

Good Hydration

By Abe E Seedy

"See, I told you I'd found it!"

Iris peered past Josephine's triumphant pose, shielding her eyes from the torches that had suddenly flared to life when they stepped in the cave. The dingy shrine wasn't as elaborately decorated as the old legends made it seem, but it was impossible to deny what was lying in the centre of the room. She patted Josephine on the shoulder, communicating as much as she could while her mouth was just wide open in shock.

Puffing heavily, Vera emerged at the entrance. "You couldn't... give me a minute... to climb that whole... trail?" She caught her breath for a moment, adding angrily, "some of us are working with much shorter legs, okay?"

The fact that her friends weren't rising to her taunts finally got through to Vera, leading her to properly look around the cavern for the first time. "Oh... wow..."

All three of the women stared wordlessly at the focal point of the ancient shrine. To anyone unfamiliar with the local legends it would be impossible to understand. Visually it looked like a mix between a monster and a deranged statue. Four great, clawed feet squatted along a massive body, as wide as a trader's cart and longer than the two teams of horses that would pull it. It was clad in dull green scales that lightened to almost yellow along its belly, looking almost like ceramic tiles where they caught the light. A long reptilian tail lay curled from the rear all the way to the front, the very tip of which was as large around as Iris' forearms. And atop all that imposing bulk was... nothing. It rose up twice as high as Josephine's gesturing hand, but instead of a head there were simply three open holes.

"The Great Beast!", she said dramatically. "The Defenders must have left it right here when they laid down their charge centuries ago."

"Jo, this is amazing", Iris started, finally getting over her shock enough to put the thought that had been nagging at her into words. "But why are you just showing this to us? You could have led the town council up here."

Josephine scoffed. "Sure, if I wanted to sit through *another* argument about how to 'best orchestrate the defense of the community'. You two know the legends - the Defenders didn't ask permission, they just took the responsibility on themselves. Like we could!"

Suddenly the body of the Great Beast wasn't the most shocking thing in the room. "We *what?*", Iris and Vera said in unison.

"Oh, come on, we're played this out since we were kids. All those games about us stumbling on the Beast and taking on the mantle of the Defenders together."

"Yeah, we played *kids games* when we were kids", Iris answered incredulously. "But then we grew up, and figured that if we wanted to defend the town we needed to be a little more practical about things."

Josephine gave her a sideways glance, gesturing at her willowy body. "Well, I'm sorry that not all of us wound up so tall and athletic. You've always been able to pitch in against the wilds, but what am I going to do when something attacks? Throw a book at them?"

"Hey, look Jo, I get it", Vera interjected. "It's not like I can keep up with Iris either. But are we..."

She gestured at the Great Beast, still sitting motionless as they argued.

"...are we allowed? Could we even *handle* that?"

Josephine paused, exhaling slowly into her hand as she gathered her thoughts. When she looked back up at the other two there was a renewed fire in her eyes, and she put one arm gently on Vera's shoulder. "V, I say this as one of your very best friends in the world - you need to get over yourself. Take a risk once in a while! Maybe then you'd get up the courage to finally ask Iris out."

Vera turned bright red almost instantly, with Iris very quickly following suit. Josephine stepped aside deftly, leaving the other two women to first make and then break eye contact. They both started talking at once, with Vera soon throwing up her hands and forcing Iris to let her go first.

"I, sorry, Jo doesn't know what she's talking about. We had one late night conversation after studying and drinking and I said things she must have taken out of context and I..."

She trailed off, with Iris picking up the thread. "Right, right, you don't have to do anything you don't want to. I know I'm not as smart as you guys so I wouldn't want you to-"

"Oh, no, it's nothing like that, I just- I mean, I *literally* couldn't keep up with you so how could you..."

A yell from Josephine pulled both of them out of their spiral. "Ugh, would you two listen to yourselves? Just do something for once!"

In a moment of dawning horror, Vera and Iris realised that she was already halfway up the Great Beast's body, raising herself towards the centre of the three holes. Iris dashed forwards, hoping to tear her friend away from her sacrilege, while Vera just yelled "no!", but in the end both of them were too late. With a satisfied grunt Josephine reached the central aperture, gripping the

rim with her fingers and sliding herself feet-first inside like she was going down a playground slide. Then, just as Iris reached the Beast herself, several things happened all at once.

