

*Short Stories **by** Young Travellers*



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'The world is a book and those who do not travel read only one page.' -ST. Augustin.

Photo in the front page : *Howth – Ireland* by Alice Dentini

I was running along the beach thinking of the secret mission that the boss had just entrusted to me. I can't reveal it to you but you will find out it throughout the story.

Sorry, I have forgotten to introduce myself. I'm a secret agent and my name is...

Well, I can't tell you, but you could call me agent 008 not to mistake me for the famous 007... anyway I must go on with the story or you will get bored. I was admiring the scenery... Oh! It was so beautiful, one of the best thing I had seen in my life. It was about 6.00 pm and the sun was setting, leaving a spectacular golden reflection on the ripply dark blue water. Because of this wonder, a tear caressed my face; the mission would be very difficult, not many chances to survive, and I was afraid that probably it would be the last sunset I would ever see, but I wanted to be a heroine and "a hero can't cry"...I had heard this phrase in a film and in that moment I thought I was so stupid. "I must not cry" I repeated to myself. But only now I know I was wrong: "A man is not strong if he pretends to be so, he is strong only when he has the courage to show his weaknesses".

It was early in the morning and the sky was still dark, my boss was waiting for me in his house, we would leave for the Amazon rainforest with his private plane at 5:00 am. I was frightened by the mission and my boss realized it and tried to calm me by telling me about the forest because he had just visited that place. I was completely enraptured by his tale.

Amazing parrots, tall trees, endless rivers, the sound of waterfalls... I was running away with my imagination I couldn't wait to see that paradise...

I must say that that place was really amazing. If I hadn't had a mission to complete, I would have lived in this place. However, when I learned about the mission, I felt really terrible. My mission was killing the innocent people because they had seen the place where we did our experiments. Actually I didn't want to do that but

I had to for my career. I made a plan. I would tell a lie. I would tell that I would kill them whereas I would rescue them. In that way they wouldn't die and I would be a hero.

In the end, I helped them to hide in a wood and my boss was really surprised that I had killed these people and said "good job 008". In that way, I felt really happy and my job was successful. I hope I won't ever get a mission like that.

Agnese Mannaioli



Emre Gokmenler

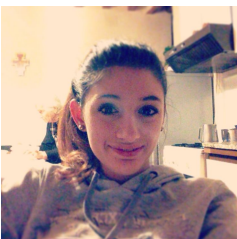


THE OLD HOUSE

Everything was confirmed for my trip to India. I decided this destination because I wanted to discover a new culture and meet new people and then quit my job, my family and my friends and I decided to embark on this adventure.

The day before we left I was very happy, but at the same time worried because I knew I would be alone, but I was convinced and no one could stop me. Once I arrived in India, strange things began to happen. Firstly, when I was at the airport, I understood that I had to rent a car for travelling. And I started looking for the rental area. Finally, I found it, but I had to walk nearly 4 km to find this place. I finally rented a car which could just accelerate to 100 km/h in 1 minute. It didn't make sense because it's 2014 and that is nonsense. Then I went to my house which I had rented in advance on the Internet. But this home was a disappointment for me because I accidentally rented a house which was built in 1800s. I stayed in this house for four weeks until there was a terrible event. There was a big earthquake in India. I thought that I saw my dead grandmother. My "undeveloped" home was like a cradle and I was afraid of that. Finally, the house broke down. The Indian Earthquake Rescue Team found me one week after the earthquake. I do not know how am I still alive .

Alice Dentini Oktay Ertan



A LUCKY MEETING

For my whole life I had desired to go to Istanbul, in Turkey. I don't know the real reason. Maybe it is its great importance throughout history. Maybe for its fantastic architecture and for the beautiful mosques. Maybe because it is known as a cultural hub or for its large market, the Grand Bazaar. But since once I saw on television some images of this city, I have kept dreaming about it. I have never had many possibilities to travel: my family is not rich and, when we can, we try to earn and save money. Until a day I entered a café...

I was sitting at the backmost table in the café when someone sat next to me. I didn't even notice her until she asked my name. Because I was too concentrated on the magazine I was reading about Istanbul, it took me a minute to realize what she asked and I hesitated before answering it.

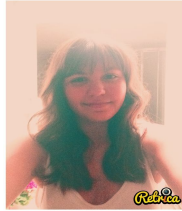
“Hm, I'm Daniella and you?”

