

Group 5

Lost in the Mountains



The year was 2030 and five students from Greece had travelled to Chamonix (France) for an international eTwinning exchange program. It was their first time in the French Alps, and everything looked unreal. The huge snowy mountains, the cold air and the small wooden houses seemed taken from a movie

Maria, Nikos, Eleni, Alex and Petros stayed with students from a local school for one week. Each day, they would attend activities about climate change and mountain survival while in the afternoons they would explore the area with their French teachers. Their teacher, Mr.Dimitris, kept reminding them not to go anywhere alone because the weather in the mountains could change very quickly.

On the fourth day, the students joined a hiking trip near the forest outside Chamonix. The guide explained the route carefully and warned them not to separate from the group. At first, everything seemed perfect. The sky was clear and everyone was taking photos and laughing. Alex joked that he looked like an explorer while Nicos was filming videos for social media.

After about an hour, the group stopped near an old, abandoned chapel. The local students became strangely quiet. One of them told the others about an old legend called the God of the Mountain.

According to the story, many years ago people believed that the mountain protected itself by taking “an offering” whenever someone disrespected it.

Most of the students laughed but Petros noticed that the guide looked uncomfortable.

“Relax,” Maria said. ‘It’s just a myth.’”

Suddenly, fog began covering the area faster than anyone expected. The guide quickly asked everybody to stay close together and continue walking back. Visibility became worse every minute.

While everyone was walking, Nikos suddenly realised that Petros was missing. The group stopped immediately. Mr. Dimitris shouted Petros’ name, but no one answered. Panic spread quickly. Some students wanted to continue back to safety whereas others wanted to search for him. While the guide explained that the weather was becoming dangerous, Eleni noticed some footprints leading into the forest. Beside them, there was a symbol carved into the snow, similar to the drawing Lucas had shown them earlier from the legend of the Mountain God.

“That’s impossible,” Alex whispered.

Back in the village rescue teams searched for hours but there was no sign of Petros. His phone had stopped working and the police believed he had simply become lost in the storm. But the Greek students were not convinced.

Later that night, Maria received a message from Petros’ account.

There was only one sentence:

“Don’t trust the guide.”

She immediately rushed to tell the others. Maria, Nikos, Eleni and Alex were now sitting next to the campfire. “It’s probably a prank.” said Nikos. “You all know how much he loves to mess with people.” Everyone was thinking deeply, but the silence got interrupted by Alex. “Come on Nikos, while yes, Petros loves to prank people and get on their nerves, he would never go this far.” Eleni stood up. “I’m going to get some fresh air.” “No Eleni,” said Nikos. “I know you’re going to try to look for him.” Eleni looked at the floor. “You’re right. I’m sorry but I’m not losing someone dear to me again. I made that promise long ago.”

Then Maria received another message from Petros’ account: “Don’t trust the guide”. “Well, it can’t be a prank !..” Maria said to the rest of the members of the team. There must be something wrong with this guy. Petros’ disappearance must have something to do with him. “And that story he told us about the legend of the God of the Mountain sounds quite strange” Maria said. “We must be really careful he doesn’t find out that we are suspecting he is dangerous.” They all agreed and decided to spend the night there since there was nothing else, they could do. They were all thinking about Petros, hoping he was somewhere safe. The feeling that their guide might be dangerous crept the group out. So, they decided to take turns being awake.

The morning started with French breakfast. It consisted of French toast and croissants. While eating they all were observing the guide. There wasn’t really anything strange or off-putting about him. However, they still had their suspicions. Maria asked: “How could we lose Petros?” Is he still near us? Nikos screamed Stop! These questions are scaring me. They went on with their morning and kept on thinking about Petros. But then... they heard a scream and they realized that Maria was not at the camp anymore. They panicked and became very scared.

Alex looked suspicious. He knew too much to divide us, he said that Petros was already at home, but Eleni noticed some footprints leading into the forest, so she said, “Alex, you look weird! Why are you stressing? Don’t you want to find Petros and Maria?” Oh yeah, I do. Obviously! He answered.

But then he ran away through the window and Eleni shouted: “Alex must be the culprit!!!!” Eleni and Nikos ran after Alex into the forest. The fog was thick and the snow made everything look the same. After some minutes, they saw an old stone shelter near the chapel.

Inside, Petros and Maria were there, very scared but safe. Alex was there too. He finally told them the truth. He wanted to make the legend of the God of the Mountain look real as a prank, but everything went too far.

Petros was angry and said, “This is not funny at all!” Alex looked down and said sorry many times.

The guide and the rescue team soon found them and took them back to Chamonix. In the village, the French families gave them hot chocolate, croissants and fresh baguettes. Later, they walked near Mont Blanc and saw the small cafés and the lights of the town.

That night, they understood something important. The mountains were beautiful, but also dangerous. They learned that friendship, courage and trust are more important than scary legends. They would never forget their strange adventure in France.

Students: Katerina, Marina, Maximos