The Secret of Water

Brian Good*
The secret of air is that it gives life to any person or being, no matter who or what they are: saints and sinners alike enjoy its presence.

The secret of water is that it kills you - thirty millimeters of water can steal your breath away as you lie face down on the floor. Take notice of the secret I have given you, I will plead with you to not let me go.

I stared at the pictures of tropical blue fish and brilliant coral. I could not feel their scales or explore their nooks and crannies and rooms and kingdoms. I wanted to hold them in my hands, to feel them living in their cerulean world of life and death.

I wanted to feel the sharp intake of breath as I watch their gills open and close. Such a simple movement but one that is their own secret, a secret that I will never discover.

I'm not allowed to be on the ocean.

I will always find a way to fall in.

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