“I'm Ilayda, sorry for interrupting you. But I can see that you're reading something about Istanbul and I thought that you may have an interest about it. I'm from Istanbul.” I gasped in surprise and put my magazine on the coffee table to make eye contact with her. Her accent proved what she was saying and she had a warm smile that made me want to talk to her more. Her eyes were shining and I was sure that I mirrored it. We talked for one hour until a waiter came and asked what we would like to eat. I learned that she was here because of the exchange programme she is in a part of, and she had been here only for one day. The family that she would stay with had a last minute problem and had to go somewhere for a week, so that she had to find a hotel to stay and the next morning she would go back to Istanbul.

“You know what? I was so excited and now I am very disappointed.” I smiled at her letting her know that I could only imagine the disappointment she felt; she took a deep breath before continuing.

“And now my family is mad and sad at the same time because they made a lot of preparations and seeing that it was all for nothing it changed all the mood.” I took a sip of my strawberry milkshake and I stopped moving when an idea came to my mind.

Alice Tegazi Bilhan Korucuoğlu



THE EARTHQUAKE

One day, Andrea and another two of her friends wanted to go to America to have a beautiful and amazing week and also to visit and to learn the language better. So, they decided to speak with their families and get the tickets. They were all very happy for this experience and also because they loved America very much. So, Andreea, Eleonora and Luisa got on the plane in Rome . They were all excited because they wanted to see a lot of actors and singers and go to the pubs and meet them, taking selfies and autographs. They visited museums and churches, theatres, cinemas, they also went to concerts. They had a lot of fun and also they met a lot of people and made a lot of friends.

But in the middle of the week they got a bad piece of news...

They heard that there was going to be a huge earthquake. They had to leave the country but they didn't because they thought it couldn't be that bad. They went shopping one day and when they came home they started to get ready for the earthquake. They put their stuff in the basement. Food, clothes, etc... They were ready but then they noticed that they had forgotten to buy water. Luisa volunteered to go and buy some water. Luisa left home but she had to be fast because the earthquake could start at any moment. She bought some water but half way home the earthquake started. Luisa was really scared so she hid under a tree. She just closed her eyes and ears and she waited, waited and waited... When it was over she opened her eyes and she couldn't believe what she saw. All of the houses were down because of the earthquake. She ran to their house to check if the others were okay. She couldn't find them in all the dust so she called an ambulance. The ambulance came and searched for her friends for about an hour. When they found them Luisa was really surprised because they were alive. She thought they were dead but they weren't. Actually they were okay, they just had few wounds. The doctors quickly healed them and the day after they went back to Rome and continued their normal life.

Andrea Larisa Bunescu



Atakan Orhan



DUBLIN

A week ago we visited the city of Dublin with our school and it was a fantastic week.

We were all very happy to depart and to have a new experience in a new city. We were also very excited because for some of us it was the first time that we had taken an airplane, including me. First, we checked in our suitcases, and they gave us our tickets.

After they controlled our hand baggage and our personal stuff, they made us take off our shoes. Finally at three o'clock we the plane took off and at six pm we arrived at the airport of Dublin.

The airport was so crowded; I didn't expect it would be that crowded... We searched for the passport control but we couldn't find it so, we asked a security guard for some help. Finally, we found it. After we had gone through the passport control, we took a taxi to go to our hotel. While we were in the taxi, I looked out the window and realised that Ireland is a beautiful country and Dublin is a beautiful city... I saw a lot of Irish pubs and a lot of blonde people. I heard that Irish people are crazy. Well while I was in Dublin, I found out that this statement is so true! We went to our hotel and it was beautiful. Our hotel was in the city centre. It had a wonderful view of Dublin. We left our suitcases then we went out to have some dinner. The dinner was amazing! Days passed by...

By the way, I bought so many presents for my grandma and grandpa, and of course I bought some clothes and stuff for myself! Dublin was wonderful, I hope that I will go there again! Now, we are at the airport, waiting for our plane. I'm sad, to be honest, because I had a really good time. I met a lot of people and saw different sides of Dublin... I hope that I will see you soon Ireland and its crazy people!

Cecilia Antonelli

Yağmur Kaygısız



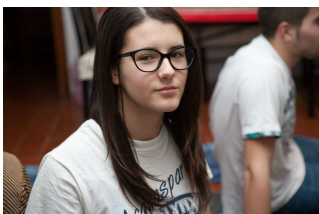
THE CAMERA

Last year, my family and I, went on holiday in London. We went by car, so we could bring almost all the luggage we wanted to. I took advantage of that and I brought three big suitcases, but while I was going down the stairs I dropped one of my suitcases and my camera broke.

