Lost and found

They knew they never should have gone camping for holiday. Now that their car would not start and GPS would not work, they were lost inside a huge, dense forest. Scared, terrified and confused John, Sarah, Mum and Dad stayed silent as they did not know what to do. They were miles away from the campsite or any kind of civilisation. What were they going to do? Although this situation may seem dire, the scenery was extremely beautiful. Towering trees soared into the sky allowing light to shine through their leaves. A picturesque, calm lake raced around them while the flowers gazed in awe.

Sarah asked, “What are we going to do?’’

Dad replied, “We will… we will… set our tents here.’’

However, setting their tents was surprisingly difficult to do. Quickly, they realized that most of the parts for the tents were not there, so they had to make parts out of wood. Even though this may seem impossible, with a lot of effort they managed to complete all four tents.

“Finally,’’ Dad sighed, “We finished the tents!’’

Sarah asked, “What’s the time? I am hungry!’’

John replied, “Me too!’’

Mum then said, “Okay! Calm down.”

As soon as they finished their dinner, all of them went to their tents to sleep.

The very next morning, Mum, Dad, John and Sarah all woke up to a sound in the bush. What was it? A monster, a scary bear, a wild pig, who knew? Reluctantly, John went into the bush but found nothing. There was no monster, no wild pig, nor scary bear so what was it? They decided to forget this event ever happened and to have breakfast. Soon after Mum tried to phone the campsite owner, but her attempt failed because there was no signal. Mum, who was determined to call the campsite owners, decided she would go and find a signal so she could call the owners. Mysteriously, Mum did not return back to the family that fateful day. It appeared she had disappeared. The longer Mum was gone, the more scared and worried the rest of the family became. They were worried for Mum. Dad went looking for Mum and told John to look after Sarah. John and Sarah fell asleep and suddenly woke up to the same sound in the bush again. John decided to look in the bush but again nothing was there. But where was Dad and Mum? Angrily, John yelled for his Dad. John desperately wanted to know where Mum and Dad went. Illogically, he forgot about Sarah and ran in the direction where Mum went to get a signal (in the middle of nowhere) and never came back. It appeared that he also had disappeared.

Immediately, Sarah realized that she was all alone in this perilous, enormous forest. She rationed her food and realized she had only two choices to survive: she would wait for a rescue or hike to search for her family. Obviously, she chose to search for her family. She gathered all the food that she had left and calculated that her food would last for a week. In the event of her food running out, she would find the campsite and continue to search for her family. She hiked for days which were endless but what motivated her to hike is that every passing second is another second her parents and brother were in danger. Who could have known what happened to her family? All Sarah knew is that she would have to continue to hike until she found her parents. After six days of hiking and hundreds of kilometres crossed, she saw a grey, dark building. What was it? Instantly, Sarah ran towards this building. As she went closer, she saw lots of bars made out of rusted iron. Sarah knew that this was an abandoned prison and could possibly be the place where her family could be held as hostage. It was imminent that the person who captured her parents was inside this very prison. Every minute she stayed inside the prison, was another minute that she could be captured. As she delved deeper into the prison, Sarah began to worry that her parent’s capturer could hear her walking in this prison trying to save her parents. The wooden floorboards, which creaked a lot, could easily give away Sarah’s position to the capturer. Cautiously, Sarah inspected every prison cell trying to find her parents. But then she heard multiple voices which were whispering on the floor on top of her. As she approached the voices, she recognized them. They were her parent’s and brother’s voices! Her family all sighed in relief.

“You’re actually here!’’ said John in relief, “We were all hoping you would come to free us!’’

Sarah managed to find a key and unlocked all three of the cells. But the family were not safe yet for the capturer was still lurking around the prison making sure no one escapes.

“We need to get out of here,’’ said Dad, “We do not want to be captured again.’’

They heard creaks on the floor above them. They saw this as an opportunity to leave the prison. Silently, they walked down the stairs and eventually reached the exit. Although the exit was right in front of them, they were paralyzed with shock as they heard more creaks in the floor on top of them. Only this time they were louder. The capturer was running down the stairs with intent to capture all the family and lock them in a cell. But as he approached the entrance, he realized the family were not there. Where did they go? Trembling with fear, John pulled the family behind a tall bookshelf to hide.

“No point of hiding from me,’’ shouted the capturer as he went to look around the back of the prison. This was the family’s only opportunity to escape the prison and return home safely. As quick as a flash, the family ran out of the prison and ran for miles. Eventually, the family reached the place their car was. The family celebrated with joy. Nothing but happiness and relief surrounded them. They were finally safe. To this day, the family is not sure why they were captured and held hostage by that monstrosity.

**THE END**

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