

Calming Coils

by Holo

Shawn wiped sweat from his brow as he hacked through jungle undergrowth with a machete. The vines that crept along the floor made it difficult to push forward, but he was intent on finding what he was searching for. His quarry was a fabled snake, an absolutely massive albino lavender reticulated python. Rumored to be over forty feet in length, it would be the largest snake of its kind by far. Shawn was set on finding and documenting it, and getting photos of it to verify its existence. It would be an incredible find for the scientific community, and if he found it, it would be worth the fight through the humid jungle.

Panting from the exertion, he used the last of his strength to cut out a clearing at the base of a towering tree. He kicked the underbrush aside and took off his backpack before taking a seat. He leaned his back against the tree's trunk and twisted open his canteen, refreshing himself with a gulp of cool water. He pushed his brown hair out of his eyes and opened his backpack and pulled out a notebook that logged his travels so far, and also had a map scrawled on it to help him find his way out of the jungle. As he cooled off and caught his breath, he updated his travel log.

High above him, something rustled in the branches, knocking loose withered leaves and sending them fluttering to the ground. Shawn didn't notice at first, as the sound blended in with the rest of the natural cacophony that he had been hearing for the past couple of days. The lower branches started to groan as a weight bore down on them, and the sound of smaller twigs snapping caught the explorer's attention. He glanced up, and spotted the silhouette of a huge serpent winding down through the branches. He felt his heart start to race, adrenaline mixing into his blood in a fusion of excitement and anxiety. This could be the snake he was searching for; but he also realized that a snake this massive could devour him easily. He shut his notebook and stuffed it into his bag, leaving it sitting on the ground as he got to his feet. He grit his teeth as his legs protested at being forced to stand already, but this was more important than his tiredness.

He clutched the camera that hung from a lanyard around his neck and lifted it to his face, peering through it and up into the branches at the snake that was now twisting its way down the tree trunk. She was exactly what he was looking for. A massive snake covered in lavender scales that were so pale they were almost white. Along her length were a pair of colored stripes that meandered like a river down the length of her body. One was pale blue, and the other was yellow, and they weaved down her body side by side. Her eyes were a soft purple, and Shawn couldn't help but stare as she came down, almost forgetting to snap some photos. He backed up as her head met the floor. She began to move towards him, her eyes fixed on him as her tongue flicked towards him, tasting the air.

Shawn stepped on a thick tree root, and his tired legs failed to compensate for the suddenly uneven ground. They gave out under him, and he fell onto his back. He hit the floor with a grunt, dazed momentarily by the unexpected fall and impact. He held the side of his head and tried to clear the stars from his vision. Sitting up, he suddenly remembered that he had been backing away from a massive snake. She had slithered close, too close for his liking, and

he tried to slide himself backwards. He only got a couple feet before he got his arms and head tangled up in the undergrowth he hadn't cleared out, and he tried to stand and pull out of it.

He barely managed to get to his feet before he felt the sensation of cool scales curl around his ankles. His first instinct was to try and kick her off, but he was already incapable of moving his legs. He bent forward and started to shove at her thick coils, trying to push her off.

"My my, how rude! Pushing someone away who only wants to help a tired traveler." A strong feminine hissed from her mouth, and Shawn froze in place, thinking he was hallucinating.

"Wh-what? That's impossible, did you just speak?" he asked, stunned into submission as another loop of coils twisted around his legs, up to his knees now.

"Mmhm," she replied, reassuring the human traveler. "My name is Serena. Never met a talking snake before?" she teased as she flicked her tongue against his arm.

"No, never, this is new," he replied, trying to stay calm as he was wrapped up. He was at least thankful that her scales were cold to the touch. It was a refreshing change from the humid, sweltering air. "Are uh, are you going to crush and eat me?"

The snake burst into a fit of giggling that made her coils ripple against Shawn's legs. She looped around him again, her huge body wrapping up his hips. "Oh goodness no, I don't eat anything that I can have a conversation with! That would be... unpleasant. You'd scream a lot, draw a lot of attention, I really don't want that," she said. Her voice was soft, much like her scales, and soothing, much like her movements. Shawn could feel himself relaxing in spite of the situation.

"Then uh, what are you doing?" he asked as he began to pet over her scales absentmindedly. Her back was hard, and he could feel her strong spine just underneath the scales.

"Helping you relax. It's what I do. People get lost out here all the time, and end up weary and lost and distressed. I like to help them out. I've gotten quite good at it, as you'll soon see." She tightened her lower coils, making it difficult to even squirm, and drew her winding body up around his chest, pinning his arms down to his sides. She was heavy against him. He felt immobilized by her squeezing and by the weight of her pressing down on him. She was dense as one would expect a snake would be; basically a long coil of muscle and scales. Her body would pulse with every twist, contracting at one end and the expanding, and he could feel the pulsation spiral all the way up her body.

"I don't know if I believe you, but it sure feels like I should..." Shawn could feel himself getting sleepy, but not for lack of air or blood flow. Her body was relaxing, enveloping him in chilly spiral that squeezed over his tired body, relaxing his taxed muscles until he felt like he could melt into a puddle in her embrace.

She continued to squeeze and loop over him, draping her body over his sounder, her weight pressing down on them. He felt heavy, and that made him even more tired, even more malleable under her. Serena giggled to herself as she felt the human relaxing. As his muscled softened and loosened, she was better able to squeeze and massage his body with her muscular rope of a body. He sighed, taking slower, deeper breaths as he went about her work.

She finally got to his head, and she wrapped that up too, leaving just enough space between her body sections to allow him to keep breathing unimpeded. She glanced down at him

and saw that she hadn't even used half of her body yet, and thought it would be best to make use of it. She started wrapping around him again, sliding her body into the slight depressions where her body pressed against itself. She curled and coiled and pulsed and rippled, cinching up the human in her coils until he effectively vanished into the knotted up ball she had squeezed herself into.

Deep underneath that ball of serpent, Shawn was in bliss. His body had stopped supporting itself, content to be supported by the scaled loops that encircled him. They squeeze around him, walls of rippling muscle that squeezed his body in ways he had never experienced. The pressure on his body was euphoric, and the air he breathed between her scales was crisp and cool, devoid of the murderous humidity outside. He never wanted to leave, but hoped that he would be able to. His hazy mind was already reconsidering publishing his findings. If anyone found out the truth about Serena, she'd never be left alone.

Serena settled her head on top of her body, and squeezed and massaged at the man she had found. She could feel him relaxing, drifting to sleep. Once he was out, she planned to drape him against the tree and slither off, disappearing back into the jungle. At the back of her mind though, she hoped that the explorer would visit again, for a more friendly and relaxing visit than this one.