

COMPULSION

(A MANTIS SHRIMP STORY)

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EXT./INT. UNDERWATER ROCK CAVE - DAY

A MANTIS SHRIMP, PICKS small rocks and carries them to the entrance of its home.

PARTING the sand with precision, the Shrimp PLACES it's new rocks in each divet.

EXT. OCEAN FLOOR - DAY

Sunlight beams peek through the ocean sending a lovely glow throughout. On the white sea bed a CRAB SHUFFLES, bubbling a small tune.

Coming to an open area it stops and looks out at the blue world. It sits back and lets out a small bubble of appreciation.

INT. UNDERWATER ROCK CAVE - DAY

The Shrimp SWEEPS loose sand off it's newly placed rock entryway. Proud, it looks out to the sea.

As it looks a small bubble rises in front of it. The Shrimp follows it and then looks down to the sandy bed.

It spots the Crab as it sighs another bubble. The Shrimps eyes constrict with fear as memories from a different life spill through it's mind.

Sensing something the Crab turns and looks up to the Shrimp. Their eyes meet.

Unable to look away the Shrimp holds the Crabs gaze. With each passing second the fear turns to anger then to something deeper.

As the anger hits it's peak. The Shrimp LAUNCHES OUT of it's home, CASTING the new rock behind it.

EXT. OCEAN - DAY

The Shrimps SPEED grows faster and faster as it DARTS over rocks and through small bits of grass.

Paralyzed, the Crab watches as it's predator gets closer and closer.

The Shrimp STOPS within millimeters of the Crab and COCKS it's club hands back.

It's silent: The Crab looks to the shrimp, the only thing it can do.

The club hands SHOOT OUT meeting the Crabs shell.

CRACK! The word shows up big behind the two.

The Crab SOARS through the water and SMASHES into a rock in the distance, splitting it down the middle.

Coming out of it's rage the Shrimp looks down the trail of destruction at the broken Crab. X's over its eyes and seismic cracks throughout its shell.

INT. UNDERWATER ROCK CAVE - DAY

The Shrimp walks over its messy entrance and stops at a cave wall. Dissappointed, it PICKS up a rock and SCRATCHES it against the wall.

ON THE WALL: Days Since Killing a Crab next to it a scratched out number 2.

THE END.