Josephine's body suddenly rotated, spinning her around to face forwards even as the rim of the hole sealed smoothly just below her hips. Instantly the inert mass came to life, Josephine stiffening in shock as a spasm sent the front right foot of the Beast jerking upwards. The movement caught Iris under her outstretched arms, toppling her effortlessly onto her back. Her momentum kept her moving, so when the foot came back down it was right over her head, and only her still-raised hands kept it from pressing her into the stone floor.

Dangling forwards over the Beast's front, Josephine could only look on helplessly as her friend struggled. "I, I'm sorry, I don't..." She shuddered, and the claws on each side of Iris' head dug grooves into the ground as they drew inwards. "...there's a lot going on here!", she finished through gritted teeth.

A wild, wordless yell echoed around the cavern as Vera charged forwards, throwing herself at the Beast. Her entire body was barely larger than the leg pinning her friend down but despite that she hooked her elbow under its ankle and *heaved*, levering it upwards just enough for Iris to wiggle free. She scrambled to her feet hastily, the clawed toes of the Beast slamming down dramatically on the now-empty floor.

Iris caught Vera before she could collapse from the exertion, gazing into her deep brown eyes with bottomless affection. "My hero", she whispered, bringing out another rich scarlet blush from the shorter girl. Then, after bending down carefully to bring them to the same level, Iris swept Vera into their first kiss.

The quiet moment lasted for as long as Vera's lungs allowed before she had to take a breath. They each broke eye contact sheepishly, struggling for something to say next. In the end though, it was Josephine that broke the silence.

"That was very sweet", she said from her position well above their heads, "but I, uh, might need to ask for some more help."

They looked up. Josephine was still perched on top of the Great Beast, but the boundaries between her and it had blurred. Instead of a hole there was now a raised connection that melded the Beast's scales smoothly to her waist. Her previously skinny body had swelled, her skirt bursting open as new muscle had flowed into her from the divine connection. Her shirt had more or less exploded, making it clear that the changes weren't limited to her trapped lower half. Scales dotted over her skin all the way up her chest, contrasting the same light green colouration that marked the Beast's underbelly with the darker scales crawling up her side and back. All the while she was panting heavily, her tongue slightly wetter and longer as it fell from her thickening lips.

A sudden spasm jerked them all out of their stupor, sending the same massive foot kicking outwards into thankfully empty air.

Josephine ran her hands over her face, trying to corral her shifting features with her trembling, lengthening fingers. "I don't think... I can control it by myself", she managed to say.

"How can we-", Iris started, but Vera cut her off.

"Okay, let's do it."

Iris shot her an incredulous look, but caught the fire in her eyes and slowly exhaled. She was right. Their friend was in trouble, and it was up to them to help. Just like the Defenders would have.

"Okay", she said out loud. "But if this works, then you have to kiss *me* afterwards."

"Deal", Vera answered simply, striding forwards with as resolute an expression as she could manage.

She started climbing up the Beast's twitching body, aiming for the vacant hole to Josephine's left. After a few moments of fruitless scrabbling Iris boosted her up, swinging herself up to the remaining hole so she slotted into place almost at the same time Vera did. Once again some mechanism rotated them around to face forwards, then each felt the full force of the divine energy seep into them. Only, unlike when Josephine had started it all, they weren't alone. There was the impatient, surging might of the Great Beast itself; the thick, demanding power that settled their legs like molten ore into a mould and drew smooth scales tightly around their waists. But amongst it all were other notes; fear, excitement and hope drifting into each of their minds like noises from another room.

Iris clutched distractedly at her dress, tearing the straps from the top with only the increasingly sharp claws on one of her hands. Then she felt a sudden flush of heat flow into her, and looking up she caught a blushing Vera staring at her newly exposed chest. She smiled and felt that distant heat melt into something less urgent but no less powerful. This was... interesting.

A touch on her right shoulder made Iris jump, and she turned to see Josephine standing next to her. Only... she wasn't quite standing. A long stretch of scaled skin traced her connection all the way back to the centre of the Great Beast, but somehow Josephine had already discovered how to move on one of its necks like it was a snake's tail, making her way around Iris to come up on her from the other side. Much of the rest of her body had been enveloped by green scales, even her face reshaped slightly into something more like a reptilian snout. She took Iris' chin in one hand, tracing her claws softly across her lips while a startlingly large forked tongue flicked out between her own.

