

NARRATIVE

By: Deirdre's Class

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CHAPTER 1

It all happened last summer. We were going on a school trip to New York. We had been saving for months and the day finally arrived.

We got the bus from Sligo to Dublin Airport. It departed Sligo at 6:00am but we didn't mind getting up early because we were so excited. None of us had been to the U.S.A. before.

We boarded the plane just before 11 o'clock. It was a chartered flight so we were the only passengers. The plane went very fast on the runway so that it had enough speed to take off. Anna's ears were popping so she had to chew some gum. We sat back in our seats feeling scared and excited at the same time. The journey would take 7 hours so we all relaxed. Some people played on their PSPs, some watched a movie, and some played on their laptop while others read or had a nap. Deirdre and Erenda sat at the front and chatted the whole time.

CHAPTER 2

Suddenly, when we were half way there, a thunder storm came out of nowhere. The plane began to shake from side to side. A flash of lightening hit one of the engines and the plane started to nose-dive. There was pandemonium in the cabin, everyone was panicking! The pilot announced in a worried voice;

"Put on your parachutes and prepare to jump!"

We quickly put on our parachutes and we put all of our stuff into our back packs. The pilot opened the door and we could hear the sound of the wind blowing loudly. One by one, we jumped out of the plane. It was sooooo scary! Deirdre and Erenda were the last to jump because they were terrified.

As we were falling towards the ground, we pulled the chords and our parachutes opened. Erenda was trying to text her sons because she thought she was going to die. As we looked down, we could see the aeroplane crashing into the Atlantic Ocean. As it hit the water, the engine and the fuel tank exploded and slowly, the plane sank under the water.

We were all singing;

"I believe I can fly!"

CHAPTER 3

We were lucky that we landed on a beautiful island. We could see mountains, volcanos, waterfalls and lots of lovely trees. We were so delighted to land safely, except for Manus, he got stuck on the top of a giant palm tree. He eventually managed to climb down but just as he thought he was safe, a coconut landed on top of his head.

We realised that we would have to stay on the island for the night so Tamas told everyone to go and collect some wood to make a shelter and a fire. Ieva was frightened that there would be wild animals on the island so she had a great idea. She said that we should make a tree house where we would be safe. We gathered loads of wood and leaves and in a few hours we had made a cool treehouse.

Chapter 4

We were very proud of our tree house. Everyone had helped and it looked amazing. By this time, everyone was ravenous so we went in search of food. Manus was already munching away on the coconut that had hit him on the head. When it hit his head, the coconut smashed open. Anna went to look for more coconuts so that we could drink the coconut milk.

Tom soon found a wild deer which was resting in the bushes. He made a spear and sneaked up on the deer. He killed it by stabbing it in the heart. Ieva and Michael helped Tom to carry the deer back to the campfire. Thankfully, Michael had a penknife so we were able to cut the deer up and take out the insides. It was a bit disgusting but we didn't mind because we were so hungry. We cooked the deer on a spit over the fire. Tom made the spit from some branches. He is great at making things.

Hodan, Farhio and Samara found delicious pineapples, mangos and bananas. Everyone enjoyed the fruit but Anna didn't have any bananas because she doesn't like the taste of them. After eating, we were exhausted so we decided to go back to the treehouse to sleep.

Chapter 5

Next morning, Cassie was first to wake up. It was a beautiful morning, the sun was shining brightly and the sky was blue and cloudless. Cassie woke Paddy and they were just about to climb down the ladder when Cassie noticed a black creature lying under the treehouse.

"It's a panther!" cried Paddy, "What are we going to do?"

The others heard Paddy and woke up. We were trapped in the treehouse. Erenda had a great idea.

"Let's throw some coconuts at the panther," she suggested. So we all picked up a coconut except Deirdre. She knew that she would miss. Deirdre counted to 3 and everyone threw the coconuts at the same time. The panther got a fright and he quickly ran away into the deep forest.

The pilot, co-pilot and air hostess parachuted to the island too but they knew nothing about surviving in the wild so they were very happy that we were in charge. Once the panther had disappeared, we all climbed down the ladder and had breakfast..... fruit again!

