

## **“DAY BY DAY” – “SNOW, SNOW AND... SNOW AGAIN!”**

### **9<sup>th</sup> of February 2017**

I opened my eyes rapidly, but I closed them at once. I should necessarily buy blinds (best black or just dark). Maybe than I wouldn't have “the vampire syndrome” as if my friend Rosie said. Oh! I forgot! I'm Alice, I'm 17 years old. I have a wonderful family, a very big house and great marks at school. But like everyone I'm not perfect. I really don't like getting up early. Okay, back to the topic of my waking up, or rather my pulling out of bed. After 15 minutes of yawning, rubbing eyes and grumbling under my breath I did it.

Then I realised that this is that day which I waited for two long months. I have already felt awake and enthusiastic. Now, when I think about it, I come to the conclusion, that I could jump up and down and squeak without any reason (I had reasons in my opinion, but my mother – professional lawyer, will certainly said that). Oh, My God! I 'm digressing again! So, that was a day, which I have travelled with my parents to the Alps. Rosie's family have driven with us and I was really, happy about it.

We all met on our porch at 9 o'clock a.m. Me, my parents – Kristy and Andrew, my older brother Luke (yes, I have a brother, but still I wonder if he is from our family because of his stupidity) were standing at our roadster, and Rosie with her parents – Sandy and Rob were standing at theirs. Everything was ready, skis and suitcases lied in the trunk, so we set out. I thought I strangle my brother after 20 minutes of driving. It wasn't surprised for my parents that I changed to Rosie's parents' car on our first stop. Journey as a journey, nothing special. I have travelled this way since the days I have gone in diapers, so I didn't mind if it is 2 hours or 20 hours. We talked a lot, slept, and laughed so loudly that we finally woke Sandy, who had been asleep in the front seat. Fortunately, there weren't any traffic congestion, so we didn't lose our time.

### **10<sup>th</sup> of February 2017**

Bonjour Megeve! Bienvenue dans France! Such inscriptions welcomed us in the resort which we stayed at. From all, of that I understood only “Bonjour” and “France” (I have Spanish in my school.) and I decided that I will learn French. Rob parked in front of our hotel at 10 o'clock a.m. We all come out of the car very happy. There was a lot of snow! On the roofs, trees, stairs, and my shoes... Wait, what?! I looked up and a huge snowflake caught my eye. Yes, that was winter, not like in our country (England pfh... only rain, rain, and rain again) We took our luggage and went into the hall. The receptionist was really nice and gave us the keys to our rooms. Of course, I had a room with Rosie (my parents wanted to save themselves from the stress and they didn't give me the same room as Luke). It was still early so we decided to see the Megeve resort. There were a lot of slopes, cafes, restaurants, discos and snowparks (for snowboarders). We walked to one of the cafes and ordered the best hot chocolate I have ever drunk! Our waiter – Pierre was really cute and helpful (and I had realised that he liked Rosie) so I knew that we will come back there. At the hotel, we met our family in the dining room. It was time for dinner, so we ordered and started planning our adventure with skis. Finally, we founded only one principle: EVERYONE MOVES TO SKIING WHERE SHE/HE WANTS AND WHEN SHE/HE WANTS (BUT SAFELY!).

That rule wasn't with us for the first time but we had to discuss that once again.

### **12<sup>th</sup> of February 2017**

We did skiing the second day. My legs hurt me like hell, I really should do more exercises. Or just do exercises. Indeed, I hadn't been in good shape, but luckily (for me) that wasn't only me. Rosie had problems with walking downstairs, fortunately I hadn't. She grumbled a little but I just ignored her until she got enough. Happily, we weren't beginners so, we hadn't had so many bruises on our bodies. Ski runs were great and we had a great fun. We spent about 5 hours on the slopes and then we felt craving for chocolate. We went to our favourite café and our favourite waiter (ok, the waiter was only Rosie's favourite) and ordered the same as usual. Rosie was peeking at Pierre all the time. I'm patient but I couldn't stand that look.

-Talk to him. – I said and I rolled my eyes.

-You're crazy!

-No, he is looking at you since we arrived. Go and talk to him!

