

Ghostly Treasure

Perona hoped that her situation would take a turn for the best.

After leaving Mihawk's island and trying to rescue Moira, the pink-haired gal got lost in the middle of the chaos and was left all by herself. It was during that time where Perona decided to change her plans, thinking that a small break taking care of something else would do good for her and while she had a good start, her time off wasn't going like she expected. She went between islands and ships, meeting all kinds of travelers and trying to find a goal that would help her, but she felt that she was going nowhere as she still was in that difficult situation she wanted to get out from.

The loneliness and the constant failure were taking a toll on her and the elegant woman even gave up, but as she considered leaving the town that same night, she heard some travelers talking about a treasure that would make them reach. She followed them into a tavern and once the two travelers were drunk enough to tell her the information she was looking for, the pink-haired gal acted like she was interested in them. It didn't take long for Perona to learn more about the treasure and she smiled at the possibility of becoming someone rich and powerful. This was what she needed, a new goal in mind and something that was going to change her situation. After discovering the treasure was closer than she expected, and that the island was pretty close, Perona left the tavern as she and her ghosts went on to get a map and a boat.

Once she got everything she needed, the self-proclaimed ghost princess sailed that same night and to her delight, she got to the island with the treasure after without much issues. For the first time in a while, the pink-haired gal was feeling motivated and all was thanks to this mysterious treasure. As she walked through the island, following one of the maps she stole and remembering the information she got from the two travelers, Perona thought about how this would make her change her situation. She was going to get lots of nice stuff like jewels and fur coats, people were going to cheer for her and, most importantly, she was going to get a lot of power.

The ghost princess continued losing herself in her thoughts up until she stopped at the designated place and after pushing a white-colored rock, she found a secret underground passage that was linked to a nearby cave. After moving around the dark place, and avoiding one of the traps, Perona finally found what she was looking for as the treasure chest with all the golden coins and jewels was in the deepest part of the cave. "Finally! You are mine! All mine!" The elegant woman said while laughing, enjoying her first moment of joy in a long time and being glad that everything went well.

Her and her ghosts enjoyed their moment of victory for a moment before seeing what the treasure chest had and she even got to imagine the outcome of this. From getting nice and elegant things to showing everyone that she was someone powerful, this was the best thing that could come out of her trip and that was good. As Perona continued to imagine her future, one of her ghosts interrupted her as it showed her an item that stood out from the other things that were inside the treasure chest.

“What is this?” Perona said while opening the pink colored box. The object inside was a silver necklace that had a bright pink gem. Not only that, but it was also accompanied by a note that had information about the treasure and as the elegant woman read it, she found out what kind of object this one was. “A necklace? That could enhance any ability?” The self-proclaimed ghost princess was aware of these kinds of treasures, quickly remembering some of those travelers that used them for their adventures and to defend themselves against dangers. While this could be something good, Perona still was unsure about if it could really help her or not.

The note only said that it would enhance the powers of the user and nothing else. It could either work and help her become the ghost princess that she wanted to be or it could be nothing more than a sick joke left by the former owner of the treasure chest. In the end, after thinking about the risks she took and how it looked like she was finally getting what she deserved, Perona put on the necklace.

“It looks nice and I know it looks nice on me...I just wish I had a mirror so I can look at myself,” the pink-haired gal said while smiling. She was in such a happy state that she didn’t mind if her treasure would work or not as either way was going to be good for her. If the necklace did really worked and enhanced her powers, she could finally do things like possessing victims and maybe control them in such ways that they would praise and give her tribute, but if it didn’t worked, it still was good as it still was an elegant object and Perona was confident that it looked good on her. Pleased with how her treasure hunt ended, the ghost princess looked back at the treasure chest, ready to take it out of the island and start enjoying her new life as a rich and powerful woman. “I think it’s time for us to leave. Could you please take this back to the ship?”

Expecting to hear laughs and cheers from the spirits that always accompanied her, the pink-haired gal was puzzled to hear nothing. Turning around, she was shocked as the ghosts were no longer there. Her first thought was that they were just playing with her, but part of her mind was also telling her that something wasn’t right. As Perona waited for the spirits to come back, there was something else that caught her interest as the gem of the pendant started to glow.