Chapter 6

After breakfast, some of us decided to explore the island. Manus and Ieva went in search of more coconuts. It didn't take them long to find them as there were loads of palm trees on the island. They were carrying the coconuts back to the treehouse when Ieva tripped and let some of them fall. They began to roll down a hill and Ieva and Manus ran after them.

One of the coconuts had rolled into a dark cave. Manus crept cautiously into the cave. He was a bit frightened as the cave was very dark and he didn't have a torch. As he went further into the cave, he noticed a light ahead of him and he could hear voices.

"Hello," he called, "Who's there?"

A group of children turned towards Manus and he recognised them immediately. They were pupils from Summerhill College who had been missing for the past year. They too had been on a flight to New York when their plane crashed and luckily, they also landed on the island. Manus couldn't believe his eyes, there in front of him were Conor, Shane, Dominik, Attila, Lucho and Mubashar. The boys were very excited to see Manus. They all ran back to the treehouse to tell the others.

Chapter 7

Soon afterwards, Ieva and Manus went back to get the coconuts. When they were almost at the cave, Ieva noticed something shiny near the cave. They both went over to investigate. Using a stick, Manus dug up the ground around the object. They soon realised that it was a golden coloured chest.

"I wonder what's inside?" whispered Ieva.

"Let's find out!" replied Manus and he carefully prised open the chest. To their amazement, the chest was full of treasure! There were gold coins, diamonds, jewellery in the chest. Straight away, they ran back to tell the others.

"We're rich!" shouted Erenda. Deirdre and Erenda were dancing with joy.

Suddenly, a loud, rumbling sound could be heard in the distance. At first we thought it was thunder but there were no clouds and the sun was shining, how could there be a storm?

"Look!" yelled Farhio. She was pointing to smoke which was coming out of the top of a mountain.

"It's a volcano!" shouted Tom, "And it's going to erupt. Run for your lives!"

We were in danger. Samara kept calm. She suggested that we take the treehouse down and make a raft so that we could escape. We worked as quickly as we could and soon we were all floating away from the island, relieved that we were safe. Our paddles were made from strong bamboo. While the rest of us were working hard to make the raft, Paddy and Michael had gone back to get the treasure chest. They weren't going to leave that behind.

Just then, Hodan spotted something in the sky.

"Look at that giant bird," she yelled.

"That's not a bird," said Anna, "It's a helicopter!"

She was right. We all roared, "Help! Help!" and started waving our arms hoping that the helicopter would see us. The raft almost over-turned. Unfortunately, it didn't see us but when everyone was about to give up, Tamas had an idea. He told Michael to hold the blade of his knife up to the sun. When he did that, the sunlight reflected off the blade. At the same time, Hodan was looking in her mirror fixing her hair and the sun shone on the mirror too. The helicopter turned around. We couldn't believe it. Maybe we were saved after all.

"Stay where you are! We will rescue you!" shouted a voice from the helicopter. We began jumping up and down with excitement and in the end, we fell into the water with a splash. The water was still quite shallow so at least we wouldn't drown. We scrambled back onto the raft. The helicopter sent a long ladder down to us and one by one we were lifted up into the helicopter.

As we flew away from the island, we saw the volcano erupting. A huge plume of smoke rose into the sky and we could see boiling lava flowing down the mountainside. Everyone gasped, we had never seen anything like it before in real life.

The helicopter took us to New York. We didn't realise that our story was all over the news. We were famous! We ended up staying in a 5 star hotel in the middle of Manhattan. It was amazing, we could see Central Park when we looked out the window. We were interviewed by loads of TV channels and newspapers. Our families were so relieved that we had been found safe and sound. They were all so worried about us.

We spent the next week enjoying the sights of New York. It was an adventure we will never forget. The following week we arrived back at school to a hero's welcome. Our classmates were so proud of us for being able to survive the way we did. The first thing we did was to organise a fundraiser for the homeless. Being alone on that island had taught us what it must be like to not have a home. We all felt so lucky to be alive and have comfortable homes and we wanted to help people who weren't so lucky.

The End

Written by:

Tom

Manus

Ieva

Michael

Tamas

Anna

Samara

Paddy

Hodan

Cassie

Farhio