-Okay, but you know that I hate you! – she replied cheerfully.

I smiled to myself. Half an hour later Rosie come back to our table with a huge smile and little white notes.

-Ok. I'm taking back what I said. You were right and I love you.

-I know, I know I'm the best and you don't have to thank.

We said "Adieu!" to Pierre (yes, I made a huge progress with my French) and came back to the hotel. When we lied in beds I heard the sound of SMS. That's how I became a matchmaker.

### **14<sup>th</sup> of February 2017 (for misguided – Valentine's Day)**

When Rosie was chatting all days with Pierre I was working out my shape. I have even been on the gym which was in our hotel (once, but better than nothing). My legs stopped hurting me so much and I spent most of the day on the slopes. That day was the same. Okay with one small exception... So, it started like that... I woke up, ate breakfast and wore the ski clothes. Then I took my skis and I went for a slope. What I saw there was a little scary. There were millions of hearts (pink, red and even blue!). It didn't discourage me and I was still walking. I buckled my skies and I started sliding down. The slope was really high, but I wasn't scared. I ruled over skis, by the time... I didn't know how, but a moment later I was lying on the fluffy snow. "Okay, you have had a little accident, but you are alive" I thought.

-I'm really, sorry! Are you all right?! Oh! My! God! I'm sorry! – it was a boy. Very cute and handsome. But it was still he, who crashed on me.

-I'm fine. But can you explain how the hell you did it?! Only idiots don't look ahead!

-I made a mistake... But are you ok? -Before I could answer that, he added – I'm Jake. And you? – Then I realised that he had beautiful blue eyes and that he didn't have skis – snowboarder.

-I'm Alice, and if you want to do something for me to atone your guild I have something for you.

-I'm ready. What do I have to do?

-Teach me how to snowboard. – I said with a huge smile.

-Ok. When do you want to start?

-Now?

-Are you sure? You have had an accident a minute ago. I have an idea: we will go for a delicious hot chocolate, we will get to know each other and then we will start our lessons. What do you think?

-Are you asking me on a date?

-Yes. And you are going to say “yes”.

-You are very confident! But okay. We have a deal.

We went for our “chocolate date” and I have spent a wonderful time with Jake. Then we came back to a slope and I changed my skis for a snowboard. About an hour later I saw in my minds all the bruises I had on my body. Jake was really, patient to me and in the evening I could slide down on backside and front side and I could combine those two things. He was very surprised with my skills (so was I) and he offered to accompany me to the hotel. We exchanged our telephone numbers, we arranged to meet the next day and finally we said goodbye. In our room, I had a detailed interview with Rosie about my day. She said that had to be a destiny. Apparently, that all Valentine’s madness granted her too.

### **22<sup>th</sup> of February 2017**

All good things came to an end our winter holidays too. All days I spent since 14<sup>th</sup> I spent them with Jake. He said he lives in the same town so I was very happy. We did snowboarding and I also learnt a lot of snowboard tricks. We talked a lot, went for dates and laughing. With the time, I fell in love with him (it was a short time but I really felt that he was my soulmate). I knew I will be back there.

### **14<sup>th</sup> of February 2030**

I can’t describe what I felt 10 years ago, when I stood at the top of the slope. I knew I could do it, I just had to start. I looked down and saw Jake, Rosie and Pierre with a huge banner with my name and some funny inscription. They believed in me. And I did it. I made every snowboard tricks I knew within the shortest time. I was the winner. I can’t describe what I felt in our hotel room the same day, when Jake asked me to marry him. I can’t describe what I felt 2 years later, when in a small French church in Megeve we said “I do” to each other. I can’t describe what I fell 5 years ago, when my two wonderful children - Summer and Chris came into the world. And I also can’t explain what I feel now, when I’m sitting with a cup of the best hot chocolate in the all world and watch my little children playing with Jake on the snow. All the important things in my life come together to me on Valentine’s Day. And when I’m thinking about it now I believe that Rosie was right when she said that it was destiny when I met Jake. When I’m seeing his smile through the window I’m smiling back, giving the waiter a tip and going outside to join my family...