At that time I thought that my journey wasn't going to be good because I only wanted to go to London to take pictures. Taking pictures is my hobby. While we were walking through the city, I saw a store which sold cameras. I asked my father to buy a new camera but my father said no, because this is a professional camera so it's not as cheap as other cameras. He said "I am going to repair it when we go home." I was not happy with this idea. While we were walking I saw a store again and there was a sign that said "we can rent cameras". I looked at my pocket and I found some money: \$125. I entered the store and asked the man how much the price was. The man said "\$10 per hour". I asked him one more question. I asked if I could see the camera. The man showed one to me and I decided to rent this camera. When I took the camera I took a picture to see how it worked. And it was as good as my camera.

After I took the camera we continued walking, and I took 580 pictures in 5 days. The trip was the best trip in my life..... after I had rented the camera!

Denisa Barbos



Atakan Aker



A BLOODY CRUISE

The story I'm going to write about might be impossible to believe. But I can swear that it's only the truth!!

It was the last day of school and I was very excited because I knew that in a few hours I'd be on an amazing cruise in the Pacific Ocean. I had no idea that I was going to be a witness of a murder.

At the harbor, while I was saying goodbye to my family and friends, a weird man pushed me.

I thought he was late but then I understood that a woman was following him.

She was cursing and asking "Why?! Tell me why!!".

They were just married and he had cheated on her the day before the wedding.

I have to admit that, when the following day I saw his body floating lifeless in one of the swimming pools on board, I wasn't surprised.

At first I thought that it was his wife's revenge.

But then I understood that I was wrong.

The passengers panicked because of the dead body and the employees of the cruise said that we were going back because of the murder.

Passengers didn't know who had murdered that man and I saw his wife when she was talking to the police. The police told us to go away from the deck because they were going to look for evidence about the murder.

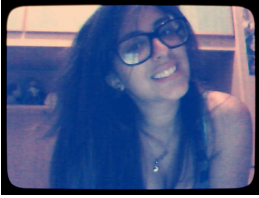
I started walking to the dining room for lunch; while I was walking through the 1st class cabins corridor I heard a man voice that said "He stole my life, he stole my love, my everything!" Then a policeman stepped out of the room. Before the man closed the door the police said "That doesn't give you the right to murder" in a whisper.

I started running to go to lunch. I saw the woman again and asked to sit next to her. She was near tears.

Then she started talking with me, but a policeman came and she stopped talking. The police wanted her to tell everything about the murder.

She told us about the man who loved her and how he had killed her husband because he had her. Also, years before the man was friends with the man who he had murdered but after they saw her they started fighting for her to get her love.

Deborah Romualdi Yağmur Kaygısız



MY LITTLE HOLIDAY

It was a warm and beautiful morning in July, when the chirping of some birds woke me up.

I got up from my bed and I walked to the window where there were two birds that continued to sing melodiously. I was very happy and I decided, that morning, to leave my house and move around the world for a week because my parents had gone on holiday without me, leaving me alone at home. I was still very young, I was only seventeen, but since my childhood I had always wanted to be an explorer....a famous explorer.

I was very different from the other girls that wanted to be a princess or a famous model. My parents didn't believe in me and my plans for the future, they wanted to make me grow up like a common girl and so I took the opportunity that week to realize my dream without anyone knowing.

I decided to take a rucksack and to put inside a water bottle, some food and a sleeping bag. I also decided to bring Leo with me, my dog, who would behave as a watchdog in case of danger. Everything was ready. Only one thing was missing the most important: the destination.

I wanted to travel all around the world, but I had to find somewhere where my dog could go, so I didn't go North. I wanted to explore eastern Asia. I'd heard so much about it, but had no chance to visit. Things were different there from here, from the US, for sure. I wondered if they had different candies there, and I was also curious about their culture and people. Hoping to get hospitality, I got on the plane. I flew for days, but now by looking at these landscapes, I can say that it was totally worth it. The sun is beautiful here and the people treat me and Leo so nicely. I got a Thai massage, it was far from fun, but that is what people do here. This place is a bit silent, but anyway, I totally love my new friends. They are not like American girls; they can get ready in two minutes and come to play with me when I call them. The best thing is, they love to play in the jungle, and there are many trees and plants there that I haven't ever

seen or heard of before. Living, sleeping, eating and playing next to them is like a dream. I'm so happy nowadays. My only concern is that my parents will be home soon, therefore I have to leave. They would be pissed off and would never take me anywhere anymore if they learned about my little journey. This is the moment I understand how being happy and sad at the same time is. I don't want to go, but I'm not able to stay either. The only thing I know for sure is that I'm looking forward to the next time my parents will be gone for a couple of days. Julia the Explorer rises now.