"As much as I'm enjoying overhearing these feelings, I'm *sure* you can do better than passing notes to each other, right?", Josephine hissed. Without waiting for a response she settled in right behind the other girl, curling her arms up beneath her Iris' elbows to hold them upwards, thrusting her waist forwards with pressure from what would have been her hips. Iris' confusion was answered when that pose drew her out slightly, exposing her crotch peeking out just above where her body joined with the Beast below her hips. Josephine batted her eyes seductively at Vera, and Iris could *feel* the need that reverberated through her in response.

Vera was still only halfway through changing, but she willed herself towards that inviting scene. Slowly scales built up beneath her to form a serpentine neck connecting her to the Great Beast, allowing her to slither inexorably towards her goal. She tore away the remains of her clothes as she went, smiling a toothsome grin as she closed in. Without pause she dove downwards, her reptilian snout settling into place as though to better allow her to press into Iris' waiting pussy.

"Ohh ffuuck", Iris gasped, feeling her lips grow thick as the changes swept over her too. She tangled her claws in the fibrous crest that had replaced Vera's hair, growling in approval as sensations echoed back and forth between them. But... there was something else. Each of the women probed the errant feeling like a loose tooth, an unfamiliar need that slid into their minds softly but became only more and more pressing.

Pulling away from the others, Josephine snaked her way down the torso of the Great Beast. By unspoken agreement the three of them had managed to lie the body down, and her curious inspection soon revealed what they had begun to suspect. A massive, dripping cock had slid outwards from between their rear legs, already leaving a slick trail along their underbelly.

Josephine licked her lips. "Don't worry girls, I've got this."

The cock itself was almost as big as Josephine's whole mouth, but fortunately her changes must have included the ability to unhinge her jaw because she took the length of it without complaint. As soon as her lips slid over the tip each girl was rewarded with a powerful surge of wanton desire, slickness pouring down Vera's chin as Iris pressed herself into her. Josephine stroked her claws urgently along the length of their straining member, making them all tremble at the dizzying, unfamiliar sensations. The idea of easing up was entertained briefly by two of the trio but Josephine was relentless, utterly thrilled by the loop of pleasure and satisfaction. When the hips of the Great Beast convulsed it was Iris who roared with delight, Vera and Josephine both far too busy feverishly servicing the other parts of themselves to heighten the echoing orgasm.

By the time Josephine withdrew her face was dripping with their divine slickness, her yellow eyes unfocussed as she struggled to rejoin reality. Eventually she forced her leathery lips to form coherent words, looking between the two girls that had joined her in this one creature. From the waist up they were still somewhat recognisable as the people they had been, albeit with scales replacing skin, and a reptilian cast to their features. Not to mention of course their forward-facing pussies, which had by now left a distinct trail down their underbelly even for the two that weren't being directly serviced.

"Looking good girls", Josephine hissed, "and I appreciate you bo-"

She stopped as Vera swung in for a hungry kiss, quickly joined from the other side by Iris. The two of them fought indelicately over Josephine's lips, first one then the other plumbing the depths of her mouth to sample the lingering taste of their collective cum. They settled backwards only when Josephine pushed back on their chests, each of them enjoying the flustered shock that emanated powerfully from their normally confident friend.

"Okay", Josephine mumbled as she fought to regain her composure. Getting put in her place while simultaneously feeling the thrill of dominating herself was a difficult thing to move past quickly. "I'm glad you both got the hang of moving around. But we should *probably* decide what we want to do next."

Iris nodded, wiping her lips clean. "We should go back to town, figure out how best to help."

"No way", Vera cut in, shaking her personal body in disagreement before running one hand teasingly along Josephine's side. "We gotta figure out ourselves more. And I've got a few ideas about how we go about doing that..."

Josephine held up an open palm. "That is *tempting*", she admitted, "but I'm with Iris. So if it's two against one then..."

All three of them felt a stirring, a shudder running up their spines as something stirred beneath the Great Beast. They each curled downwards, seeing their cock inexplicably stiffening once again.

"Two against four", Vera gloated.

They looked at each other. "This... might be more complicated than I first thought", Josephine said.