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Project 3

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### Taken for Granted: Flowers

For my third project, I knew that I needed to do something meaningful while using these plastic materials for 3D printing that are otherwise bad for the environment. So related to that subject, I encountered a very rare species flower while researching called the Youtan Poluo which is if not the most, one of the rarest flowers on earth. However, this flower is so small, that often it is very difficult to even spot it, and it wasn't till recently that several accounts of the flower had been reported and documented. Before this, there was mainly only trivia which could describe the flower such as that this flower could only bloom every 3000 years, as well as marking the return of a king.



I found this to be the perfect opportunity to create a project which could be not only be an admiration of nature and of old traditions, but a social experiment due to its size and what 3D printing could do to shed light on this rare species. I ended printing 10 flowers, half of them in white ABS (I painted the stems on these green), and the other half of them in glow-in-the-dark PLA. The result, in my opinion was unexpectedly pleasing to look at, as I placed the flowers on real plants to provide a noticeable contrast.

So, the real question is, would people notice them? While my time was limited to assembled this project, I do hope to test this question, due to enlarging of an otherwise taken for granted specimen.

