The Missing Artefact

By Kieran

The wind howled off the car. “Daddy we’re scared!” whimpered both of my children. I had almost lost control of the car on several occasions. Finally I saw the ferry with cars loading on to it. Lightning struck once. Then twice. I stamped on the accelerator. My car just managed to skid under a collapsing tree. I raced onto the dock and into the ferry. “We’re here,” I sad proudly to my kids. My mission hadn’t even started and I had already nearly died. Guilt pierced me in the stomach, should I have really bought my family on this trip to use as cover?

Finally we reached our resort we got our room key and wandered up to our room. When we reached our room I set up all my archaeologist equipment and started to scan a map of the island. “Kids come here if you want to go to the beach,” I said (the beach was outside our resort so I could keep an eye on them).

“Me,” said one

“Me too,” said the other one

“Go on then,” I said happily. I watched them skip down the stairs and out the door. Finally I could get to work with no distractions. Suddenly the *ring-ring* of my phone pierced the air. I dashed to my bag and got my phone out; the screen said no caller ID. I answered it, “Hello?” I said wondering who it was.

“Hello,” a deep and muffled voice said.

“Who is this?” I asked.

“You don’t need to know who this is but all you need to know is that we have your children so don’t try any funny business,” he replied then hung up the call.

I looked out of the window. They weren’t there.

I grabbed my hiking boots and my bag that contained a chocolate bar, a flash light and a bottle of water. Then I went out to search for them.

Panic struck me; what if I never see them again? I ran up and down the beach looking for them over and over again. I heard the whistle of a bullet then something sharp pierced my neck. My eyes felt heavy; I fell to my knees and then my eyelids shut and all I could see was an infinite abyss of black.

“Wake up!” roared the same deep muffled voice I heard on the phone. SMACK. My head whipped from one shoulder to another.

My eyes opened rapidly. I was in a red brick room with two doors on either side of the room. My hands where knotted together with rope. I looked at the man that called me. He was wearing a white tuxedo with a pink tie and a gold ring on every finger.

I tried to undo the rope. It took all my strength but after ten minutes I did it.

With great pleasure I stood up and picked up the chair and threw it at him. All that did was make him even more made at me. Someone tried to choke me with their gun. So I stood on his foot and ran to the nearest door. I flung it open.

A gush of wind nearly swept me of my feet. There before me was a magnificent stone tablet with delicate runes carved into it. It was the missing artefact I came here to find it. How did they find it? Where was It? A bunch of thoughts stampeded through my mind.

I out for it reached for it. And grabbed it. Then I ran to the other door. A bullet whistled past my ribs and ricocheted of a pipe that then exploded and sent me flying back. I staggered to my feet and started running again and this time I made it. Without thinking I swung it open and ran.

“Daddy up here!” cried a familiar voice. It was one of my children. Looked up and saw a cage with both my children in it. I leapt up and tried to reach the cage the first time I missed it but the second time I grasped the bottom of the cage. I pulled myself up with much difficulty and broke a miniature log and started to hit the lock.

After a few minutes the lock broke and I lowered them safely to the ground and then I jumped off. We started running through the forest hoping we would reach the end soon but now in the distance I could hear whistles being blown and boots marching. After countless minutes of running we reached the dock.

There was a submarine and a speed boat. Trying to be smart, I chose the submarine. I hurried my children in then myself. I strapped them in then I raced around trying to find the control room and turned something that looked like a key in the ignition. I could hear motors spinning and then a bunch of lights came on then a pushed a leaver forward and then we started moving forward.

After a few minutes I looked at my radar and saw an incoming red dot. I assumed it was the man that I had met in the room. My heart started racing. I had no choice but to go head on head with him and hope for the best, so that’s what I did.

The red dot came closer and closer. I closed my eyes and.

BANG.

I was catapulted back of the sub. Then I opened my eyes and saw that I was ok and so were my children. I kept going till we reached the next island and looked at the ferry times and saw the next time. 00:05. My clock said 00:00. My next mission had already begun.