

ATTENTION!

inspection on only This book is not like other books. This book is about YOUR adventure!

In this book, YOU are the hero. You choose what to do next. You decide where to go. Can you find a happy ending, or will you meet a quick death? It's all up to you.

At the bottom of each page, you may find an instruction, for example: Continue to the next page, or, Turn to page 87.

However, on most pages, you will have a choice, like this:



If you open the door, turn to page 95. If you turn around and go home, turn to page 50.

Make your choice, turn to that page, and meet your destiny!

Your adventure starts on page 1...

These words will appear many times in this story. It you them before you start to read, it will be easier to read quickly a large amount of snow that slides down a read a very high speed

a place at the bottom of a mountain that Base camp

climbers use as a temporary home

a large area of rock or a mountain with Cliff

a very steep side

a person who goes up and down mountains Climber

an animal or monster; not a human being Creature

a serious or dangerous situation Emergency

group of items or tools used for a purpose Equipment



a group of people going somewhere for a purpose, such as to do research or to a new area Expedition Explorer Flash **Footprint** a mark made by a foot on soft ground Glacier a large amount of ice at the top of high mountains Guide a person who shows others which way to go a type of aircraft with no wings and large Helicopter spinning blades of top **Icefall** a dangerous area on a glacier, where there is much broken ice all around Incense a stick that is burned for its sweet smell Monastery a place where monks live and work together Monk a member of an all-male religious group that lives a simple life, away from other people Peak the very top part of a mountain Rescue to save others from a dangerous situation Search to look for something that is hidden or unknown Signal to send information or instructions Valley the low area between two mountains; often where rivers flow and people live

You are a mountain climber.

Three years ago, you were at a climbing school in the Colorado mountains. Your teachers said that you were a very good climber. You learned quickly. Soon, you became the leader of your own climbing expeditions.

At the school, you became friends with a young climber named Carlos. The two of you became a good climbing team. Last year, you and Carlos joined a big international expedition. It was the first expedition to climb two unclimbed mountain peaks in South America.

One night, during that expedition, the climbing team sat together at base camp. The expedition leader, Franz, told stories about climbing in the Himalayas, the highest mountains in the world.

inspection on only

CHINA

NEPAL *A S

INDIA

The Himalayas run through Nepal, a small country between India and China. Mount Everest, K2, and Annapurna are the most famous mountains in the Himalayas. These and many other peaks have been climbed. However, many others are still unclimbed.

Franz told you that in the Himalayas, in the high valleys under the snowy peaks, live creatures called the Yeti.

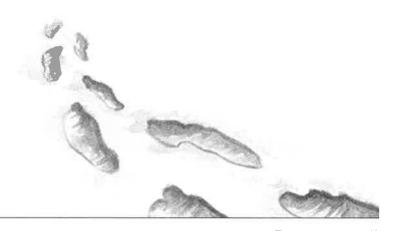
"People say that the Yeti are huge, hairy creatures," Franz told you. "Some say that they are very smart, like humans. But no one really knows."

"Are the Yeti dangerous?" Carlos asked.

"Some people say yes. Others say that the Yeti are very gentle," Franz answered. "No one knows that, either."

"Have you seen a Yeti?" you asked.

"No," he laughed. "I don't think anyone has. We only know about the Yeti because of some very large footprints found in the 1980s by a British expedition. No one has ever photographed a Yeti."



So, you and Carlos decided to search for the Yeti. When you returned from South America, the two of you accepted money from the International Explorers Society. Your plans to find and photograph the Yeti.

Now you are in Kathmandu, the biggest city in Nepal. But you already have a problem: Two days ago, Carlos went to look at Mt. Everest by helicopter, but the helicopter returned without him.

The helicopter pilot said that Carlos stayed at the Everest base camp. Carlos heard that a climber saw Yeti footprints in the area. He wanted to take a closer look.

Carlos has a satellite phone, but he hasn't called you. Now the weather has become bad, and the phones are not working. You are worried.

Today, you have an appointment to speak with a Mr. Runal. He is Nepal's Expeditions and Mountain Research Director. He is also an expert on the Yeti. He knows about your plan to find them. Maybe he can help you.

But what about Carlos?

You are about to make your first choice! Make your choice before you turn the page.



If you cancel your meeting with Runal to search for Carlos, turn to page 6.

If you want to meet Runal first, and worry about Carlos later, turn to page 7.

6

"This is an emergency, Mr. Runal," you say on the phone. "My friend, Carlos, disappeared at the Everest base camp."

need to find him!"

"Of course. I understand," he says. "Please let me come with you. I know the area very well."

You are happy to accept his help. Runal is an expert on the Yeti, and also a very good mountain climber. He hires a helicopter at the airport, and both of you fly to Everest together.

Two hours later, you and Runal land at the Everest base camp. This is the last place where Carlos was seen. You quickly find his red tent, but the snow has made all of the footprints disappear. You don't know which way to go.

"Most of the time, climbers find Yeti footprints above base camp," Runal says. "But the latest footprints were below the camp. What do you think?"

You stand by Carlos' tent, thinking. Where did he go? You look down the rocky valley, and then up at the icy peak. Both look very dangerous.

Which way do you want to go?



If you want to search below the base camp, turn to page 8.

The helicopter stays at base camp, and you and Runal walk down a rocky path into a forest. After hours of walking, you come to a small stone house. An old woman sits in the sunlight near the door.

"Did any climbers come by here?" you ask her. "We are looking for my friend. He is about my age, shorter than I am, and has dark hair."

The woman says that two men came by. The younger man may be Carlos. He left a note:

DON'T FOLLOW! WAIT AT BASE CAMP! - CARLOS

"I know that Carlos is your friend," Runal says, "So it is your choice. But I think we need to follow him. He may be in great danger. We need to find him quickly."

What do you think?



100 100 39 39 By the You climb back up to base camp, as Carlos asked. By the time you get there it is already dark. There is nothing to do but wait until the morning.

"You see, my friend," Runal says, "The high mountains have secrets, dangers. There is nothing we can do. We must wait and see what happens."

So you wait and wait. Days pass, and still nothing. You start to think that maybe the old woman lied. Maybe she made up the story about Carlos with the Yeti. Maybe the strange sounds were just monks, singing down in the valley.

One day, you tell Runal, "I'm tired of waiting. Let's go back down, I think that old woman lied to us."

Again you climb down the rocky path to the old woman's house. But when you get there, there is no one home. There is no more old woman. There is no more Carlos. There are no more answers.

You and Runal wait there for two more days, until your food runs out and the helicopter comes for you. Then, back in Kathmandu, heavy storms keep you on the ground for another week. When you return to search for Carlos again, it is too late. There is no sign of your friend.

Whatever happened to Carlos, he is now one of the secrets of the mountains.

The End