Maw chance

A new type of pain: A hangover. Thanks, I hate it. I awoke at the bottom of the ocean, feeling like I did when eaten by that old mer-king. I was human, but able to breathe and walk normally, with the exception of being able to swim. My head was banging like someone strapped my head to a jack hammer and left it on auto pilot. I looked around and saw that I was nowhere near the palace. In fact, I think I'm in the middle of the ocean. There were a few reefs and some seaweed. It was when I looked up that I saw a huge great white shark swimming directly at me, that I swam like my life depended on it! There's something everybody should remember; a human being cannot outswim a shark. I found this out when the thing was a hair breath away with it’s mouth wide opened. My luck kicked in and I spun out of the way, but grabbed it's dorsal fin when I was out of range from his mouth. Another thing to remember; playing rodeo with a bull is one thing. But playing it with a great white shark big enough to eat a car is another thing all together. All it had to do was violently throw me off his back and into the face of a cliff. My body floated into a little crevice that was a part of the cliff side, sliding not too far from the way I came in.

(I was only told this part by my rescuer who was more than glad to say.)

As the shark approached the entrance I sank into, a booming voice of anger was heard.

“What's the big deal?” said a deep gravelly voice. The shark, confused, looked around for the source. That was when he saw two green boulders that were as big as me, look back. Before the voice could speak again, the shark high tailed it out of there.

“Well, aren't you an interesting character?” said a deep voice. My head groaned as I slowly opened my eyes. I was in a dark cavern, which wasn’t so dark. In fact, it looked like someone like the different shades of orange slowly becoming red then back. It took me a second to remember the shark. I peeked outside my entrance, my body hidden by one of two stone spikes that weren't too far apart. I looked out to the darkened sea bed. The voice that woke me spoke again. And as it did, the entrance kept opening and closing. “If what you're looking for is that pest that woke me, do not worry. For he left in quite a hurry.” My heart raced. A hearty laugh filled the cave. As the opening was opened, I swam out fast! When i was a good distance away, I turned around. The laughter wasn't coming from inside the cave, but I guess in a way it was. The laughter was coming from the cave itself, as it turned out that it was sentient. The cave was probably two story tall, with his mouth almost making up that size when he laughed. The rock surface was almost purple in the lighting of the moon. He had a rounded out block the size of his green eyes for a nose. How did I know the green boulders were eyes? Simple. They a black dot for pupils the size of my head and thick eyebrows the size of the great white that was chasing me. I'm not sure how I was suppose to feel about this guy. It's true he could've eaten me this entire time that I was in his mouth, but there's also the fact that he protected me from the shark. But there is one thing that concerns me. The guy is a cave. He can't actually eat me, much less digest me. So what was I gonna do? “ah I crack myself up.” Said the cave. “Oh right. I haven't even introduced myself. I am the mouth of the magic cave.” He says, breathing hot air at me.

“So what? Do I call you mouth? magic cave? Or, you know, Cliff?” I said, talking in my normal voice. The cave made a thinking face.

“A name? Hmm. I need not a name. So, as I was saying,” he stopped to take a strong breath in. Too strong! He pulled me towards him with his vacuum breath. Just as I was about to be sucked into him, he stopped. I was now floating in front of his eyes. “As I thought. I've seen merfolk of all types pass through here. But here you are, a human, able to breathe, much less speak in these waters, nevermind the depth you're currently swimming.” He spoke, studying my body like I was something new to him. Oh wait, I was.

“Let's just say it's a side effect of a curse I was inflicted with.” I said to him I a casual tone like magic was a everyday thing for me. Oh wait, it was. The stone face distorted into shock, then curiosity.

“A curse, you say? How interesting. What can you tell me about this predicament?” I proceeded to sit on air, or on water, slowly drifting onto the sea bed.

“I only know that some weirdo creature placed it on me, and now every time something eats me, digesting me, I get teleported to another place. With a hungry predator waiting to eat me. The cycle never fails.” Hearing about my situation outloud, I had to wonder was this really all my life was gonna be? Just be eaten, digest, repeat. It feels like my life isn’t gonna go anywhere, only to enter someone else’s stomach to be their next meal. After I explained my predicament to the oh so helpful magic mouth cave, who by the way was just making a bunch of humming noises and having his eyes closed almost like he was trying to fall asleep on my story. it only took him a moment to realize I was done talking and he replied with an answer.

“Is that all there is to your story,” he asked with curious curiosity, I looked up at him and with, what appeared to be clear annoyance replied.

“Yeah. That’s it. My tragic life story of being someone's food.” The Cave was perplexed. Then he voiced his reasoning:

“I think there is more to your curse than you actually are aware of.”

“Well if there is anything to it, the lovely monster that did this to me didn't care to explain too much to me--,” and suddenly out of nowhere The Cave busted out laughing as if I just told a joke. And in all honestly I think my life is a joke. Yeah my way of thinking in front of this cave is way too morbid. “What if I could tell you the rest of your curse, and what it holds for you. As well as give you back your missing memories?” That got me off the ground, almost like the ground was magma.

“Can you really do that!?” my voice was in a desperate tone, thinking that If I can learn more about this thing, maybe I can find a way to escape it. “Tell me what I need to do!”

“You see, I am a magic cave. And if you wish to learn the things you seek, then you must enter me, and go deep within my body.” As he finished talking, his mouth opened ridiculously big, almost like he was about to eat a pleasure cruise. The familiar bright orange and red rings on the wall of his insides made it seem more like a funhouse than a mouth of a talking cave. At least I was being the choice of entering this mouth. I swam inside, and when I entered completely, the cave closed his mouth, scaring me to think I just barely avoided a rock slide. I don't remember exploring caves before, but this would be chalked up as my weirdest. There was only two routes, but every route was walled with the pattern. I took the one that led me down. When the trail ended and darkness took me over, an ominous silence filled the area. Then, like thunder, I was struck. And quite literally too with the stuff. Information and images flooded my mind. Yes. The things I wanted to know, but not everything.

As if the cave was ready to cave-in, the being shook and groaned. Until he opened his mouth, and a belch that shook the sea was unleashed.

“Ohhh. I didn't know I could still do that!” His voice was heard by none as the one that seek answers was digested by the magic within. “So, he can only teleport by being eaten. If he dies completely before being devoured, it's over. But there is a barrier that'll protect his body in extraordinary times.” The cave said to himself, which turned into a yawn, followed by him smacking his lips and falling asleep. Before the snoring, he managed to say something. “You have quite a journey ahead of yourself.”