

SUPERHERO ACTION COMICS

THE SEEKERS AND MAKIKO



The beach looked peaceful
because the danger had
not surfaced yet.



Waves of liquid starlight
rolled under a sky full
of falling stars.



Below them, lights
gathered like streets
in a drowned city.



I could not swim,
but curiosity pulled
me closer anyway.



I raised my phone
to record proof.



The sea
answered first.



The burst killed
the phone in my hand.



The screen screamed
white, then went black.



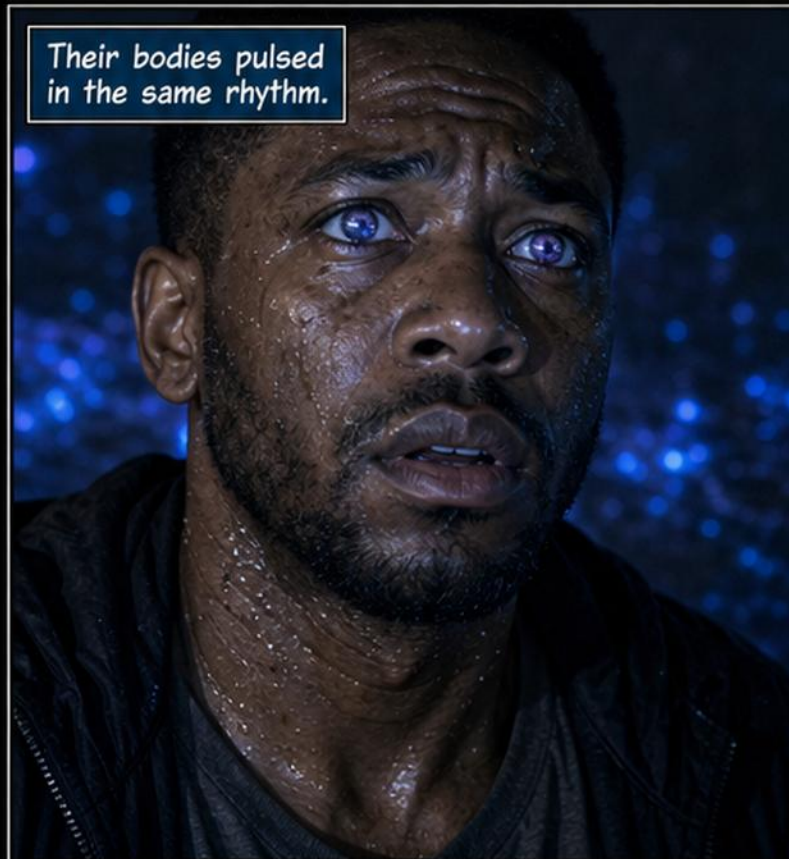
The light had
called hunters.



Cosmic Seekers
breached from
the shallows.



Their bodies pulsed
in the same rhythm.



My fear slowed
into obedience.



Makiko arrived
without a footstep.



Her blade cut a blue line
through the hypnotic glow.



She had been tracking
these attacks for months.



Cosmic Seekers do
not only hunt bodies.



Their lights synchronize
with minds.



A docile host walks
into the sea.



*I asked what
help I could be.*



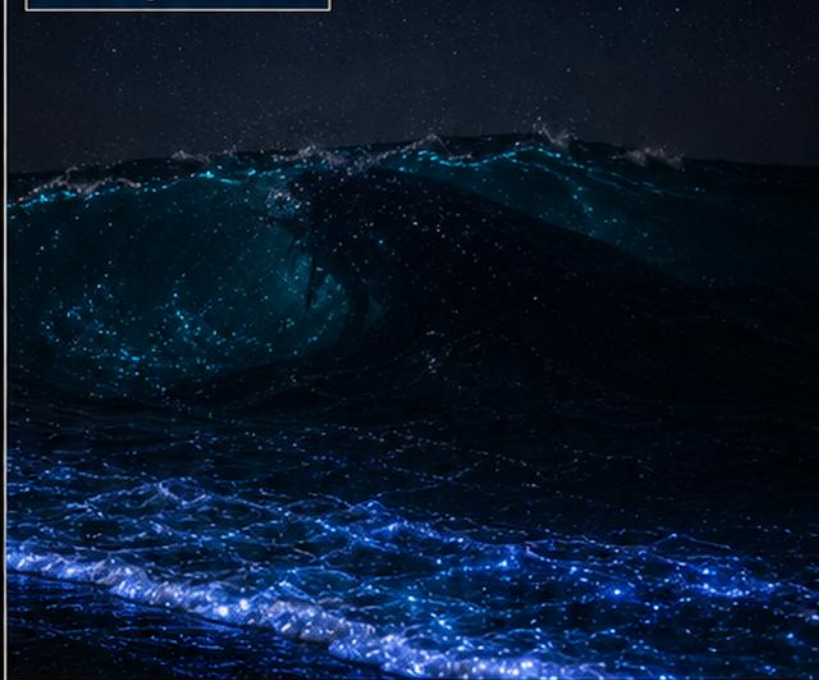
*Makiko saw what
I had missed.*



*My voice had
shaken their rhythm.*



*She went for
the larger shadow.*



*I stayed with the
only weapon I owned.*



*Seekers, leave us be;
return to sea.*



The swarm scattered
when Makiko hit the water.



The deep shape rose
like a living reef.



Its crown-lure commanded
every smaller light.



Makiko climbed the wave
instead of running from it.



My rhyme held the swarm
for one breath.



Then fear broke
my meter.



I tried to retreat
toward the hotel.



The hotel
was too far.



One Seeker broke
from the circle.



Its light filled my
whole world.



I was still afraid.



But I did not
go quiet.



In cosmic seas
you swim and play.



But human minds
are not your prey.



Makiko cut
the crown-lure.



The pattern
shattered.



The Seekers fled
to the deep.



We walked back
with no proof,
only the warning.

