

XXV
Encuentro
Literario



DÉCIMO

THE UNEXPECTED

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The sun is rising, it's a new day and I haven't eaten in ages. How did I get here? Why am I lost? Why can't I find a way to escape? I am getting more and more desperate; I have to escape, before it's too late.

I remember I had a fight with my mom; she wanted me to marry the son of the chief of our clan but I wasn't in love with him; she said with anger I was dishonoring my family and that I should go.

The Aikara Tribe is a relatively small group of Indians that live in the North America. We have lived in the forest since our ancestors emigrated from Norway, remaining with their heritage; we live from hunting deer in winter and cultivating vegetables in summer.

Trying to run out of something I didn't want; I grabbed a knife, some water in a bottle, food in a bag, and left home that night. Didn't know where to go, just decided to get as far away as possible.

I've been walking all night and I'm exhausted; I really don't know where I am, even though I should know this land, I wasn't taught to be like a man.

I hear the wind blowing through the trees' branches, the floor crunching every time I step, the howls talking to the night, the stars shining in the sky, and my body is getting colder. I need some sleep and I should find a place to stay the rest of the night and lit some fire to keep myself warm.



The days have passed, I have had to survive with scarcely anything, my fresh water had finished and so did my food.



Stay still, be quiet, I said to myself; I think I've seen somebody through the woods, but how is that possible? I'm in the middle of nowhere.



I decide to follow them inconspicuously, until I get closer. I observe them; they are dancing all around something that looks like meat. Women are preparing the dinner while the men are sitting around the fire. I am very hungry, so I decide to get some food without being seen. Over there, there is the food storage; I am going to wait until everyone is sleeping to enter. Now is time, I hope to get some supplies, but what is this? There is no food! There are just hanged dead human bodies, they are cannibals.

React, run, escape... I have to get out of here as fast as possible, before somebody sees me. Very late, a man starts to scream, waking up every one, making an alert of intruder.

Where should I go? This way or that way? They are chasing me. There's the river, cross it, be careful, move they are coming... my leg, keep on going, they have been chasing me for hours. Wait... they have caught me...