

On the southeastern edge of the capital Tiang Long Du, with cliffs protecting its mist-covered shores and crystal-clear rivers, lies a region known as The Southern Towns. Comprising three towns - Han Yue Cun (Cold Moon Village), Mu Shui Cun (Wood and Water Village) and Chou Ye Xiang (Stinking Leaves Village) - this area is both prosperous and dangerous, home to both natural riches and mysteries.

Han Yue Cun - The Village of the Cold Moon

A prosperous farming village located on a vast green plain bathed by the Bai Lin He River, whose crystal-clear waters fertilize its famous fields of Moon Rice - grains that shine with the silvery light of the moon, giving the village a mystical air. However, its tranquility is threatened by spectral creatures that roam the region. On the nearby cliffs, the enigmatic Yinying Temple attracts bold adventurers seeking its legendary blessings.

Mu Shui Cun - Village of Wood and Water

Sitting along the great Hei Lin He (Black Cedar River), Mu Shui Cun is the commercial heart of the region. Famous for its rare Yingmu ("Shadow Wood") timber, which is highly durable and used in elite weapons and construction, the village also thrives on fishing and shipping. However, workers often disappear into the forest, where Yingmu herself is said to create monstrous forms to protect herself.

Chou Ye Xiang - Village of Stinking Leaves

Despite its unpleasant name, Chou Ye Xiang is crucial to the region. Situated in a wet, marshy area in the south, it produces rare medicinal herbs and a valuable fertilizer extracted from the leaves of a local shrub, Ye Chou. However, the toxic air of the marsh can sicken travelers, and the region is inhabited by dangerous creatures such as spirits that transform into familiar forms to lure their prey.

The Yinying Temple - A Test of Faith and Endurance

Standing high atop the cliffs, the Yinying Temple is a place of mystery and reverence. Those who reach its gate and survive the trials are said to receive blessings from the ancient guardians. The journey, however, is brutal:

1. The Path of the Dark Mist - A treacherous trail shrouded in magical mist, where illusions confuse travelers, leading them to fatal falls.
2. The Pass of the Cutting Winds - A gorge where razor-sharp winds constantly sweep through. Only the most agile or resilient can cross it without mortal injury.
3. The Riddle of Shadows - Spiritual guardians of the temple challenge those who arrive with riddles that test logic, memory, and perception. Wrong answers result in curses or attacks from the guardians themselves.

Dangers of the Region

In addition to the challenges of the temple, the region is plagued by terrifying creatures:

- Black Jiao Longs - Aquatic serpent-dragons that inhabit the sea, attacking fishermen and boats.
- Forests - Home to Yingmu trees that come to life to protect their roots, crushing intruders.
- Swamp Wraiths - Spirits that roam Chou Ye Xiang, whispering promises of gold or forgiveness in exchange for a worse fate.