



Image: "Alignment II" by John Paul Caponigro. "Synapses and Stardust" was written by Brandy Norrbom for *Rattle's* Ekphrastic Challenge, March 2024, and selected as the Editor's Choice.

SYNAPSES AND STARDUST

poem by Brandy Norrbom

Six times you were cosmic dust in the universe
But this time you called me sanctuary running
Lines through the sand like bio-electricity the
Spaces between us humming like synapses you
Set us apart like monoliths in the desert sky all
Scratching shadows where the dark in me is
Pulling every state of was or being into the
Undertow of this magnetic rift and yes it's
Polarized but so are the tides and the moon
Making us as orbital as all that other matter
Can we fold into and around each other a
Tesseract through time where every instance
Of you finds every instance of me?

