White Moon, Purple Sea

and the

Underwater Circus

by Karen D. Clawson

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by Karen D. Clawson - Page 1

p. 1: title page

2-3:

The white moon slept

over the purple sea,

all was calm, "shhhh,"

as far as we could see.

4-5

The sea stretched wide

her long, lazy surface,

but take a peek below,

there's an underwater circus!

6-7

Fishes, and squishes,

and things with no name,

flip high and swish low

in all sorts of games!

by Karen D. Clawson - Page 2

8-9

Squadrons of squirts

sprout bits of bling-blang,

while jumping jelly giants

make big belly bangs.

¹⁰⁻¹¹ Sea horses, and squids,

these we recognize,

but what is that thing

with the lightning bolt eyes?

¹²⁻¹³ Kaleidoscope corals

climb high in tall towers,

some are lace-fine

and blossom like flowers.

by Karen D. Clawson - Page 3

14-15

Streaming straight arrows -

are those eyes at both ends? --

zig-zag in pairs,

perhaps parents or friends.

¹⁶⁻¹⁷ Ghost creatures gallop,

some swirl round-n-round,

some flatten like sand-cakes

and slide underground.

18-19

A rainbow blob

makes a big belching motion,

a passing fish falls -

that must've packed quite a potion!

by Karen D. Clawson - Page 4

20-21

Spotted brown bobbers

whirl ten arms around -

or are those legs

that roll with no sound?

²²⁻²³ Trains of blue lobsters,

fire lasers of light.

No, they aren't mobsters!

They won't frighten our night.

Royal fish watch from

coral caves and high thrones,

they flash their gold teeth

to let their pleasure be shown.

by Karen D. Clawson - Page 5

26-27

The underwater circus

has been so much fun,

but now our story time

is just about done.

28-29

A big yellow ball

begins to brighten the water.

Can you guess what it is,

young sons and young daughters?

30-31

The white moon fades

as the sun rises bright,

but we know where to find her -- don't we?

-- again tomorrow night.

32

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