Lost

By Madison Lee

*Sophie:*

“It was an understatement when you said the sky was beautiful. It is absolutely magnificent from up here Anna,” I exclaim as I look up at the sky in amazement.

“It’s my favorite place to go in the evening at Yellowstone. It is so calm, and you get the perfect view of the sunset,” Anna mused while smiling up at the sky.

“I’m going to go in front of these bushes to get a better shot. Just think of how National Geographic will react when I show them these pictures!” I exclaim while Anna chuckled at me.

“They will love your pictures no matter what. You’re an amazing photographer,” Anna chirped while looking up at me.

“I think that’s the nicest thing anyone has ever said to me!” I replied dramatically while Anna rolled her eyes at my comment.

“Also, be careful Sophie. You’re clumsy and this cliff has a lot of loose rocks.” Anna exclaimed.

“I know, I know.” I said back as I rolled my eyes. I made my way to the front of the bushes where there was only about 2 feet of cliff remained. It then turned into a bunch of small, loose, rocks.

As I’m Looking through my camera lens, I walk forward a little bit more trying to get as good of a picture as I can. Not paying attention to where I am walking, I step on a loose rock. It began to slide down the hill and so did the other ones I was standing on. I began to slide down the hill along with the other rocks.

I dug the back of my heels in the ground, hoping that it would slow me down a bit, but it only made my situation worse. As soon as I dug my heels into the ground I began tumbling forward. All I could feel and think about was the pain of the rocks bruising me all over my body, especially my face. The pain was becoming too much and I can’t take it anymore, but I can’t stop it.

I flip down the cliff one more time and then hit my head on something hard. I continue to roll down a hill that felt like it went on forever, finally landing in cold water.

My vision became blurry and my head is throbbing horribly. I was unable to move anything below my neck. I was freezing and didn’t know what was going on. It was as if I was paralyzed. I suddenly became tired. I was struggling to keep my eyes open. That’s when it all went black...

*Anna:*

One minute I was sitting and watching the amazing view, then I heard a huge crash. Jumping up, and moving the bushes out of my way, I see the two feet of cliff that was once there, gone.

“Sophie. Are you okay,” I scream down the cliff. I didn’t get a reply. The only sound I can hear was the rocks sliding down the cliff and river water rushing down the valley.

I can’t help but panic. All worst case scenarios run through my head. For example: She is really hurt or maybe even dead...

I jog back to the spot I was sitting at and make sure to grab my SPOT locator. I press the button and spin around, trying to locate Sophie. I walk down the cliff, managing to not fall because of how many times I have done this before.

Once I get to the end, I see a bolder with blood on it. My heart starts to race. I look around, but see no sign of Sophie. I hit the button again, activating the SPOT locator. I spun around until it starts to beep rapidly.

I follow the intense beeping as I walk down the rushing river. After walking for about ten minutes it starts going off like crazy towards the bank of the river. I look around, soon spotting the identical gray GPS. The only problem is, it’s not attached to my sister…

*Sophie:*

I wake up with the right side of my head throbbing. I can’t see out of my right eye and there is dried up blood on my shirt. The sun hurts my eyes, which isn’t helping my dizziness and the sick feeling in my stomach.

I open my eyes while sitting up slowly, holding my throbbing head. I don’t know where I am or how I am going to get out of here. Nothing but trees are surrounding me. I will be lucky to get out alive with my throbbing head and the environment that I am stuck in.

I don’t know how long I’ve been here. It might have been days or even weeks.

My ankle is throbbing just as much as my head, and the pain is just as intense. I look down to see that my left ankle is purple, yellow, and even kind of blue. I must have broken it.

My right eye is swollen shut and is really achy. I can see blood on the front of my shirt.

*Where did it come from? I wonder.*

I touch the spot on my throbbing head and then look at my hand which now has some red on it.

I grab my fairly large knife out of its pouch and cut the part of my pants that cover my calves off. Then I tie the legging material together and wrap it around my head to, hopefully, prevent germs and other things from getting to the gash in my head.

I stand up, but my ankle gives out on me and I fall back down. A rush of pain goes through my ankle, and my head starts to hurt even more.

*How am I ever going to get out of here?*

*Anna:*

*There is no way she would have taken it off, but how else would it have gotten here?*

I make sure to examine the little orange GPS in my hand. It is muddy, has little dents in it, and is wet… The dents might be from her falling down the hill. It’s probably wet because the river washed it up.

