

The Hero, Plankton

Before there were mysterious glows in the ocean, everything there was dark. There was no light, pure darkness. The chaos was driving the deep sea animals crazy. They kept bonking into each other in the sea of shadow. The animals decided that enough is enough and had a council meeting to decide how to bring light to the deep. All the animals attended. They all were desperate for light. All the animals need it. They need it for scavenging, to navigate, and to find edible things.

When all the animals arrived, the octopus declared, "We need light down here, we need to see! We need a creature to go to the surface and ask earth." Every animal cheered, all wanting light, but when the octopus asked a question, all of them quieted. "Who will go to the surface, who will triumph and be our hero?"

All the animals murmured, "I think you should go, you can do it."

"No, I think you should do it." their friends responded to them.

Plankton emerged from the crowd and yelled, "I'll do it!" They wanted to prove himself, one of the smallest of ocean creatures. All the animals turned to him, eyeing him in disgust and concern.

Octopus turned to him and said, "You may be small, but you have a courage that no one else here has. You may go, leave by morning." Plankton, now racked with fear, all bravery gone from their tiny body.

In the morning, plankton left at once, too afraid to show his terrified face. They don't know where to go, what to do, or how to find their way back. They shoved all the worries aside, trying to find courage inside themselves. With a determined expression, they set out on their adventure.

They traveled far, drifting through the water, not knowing where to go. One day, their body thumped against the hot shore of a beach. The first thing they saw when they looked up from the ocean, was the Sun's frowny face. Plankton never saw the sun before, but they heard all the stories about the Sun's swinging mood. They heard that sometimes the Sun was gentle, carefully nurturing the land animals and plants with their warmth. They heard that sometimes the Sun, when felt insulted, had a huge temper. They would scorch the land with their fire and burn every piece of life down. This seems like one of those times.

"I know all about your 'adventure' puny creatures, smallest of all, sneered the Sun. "Here's what I think about it!" Tendrils of fire whipped out towards Plankton. Deeply terrified, Plankton scuttled back to the ocean, where fire could not reach them. Breathing heavily, they heard the Sun yell, who thought they were dead, "Ha! This is my response for trying to give water creatures light! All who want light have to bend to my mercy!"

Plankton waited till night, thinking, pondering about what to do next. Night rolled around with a soft glow that invited Plankton to talk to them. Plankton floated to the shore, where they nearly got hurt by the Sun a few hours before.

"What's wrong?" the moon kindly asked, their velvety voice carrying over the waves. Plankton, unlocked by their kindness and curiosity, spilled everything to the Moon. They told them about their journey, their inner ambitions, and lastly the horrors from the Sun. The Moon, moved by plankton's journey, offered to give some of their light to Plankton, but on one condition. The Earth must agree first. This was a typical condition when things are gifted to animals or plants from higher beings. Plankton happily agreed to the Moon's conditions. The moon led them to the nearest tree, speaking loudly to wake up the Earth. When the Earth awoke, Plankton told them all about their journey. Earth had a very surprising reaction.

"How dare the sun attack my creatures. Through jealousy! I will give you my blessing and my permission to bring light to the ocean creatures and spread it among them." the Sun spoke. The moon granted Plankton a soft blue glow to remind them of their friendship and sent them on their way. Plankton gifted the glow to almost all of the creatures of the deep. All the creatures gave them their thanks. They all were finally happy.

Occasionally, Plankton went back to the same shore, eager to spend time with their new friend the moon. And so they did.

The End