

# Glow-in-the-Dark Tea

South Korean designer comes up with a light-up beverage, but should you ditch the headlamp?

Are hyper-familiar with getting up in the middle of the night for a bathroom break? To pee is human, after all. After you've loosely laced your boots, you stumble out of the tent, fumble for a headlamp, and look for that special tree.

But what if you didn't need a headlamp for your late-night calling? A South Korean product designer may have found a solution. Save the batteries: Simply plop a tea bag into a clear glass, and presto, you've got light.

Wonsik Chae, a designer from Suwon, Korea (an area known for technological advances from the nearby large Samsung Electronics plant), has invented what he calls the Lighting Bag. It's a tea bag filled with fluorescent molecules that reacts to a chemical intermediate liquid agent already in a clear glass. According to Chae's website, once the tea bag hits the water, light is given off—the tea works as a catalyst of the chemical reaction. Use it, and your tea will glow brightly with an almost toxic yellowy tint.



The bags come printed with the words 'draw a light' on them, and while the prototype isn't for mass consumption yet, one can only hope that soon enough, Chae will roll out a whole line of flavored-light teas.

It might be great to have a glass of tea ready when you get done with your potty break, but it could turn into a vicious cycle—you'll be peeing all night if you keep refilling yourself with tea each time you go.