

## “Deep Blue”

By: Asja

Once upon a polished pearl, deep in the sea of blue, there lived a bitty, little fish named Marble. She was the happiest fish in the water, most marvelously joyful. But Marble, the youthful fin fishy, had a problem. Her school of fish had to take a swim, deep down past the safety of sunlight. They had to travel into the black, murky depths of the ocean. Marble was absolutely terrified of the dark.

When the day of the, most likely, disastrous trek arrived, Marble couldn't think at all. She was nervous. Marble was becoming beyond jittery now. Her rainbow hued scales danced and shimmered as her little body shook with fear. She swam towards the back of the crowd, only sucking in water when it was completely necessary. Her head spun in a zillion directions, and she shut her eyes. Marble froze with fright as if nothing more than a stone statue. The point had come where she was completely engulfed by the darkness, swallowed up by the sinister gloom. The ocean was darker than dark. She could hear the black silence as she stayed paralyzed for what seemed like hours... days... years. Had her friends swam on without her? Did they even notice her at the back of the school? Yes was the answer to both questions. She was totally, absolutely, utterly alone. Marble was afraid and lost in the lonesome dark.

Then she remembered her eyes were shut. “Maybe,” she thought, attempting to be positive in the situation, “It is light in this part of the ocean! I wouldn't have noticed with my eyes shut anyways. Duh!” But she didn't dare open her eyes, for she knew there was only a small possibility there was a spindle of truth behind her hope. Marble kept her eyes shut, encouraging herself, “This is just like drifting off to sleep, the same eyelids ... well back of eyelids that I see every night before bed. No big deal!” Despite the doubts that lingered in her mind, she pushed herself to swim onwards and upwards for hope of freedom from the fear that deeply gripped her soul in this dark. Marble swam and swam, not opening her eyes once. She swam on and on and on, for what felt like eons of forever. Even though the colorful, little fish had quite the determination, she began to drift off a bit...

### **FLASH! CRASH! BANG!**

An extremely bright light exploded in front of Marble's closed eyes, and a deafening roar that rumbled through the whole ocean sounded off. Then blank.

When Marble awoke she saw that she lay besides an underwater volcano that she must have triggered to erupt. “Wow, I'm lucky... Wait! How can I see?!” That's when she noticed the strange, luminescent glow surrounding her. Like a glow stick, she was shining neon! The underwater volcano must have had an odd assortment of chemicals. “Hoorah!” she cheered. Marble no longer had to fear the dark for she was GLOW-IN-THE- DARK! Ha-ha! “Thank Golly G I kept swimming and stayed positive” Marble thought as she swam back to her school, basking in her own radiant glow, no longer afraid of the dark.