

# THE CORPSE FLOWER



The Corpse Flower is a fascinating plant native to the rainforests of Sumatra, Indonesia. What sets this plant apart is its distinctive and rather unpleasant odor. When the Corpse Flower blooms, it releases an odor akin to the scent of rotting flesh. This unusual aroma serves a specific purpose in nature – it attracts insects like flies and beetles that are normally drawn to decaying organic matter. These insects help with pollination, transferring pollen from one Corpse Flower to another. The Corpse Flower doesn't bloom frequently; it can take several years or even a decade or more between flowering events. So, it's a rare and memorable natural spectacle, even if its scent isn't the most pleasant!

## COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

1. Where is the Death Tree typically found, and why is it known as the Death Tree?

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2. What are the potential dangers of coming into contact with any part of the Death Tree?

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3. Despite its danger, what significant role does the Death Tree play in coastal ecosystems?

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