*Wait… if the river washed it up she must have been in it at one point.*

I get up and look around at my surrounds, being very cautious of where I step. I hope I find tracks, brush that had been moved, any sign that she has been here, any sign that she is okay.

Looking around I didn’t see anything. I decide to walk down the river for a little while longer, carefully studying the land in front of me.

In about twenty minutes it starts to get dark. Eventually I am not able to see my surroundings.

I know that if I try to turn around I will never make it out of these woods between the environment and the animals that lurk here.

I listen to the sound of the river next to me. To make sure I won’t go into it, or go off the trail I am following. Luckily the moon provides me with just enough light to make out my surroundings.

I hear rustling in the bushes ahead. I grab my fairly large knife out of my belt pouch. I then crouch behind a boulder.

The rustling stops, so I creep out from behind the rock, and walk down the bank of the river as quietly as I can.

I step on a stick and freeze. The rustling sounds grows louder. Something is approaching me…

*Sophie:*

After sitting on the ground for a little while longer and drinking some water from the river, I know that I have to try and get out of these woods.

My ankle is starting to get worse which means I can’t walk on it anytime soon.

I stand up on my right, not injured, ankle and grab onto a tree for support. I put my back against the tree, so I don’t have to stand on my own. I see a stick that would be perfect for me to use.

I bend down with my right leg only, back still against the tree, my left leg out so it is straight in front of me, and I grab the stick. I slowly stand back up in the original position I was in.

My stomach was starting to hurt which I am guessing is from drinking the river water. The pain from my stomach just adds to the agonizing pain from my head and my ankle.

I walk a couple of feet and the pain in my leg is getting worse. All I want to do is give up… But I know I can’t. I grip my “crutch/walking stick” tighter and carry on. I know if I really try, I can make it out alive.

The stick isn’t helping much, but I’m not going to give up that easily. I continue to walk for about 10 minutes. It starts to get dark, and my surroundings are starting to blend in with the darkness. There is enough moonlight to see. That’s when I fell…

*Anna:*

I stand still and hold my breath as the noise gets louder. I am out in the open and there is no way I can hide because whatever is out there, will hurt me.

With my knife in hand, I wait for whatever it is to finally emerge from the woods.

The rustling stops and it gets quiet. *That’s weird* I thought as I took a couple, steps forward.

All of a sudden something pounces on me. I push it off and scramble to my feet.

In front of me stands a wolf. It watches me closely as it circles me. But it made sure to keep its distance the whole time. All I could hear is it growling at me and the rush of the river water.

I look around for an escape plan and spot a ranger station a little ways down, on the other side of the river. I know that this is my only shot at getting away from this dangerous situation.

The wolf is slowly approaching me, ready to take down its prey. I bend down and grab a large stick that can easily hold my wait. I slowly go back to my original position.

It starts running at me which means it is time for my plan to take place. I jump into the rushing river using my big stick to help me across. I turn around to see the wolf on the other side staring at me.

I turn back around and jog to the station. I open the door and look back once more to see the wolf making its way back into the woods.

Relief washes over me as I walk inside and turn on a lantern sitting on the counter top. The room has canned foods and water in a pantry, an outhouse that is right outside , a small bed in the middle of the room, a radio to call for help, MRE, and a first aid kit.

*I have everything I need, I thought as I lay down in bed. Except my sister.*

*Sophie:*

I open my eyes and the light blinds me.

*How long was I asleep for?*

I sit up, making my head hurt from the fast movement.

I look around, my eyes are squinting, as I hold my head. My main goal at this point is to find my sister. The only way I can accomplish this is by walking, which isn't the easiest thing to do.

I pull myself to my feet with the help of my stick. I have some water from the river even though it got me sick last time and made my way down the river.

A ranger station comes into view and I’ve never been so happy to see a building in my life. I try to go a little slower because I know that I don’t have to rush now.

I walk up the stairs, struggling with each one as I open the front door.

I make my way inside and see a backpack on a bed that looks like it had been slept in. *Who is here?* As that last thought runs through my head the front door opens.

I turn around quickly only to come face to face with my sister, Anna.

“Anna! I’m so glad I found you!” I yell excitedly as she runs up and hugs me.

“I’m so happy you’re okay!”

I just smile back at her. I was so overwhelmed with joy, I just can’t find the words to say.

“I don’t know what I would have done if something seriously happened to you!” She adds while we both look at each other, tears in our eyes.

All that is left for us to do is get out of here. But who knows if we will...

THEEEEEE ENDDDDDD!!!!!