## ALONE

The last I saw of my parents was when the evil men invaded my home. Mum and Dad stayed to fight, but I ran as fast as a cheetah down to the next village, and the next, and the next until I reached the Colossal Kingdom. The evil men attacked the Kingdom and reached the castle. Some of us managed to get away, but I ran from the others because I couldn't trust anyone. I'm on my own now.

Before I left the Kingdom, I picked up a survival pack. When I reached the woods I looked inside. There was an axe, rope, matches, knife, water and food. I decided to cut down some branches so I could make a tree house. It took a long time, but before night fell it was finished. I lay there petrified, the knife in my hand, not knowing how to get down again. Any second the evil men could be right beneath me, staring at the tree house, finding a way to climb up, finding a way to kill me. I lay awake most of the night smelling rotting wood. I could hear the wretched noise of bears, owls, bulls and I thought I heard some people.

I fell asleep just before morning. When I woke, it must have been noon because the sun was fully up. It was pretty bright. I maybe had a few hours before it was night again. Eventually, I remembered the rope. I tied it to my tree house on the firmest bit of wood I could find. It held my weight. It was fun to climb down, like going down a fireman's pole, but I didn't see who was waiting for me at the bottom. A giant, hairy man with horns was grinning at me. As soon as I saw him I knew what he was - a minotaur from the evil men - or so I thought. He chased me, zigzagging through the gloomy trees and over the sharp rocks. I went through some holly bushes. I was running for my life, but I knew he would catch up with me eventually. He took large steps and I took five paces to travel the same distance as one of his. I took a sudden turn and I finally lost him.



I was stuck at a dead end. I could hear the booming noise of the minotaur's hooves coming towards me. I tried to climb the wall and was very surprised to make it at the first attempt, but the minotaur jumped up and was there immediately. He grabbed my leg and flipped me on my back so that I let out a giant scream. He put his great hairy hand over my face - it smelt as if he hadn't taken a bath for a week. In a voice that sounded like a tornedo, he roared, "it's dangerous out here, you must come with me to a safe place."

The minotaur led me to a place full of big hammers, electrical equipment and all sorts of things I had never seen before in my life. However, I saw one of my friends, but he was very injured. There were about 20 minotaurs including Bob, the one who had saved me. He explained that the plan was to get rid of the evil men by waiting for nightfall. Then we would hike to their location. We had surprise on our side.

As we approached the evil men, someone sneezed. It was a loud sneeze and all of the evil men woke up. A thunderous battle began - minotaur versus man, man versus minotaur. The evil men had high ground but we had better weapons and strength on our side as well. We pushed up the hill. Only 5 men remained and they surrendered. The rest had run away. We took them into custody and we thought that was the end of that.

A couple of nights later another 5 of the evil men's army came running back and freed the 5 that were in prison.

I said to Bob, "I am leaving now. Thank you for what you have done.'

My friend came with me and we searched for our parents and that's the end of that story ... or the beginning of another adventure.

By Ellis June 2014