

Waterfall was my favorite place underground. It was peaceful there; every time I entered, a curtain of white noise overwhelmed my hearing, soon to fade into the background as I grew used to it. Coming from either direction, it was a treat. Whether from the scorching heat of Hotlands or the chill of Snowdin, it was a much more comfortable temperature, and the place itself was gorgeous. It was luck for me to know its beauty, as the first human to see it in years, if ever. I doubted that when the Monsters were sealed underground, whoever did it surveyed the place first.

The constant sound of flowing water echoing along the walls of the caves, the marsh that had glowing, blue water (I'd been warned against trying to drink it; apparently it would make you sick), and the crystals off which that light reflected overhead made it my favorite place to relax.

"How do you like it here so much? This place is creepy!" Of course, *some* people didn't have any taste, like the kid who was tagging along with me. He was taller and older than me, but sometimes (okay, most times) he acted younger. White and fuzzy, with ears as long as his head was and an innocent mein, he looked like one of the animals from Narnia.

"It's only creepy 'cause you think there's something around every corner! There's nothing here but us. And maybe the Blook family, but they aren't creepy," Even if they were ghost Monsters, they were a bunch of doofuses, "Besides, I'm here to protect you, right?"

He fortified himself at that and stood with exaggerated poise, "Don't be silly, the Absolute God of Hyperdeath is here to keep you safe! He doesn't need protecting!"

I smiled and shook my head, stifling a giggle. "C'mon, I want to show you somewhere I found."

We passed through one of my favorite rooms, a vast canvas of crystals so far overhead that they looked like stars, glistening in the soft glow of the magically-lit lanterns below, the gentle susurrations of echo flowers surrounding us in the Wishing Room. Here, Monsters wished upon the 'stars' overhead in lieu of the real ones outside. I tilted my head as we passed through, asking him, "Say, Ree... do you have any wishes to make?"

While walking, he tilted his head slightly, ears flopping to the side. For once, they didn't fall in front of his eyes. "Mmn... just one, but it's kind of stupid."

Yeah, that sounded about right for him. He was always way too hard on himself. "Come on, don't say that. I promise I won't laugh."

He stared over at me with that pitiful look that never failed to impress me. "Promise?" I reassured him of it and he continued with a sigh, "Some day, I'd like to climb this mountain we're all buried under. I want to stand under the sky, and look at the world all around. That's my wish." I couldn't help but giggle, smiling widely over at him. "...Hey, you said you wouldn't laugh!"

“Sorry, sorry... it’s just funny. That’s my wish too.” Maybe some day, I could help him fulfill it.
“We’re almost here -- it’s just ahead.”

We exited the narrow confines of the cave’s corridors onto a walkway with a massive expanse of glittering stones overhead; in the distance, I could see the castle that he made his home in, three triangular teal spires in stark relief to the blackness behind it.

“Whoa...” I let out a soft sigh in satisfaction at his exclamation. This was my favorite place in the underground for a reason. “That’s the castle?...”

“Yep. Sometimes I just sit here and imagine the echo flowers are everyone else, sitting here watching with me. It’s nice.”

I caught him watching me out of the corner of my eye. “Yeah?” He paused and smiled slightly.
“...Maybe this place isn’t as creepy as I thought. Besides, even if it is, you’ve got your brother to protect you here.”

“Yeah. I do.”