groups:
" the gaping abyss between these grand buildings and my own miserable home

abyss

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