

Chapter 3

Please help me!

Lisa cannot ski on the red slope. She takes off her skis. She walks down the slope. It is difficult. She can see the tracks of two skis in the snow. She follows the tracks. She remembers Guy's words: *The red slope isn't safe, Tom.*

The torchlight flashes again. It's in front of Lisa.

Now she is near the big, black rock. The eagle is flying around the rock. The torchlight is shining below it.

'Hello!' Lisa shouts. 'Who's there? Answer me!'

Lisa listens.

'Please...help me!'

It is Tom. And he's scared.

The snow hurts Lisa's face.

'Tom! Tom!' Lisa shouts. 'I can't see your torch now. Speak to me! Shine your torch again!'

'Down here!' Tom answers. The torchlight flashes again.

Lisa's eyes follow the torchlight. She sees Tom. He is on the ground in the snow. Lisa goes to him. His leg is trapped under a rock.

'Hello, Tom,' Lisa says. 'Are you okay?' She laughs. 'That's a silly question.'

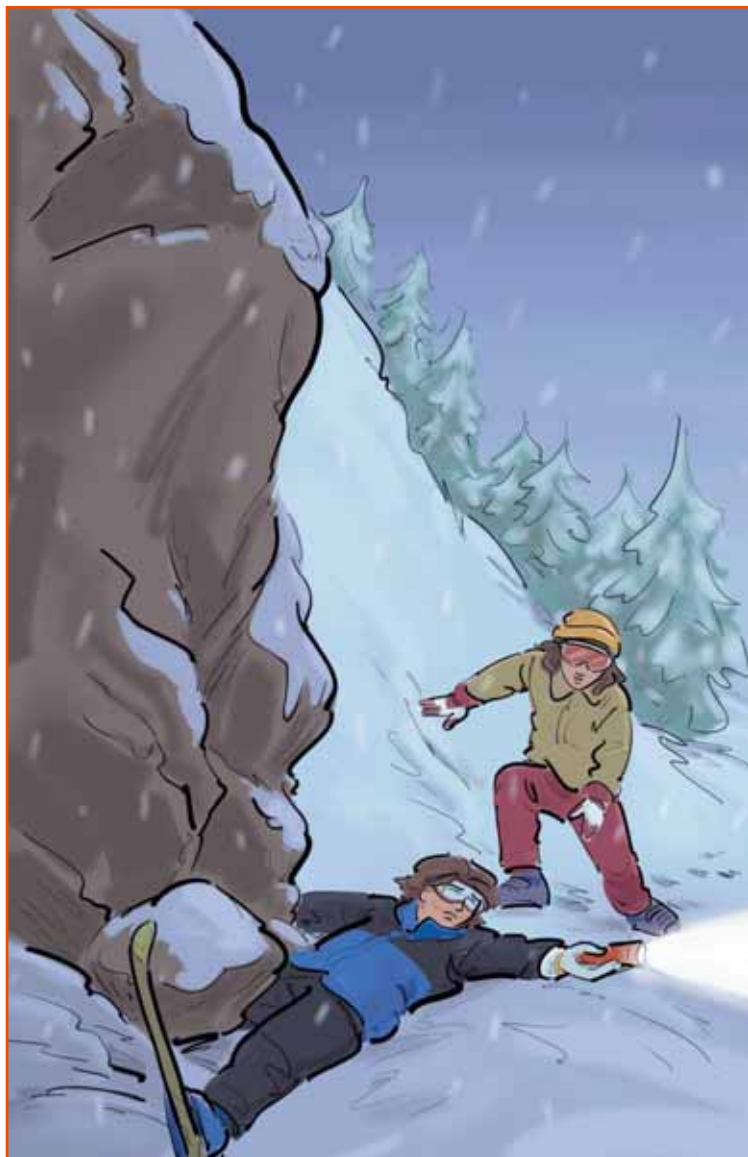
Tom laughs too, but his face is white.

He stops laughing and says, 'My leg hurts! It's trapped. I can't move it from under this rock. Ow!'

'Is it broken?' asks Lisa.

'No, it's not broken,' says Tom. 'But it hurts. Ow!'

'You've got your mobile,' Lisa says. 'We can phone for help.'



‘No, we can’t. It’s not working,’ Tom answers. ‘Go and get Guy.’

‘He’s not here,’ Lisa says. ‘Everybody’s skiing down to the hotel. I’m going to take the ski lift down.’

‘Oh, no!’ Tom says.

‘It’s okay,’ Lisa says. ‘I’m going to move the rock.’

‘You can’t move it, Lisa,’ Tom says. ‘It’s heavy. And it’s not safe.’

‘I’m going to try,’ Lisa answers.

Lisa pushes and pushes. Her arms are shaking. But she can’t move the rock. She looks at Tom. His arms and legs are shaking with cold. His face is grey.

Lisa takes off her yellow hat and says, ‘Put this on.’

‘Mmm...no, thank you!’ Tom says.

‘That’s silly, Tom!’ Lisa says. ‘The cold is dangerous. Put it on!’

Tom takes the hat from Lisa. ‘Thank you,’ he says. ‘What are we going to do, Lisa?’

‘I have to go down to the hotel on the ski lift, Tom,’ Lisa answers.

‘No, stay with me, Lisa,’ Tom says. ‘I’m scared. Stay. *Please!*’

‘Tom, I can’t move the rock and you’re cold,’ Lisa answers. ‘I have to get help.’

She stands up. ‘And stay here, Tom!’ she says.

Tom laughs. But he stops laughing and says, ‘Lisa, it hurts, it hurts.’

‘Sssh...sssh,’ Lisa says. ‘Look up there, Tom. It’s a golden eagle. It’s flying to its nest. You’re not alone now.’

Lisa sets off. At the top of the slope she puts on her skis. She goes across to the top of the ski lift at Halfway Point.

She can't see Tom's torch in the snow now. She can't see the eagle on the rock. She is alone.

Lisa waits by the ski lift...and waits...and waits.

She looks down the mountain slope. The ski chairs aren't moving. *Oh no, the ski lift isn't working*, Lisa thinks.

Now Lisa is alone. And Tom is in danger. What is she going to do?

Chapter 4

Down the mountain

At Halfway Point, Lisa stands alone in the silence. It's snowing. Lisa can't see her skis or the sky. She's cold and she shakes her hands and feet.

She's scared. But she thinks, *I can't wait for help! I have to ski down the mountain. I can do it!*

Lisa sets off down the slope. The cold wind hurts her face.

'Skis together,' Lisa says. 'Turn the skis to stop. You can do it, Lisa.'

Lisa skis into the wind. It's difficult and soon she is tired. She falls in the snow. She falls down the mountain...over and over again!

Lisa stands up. Her legs are shaking.

'I have to remember Tom,' she says. 'He's alone on the mountain. I *can* do it!'

The moon is shining. The snow is not falling now. Lisa can see the stars in the sky. She sets off again.

'Think of Tom,' Lisa says. 'I can do it. Yes! I can see the lights of the hotel!'

Lisa's arms and legs hurt. She is very cold.

Oh, no! Lisa thinks. *I'm going to fall again.*

Lisa falls in the snow. But now she is near the hotel. 'Help! Help!' she shouts.

Lisa's friends run across the snow. They shine a torch on her face. Lisa opens her eyes and sees their worried faces.

'Lisa!' they shout. 'Are you okay?'

'Yes,' Lisa answers. 'But Tom isn't. He's on the mountain.'

