### **Aokigahara Forest: The Heavenly City**

Aokigahara Forest, also known as the Suicide Forest, is a dense forest located at the base of Mount Fuji in Japan. The forest has a dark and mysterious history, and it is said to be haunted by the spirits of those who have died there. In recent years, Aokigahara Forest has become a popular destination for tourists and hikers, but it is important to be aware of the dangers of the forest before you visit.



#### Aokigahara Forest 5 - The Heavenly City by John Gibbon

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#### The History of Aokigahara Forest

Aokigahara Forest has a long and complex history. The forest is first mentioned in Japanese literature in the 9th century, and it is believed that the name "Aokigahara" comes from the Japanese words "aoi" (blue) and "kihara" (tree). The forest is said to have been a sacred place to the ancient Japanese people, and it was believed that the spirits of the dead resided in the forest.

In the 19th century, Aokigahara Forest became a popular destination for suicides. The forest is located near the city of Tokyo, and it is easy to get to by public transportation. In the 1990s, the number of suicides in Aokigahara Forest began to increase, and the forest became known as the "Suicide Forest." Today, Aokigahara Forest is one of the most popular places in the world for suicides.

#### The Dangers of Aokigahara Forest

Aokigahara Forest is a dangerous place. The forest is very dense, and it is easy to get lost. The forest is also home to a number of poisonous plants and animals. In addition, the forest is often shrouded in fog, which can make it difficult to see. As a result of these dangers, it is important to be aware of the risks before you visit Aokigahara Forest.

If you are planning to visit Aokigahara Forest, be sure to take the following precautions:

- Stay on the marked trails.
- Be aware of your surroundings.
- Be sure to tell someone where you are going and when you plan to return.
- If you get lost, call for help immediately.

#### The Spirits of Aokigahara Forest

Aokigahara Forest is said to be haunted by the spirits of those who have died there. There are many stories of people who have seen ghosts in the forest, and there are even some who say that the spirits have tried to harm

them. While there is no scientific evidence to support these claims, it is clear that Aokigahara Forest is a place with a dark and mysterious history.

If you are planning to visit Aokigahara Forest, be sure to be respectful of the spirits that are said to reside there. Do not disturb the forest, and be sure to leave it as you found it. If you do encounter a spirit, be calm and respectful. Do not try to harm the spirit, and do not be afraid to ask for help.

Aokigahara Forest is a beautiful and mysterious place. While the forest has a dark and dangerous history, it is also a place of great beauty. If you are planning to visit Aokigahara Forest, be sure to take the necessary precautions and be respectful of the spirits that are said to reside there.



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