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The moment I touch the water I feel something is wrong. The water feels weird. Actually it is a weird... the snakelike thing sticks to me and tries to drown me. Luckily I resist its attempt. Still I got all wet. Yuck...

Kendalan, who else, spots three other things in the water... Time to take some distance.

While some of us are discussing the matters at hand, we are glide off to the water almost unnoticeable. It turns out to be a water elemental that moves just below the surface. Because of this action the water level has been lowered and a small chest became visible.

Nethander manages to get out of the area by some acrobatic moves. Cuura is hammering it. I got out with the help of my grappling hook and the sergeant. And Reed...? Slowly but surely she was drawn to the water... Poor girl...

Jay, who else, jumps in to save Reed who stands like frozen at the waterfront while amorphous creatures are closing in. The two slimy horrors are lashing out with their pseudopods, trying to engulf them and dissolve them with their acidic bodies.

Nethander shouts something in the language of his outsider half. This feels very uncomfortable. It feels like the area is temporary contaminated. Only Reed has the same feeling about this. I wonder what it is.... Is it his evil side taking over? Or is he trying to get rid of his vile ancestry? And of course... the fact the rest of the group does not seem to be affected by this spell like effect also says something.

When we are all at a safe distance from the water again, Nethander and I discuss some options to get to the chest in the water. Then Cuura comes up with an acceptable plan to drag it out. Now this is really getting weird. She is getting soft and smart as well.

And we have a volunteer to keep the oozes busy while Kendalan, the sergeant and I drag the box out. With a little horsepower, that is. Nethander undresses and secures himself at a rope with Cuura at the other end. The acid does not have an effect at all, but he suffers some serious physical damage. The tailor makes the man counts for this one. He looks like he is transparent...

The dragging did not go flawless either... the water weird almost got me again but I managed to break free again. With a little help from the sergeant... who else.

The box itself tried to be a challenge, but after some discussion we decided to let its trap explode. After that the opening was easy. Its contents are also puzzling. It looks like there are wands, a scroll, potions, a ring...

Why would a dozen of sword masters keep stuff like this hidden in a pond with this kind of protection? It does not make sense to me. Maybe when the stuff is identified, but that will take ages...probably until Candle Keep...

Where are those sword masters anyway? One of them, Nethander's teacher, is dead.... Are they all? Do we need to find out? I suppose Jay likes to know his masters fate...

But we have to postpone this to...after the artefact, I guess. Maybe Grimwald can do some augury on this.