“What is happening?” Asking herself in confusion, her first thought was to take off the necklace, but just as her hands were closer to the treasure she was wearing, the shine of the gem blinded her for a moment. Perona went from being happy by finding the treasure and glad that her situation was changing for the better to starting to feel worried and dazed, struggling to do something as simple as standing. “What kind of necklace is this? I need to take it now...need to...do it now!”

Each time her trembling hands tried to get a hold on the silver necklace, its shine would affect her again. It continued like that for a while, with the elegant woman continuing with her attempts only to be stopped by the necklace. At the same time, unbeknownst to her, the treasure had another effect on her. The note did say that the powers of the user would enhance, but didn’t mention how. As Perona’s abilities were linked to her ghosts, she slowly was becoming a ghost herself.

The first change was around her skin, which became pale. This caused her to go into panic mode, doing multiple attempts at taking the necklace off her neck and even after the shine stopped her a few times, the elegant woman finally got her hands on the treasure. "Need to...take it off...need to escape..." she said in a desperate tone, trying all she could to take the necklace out of her neck, only to fail miserably. The last thing the elegant woman wanted to do was to beg, thinking that she was going to reach a new low if she did that, but seeing her situation, and that no one was there to help her, she didn't have any other choice but to do that in hopes that it could help her. "Pl-please...let me go...please...I'm sorry for...trying to take the treasure...let me leave and I...won't come back...I promise..."

Unlike other times in which she might have seen this as a game, Perona was really worried about what was going to happen to her. The fear was so much that she even fell down on her knees as she continued to beg to be let go. Sadly, her words had no effect as the treasure continued to do the changes around her body as once her whole body became completely white, she suddenly stopped feeling her legs. By how her body was changing, Perona knew what was happening, but thanks to her being on the edge of panic, she didn't dare to look down as she instead closed her eyes.

It was such her desperation that she stopped talking as the only sound that she made were gasps and murmurs. While the elegant woman continued with her struggle, her legs fused together, giving her a genie tail that was of the same color as the rest of her body. Even after her body got completely affected by the changes, her mind was still fighting back as there was this strange yet captivating idea that Perona couldn't stop thinking about.

"Serving...obeying..." she whispered as her mind was still between ignoring those ideas or accepting them. Perona never saw herself as someone who listened to orders, preferring to be the one in charge and having a group that would do everything for her, but for reasons she couldn't understand, the idea of being the one who obeyed orders started to have an impact on her. "Maybe...obeying orders...doesn't sound...that bad..."

The pink-haired gal calmly said as she opened her eyes, finally taking a look at the state of her body. Instead of reacting in shock or dismay, Perona smiled, finally letting herself accept what was happening to her and deciding not to go against it anymore. This was enough for the elegant woman to stop worrying and to accept her destiny, embracing the fact that she became a ghost woman and that she was eager to meet someone that would become her owner.

"I'd love to serve and obey, to become a good servant and do anything my master or mistress commands me to do," she said as she flew around the treasure chest, losing herself in the nice fantasy of meeting her future owner. As she still had her memories with her, remembering those hard times on which she was alone and struggling to find a way to change her situation, it was easy for Perona to stay like this, accepting her fate as a ghost gal that needed a master to obey and remaining near the treasure chest until the moment her new owner would come.

While her trip took one turn, it wasn't a bad thing as the pink-haired gal no longer was affected by that gloomy feeling that kept haunting her. She also got a lot more than she expected to get. She found a treasure that would make anyone rich and powerful, but

couldn't claim it for herself. She finally got to perfect her possessing abilities and could use them against anyone, but could only use it when her owner commanded her to use it against someone else. This was her now, not a self-proclaimed ghost princess or a gal that liked elegant and cute stuff, but a ghost guardian whose only duty was to serve the one that would become her master and owner.

She didn't mind that her expedition to the island didn't end like she expected or the fact that she lost her free will the moment she accepted the changes she got, for the first time in a while, Perona was feeling ecstatic, glad that those gloomy ideas stopped haunting her and delighted that she finally left that behind. Becoming rich and making everyone praise her sounded like a nice thing, but instead of that, the pink-haired gal got something that she considered better.

She got a new purpose in life and was happy.