A RACE is on between those seeking to make the oceans transparent and those who want to keep them opaque.

when a German immigrant invented a machine to cut scrap material into extremely small pieces

the nighttime glow threw offshore Allied vessels into silhouette, transforming them into floating U-boat targets

He jokes that he fell into the plastic business because it was recommended to Dustin Hoffman's character in "The Graduate."

*

There were neon sparkles so pink you have only seen them in dreams, and rainbow hues that were simultaneously lilac and mint and all the colors of a fire. On one shelf, hundreds of jars of iridescent white fairly glowed. The prettiest shade was slightly violet.

An object in which the inside of a potato chip bag meets the aurora borealis.

×

Tiny sea creatures killed or made luminescent by passage of a submarine might be observable.

*

The age of iron, Hesiod wrote, described the wretched world (his world, this world) in which labour and misery ruled. The cause of both was iron, which makes the tools that call for labour and the weapons that call for war. In the age of iron, he writes, 'Father will not agree with his children, nor the children with their father, nor guest with his host, nor comrade with comrade'.

Notes

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