Federica Federici Ecem Kanan



A WEEK FAR AWAY!

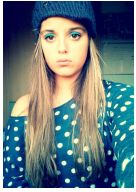
We were really excited, because in two hours time we would be in Dublin, in Ireland, for one week. I had never been there before, and I have to say that I was very curious. I had this experience with all my classmates, and I wanted to leave my country because of my tiredness, the school, and all my little problems. I believed that in that week I could forget all my life and be carefree.

We went there by plane, and when we landed we were really surprised to see that it was sunny. In Ireland it is never sunny, but always cloudy and rainy. We lodged in families, in pairs; I was with my best friend. The family where we stayed was composed of four people: a woman, Ann, aged 60 more or less, her husband Jim, of the same age, their daughter who is 26 and her little son, Leonardo, who is only six months. He is really cute..

However rainy and cloudy Dublin played a trick on us. We heard that a storm was arriving to Ireland. So we took a quick decision and made up our mind to run away from the country. There was only one plane left in Dublin that could fly because all the others were cancelled. So we bought it, actually we even didn't know where we were going! During the flight, we slept all the time because we were very tired. When the plane arrived we heard the shocking sound: "Welcome to Baghdad!!"

At first we were very afraid of the current situation in the Middle East and in Iraq. However they were the best five days I have ever spent in my life. I even had an Arabic boyfriend!! Unfortunately, on the first day my friend Elia got heavily injured after a car explosion. Besides, my Arabic boyfriend promised to visit me the next year. Amazing....

Deborah Casini



Goktug Ulkar



A FRIGHTENING FLIGHT!

I am a courier for a company and my job is to deliver parcels all over the world. So, sometimes I have to fly for twelve hours. Today is one of those days, in fact I have to deliver a load in the United States. They said the weather would be fine so the flight will be without any turbulence; I hate them, maybe because I'm afraid that the airplane will fall down, in the sea. However everything will be fine without bad things. It's three am and we are ready to take off. I'm a little bit sleepy but I can sleep on the plane, this job isn't so bad! We will overfly the Pacific Ocean. Now it's time to eat something and go back to sleep. Pancakes and coffee, my favourite. I think I've slept for five hours, I still need to sleep but it's raining and when there is this weather I prefer to stay awake. Oh no, I don't like it. Very strong turbulence, the airplane is losing altitude! All the lights are off, I'm screaming. I can't believe it, it's not the reality, this is a nightmare. We are falling down!

The crew and the pilot of the plane are trying to make us calm but it doesn't work at all. I'm so terrified right now, I can't even breathe! I need to stay calm... everything is going to be alright..

"It was a strong wind that pushed us back, but now I have the control of the plane but for are safety we should land in another place of America." Says the pilot, sounding calm.

His voice is calm so I try to believe that everything is ok. Three more hours to landing so I try to close my eyes and not think about anything. Suddenly, I hear a voice that wakes me up: it is the host trying to wake me up. We have landed and I am the only one who is still sitting on the plane!

Claudia Lepori



Daniella Boveland



CRASH

It was a hot day in July.

Sophie and I were alone on the island. I had wounds on all my body and Sophie had blood everywhere!

I didn't remember everything but I couldn't forget the moment when the plane crashed.

We had decided to take a holiday all together because we had finished high school and we needed to relax for two weeks.

The flight was normal but suddenly engines had stopped and we thought that we would be dead. The plane split in two, but it wasn't burning. It was strange because any plane would burn after hitting the ground. I stopped for a second and realized that the engines stopped because the fuel depot was empty.

A scream came from the back, saying: "Maggie, help!"; it was Sophie and she was screaming my name for help. I opened the belt that kept me on my seat and I ran to the captain quarters, both of them were dead as a doornail.

Sophie was in agony because her wound was bleeding so heavily. I removed my shirt and put it on her wound then I started to search for a med-kit.

I took the med-kit from the locker of the captain and ran back to Sophie. While I was wrapping the rag around her leg she said: "Maggie, your stomach!". I fainted while putting a rag on my bleeding stomach.

I woke up in hospital, Sophie was lying next to me. She directly told me that I had been in a coma for the last 4 days, our parents were coming to take us and we were the only survivors of the crash. We were so lucky, because only our part of the plane wasn't damaged.

When our parents came, they hugged us with happiness because we were all right and alive. They took us home by ambulance-planes, everything was okay and everyone was happy in the end.

Lisa Gentili



Gokai Can



TRAVELLING

It was 1995 in Lawrence, Kansas. There lived a little boy. His name was John and he was 10 years old. He loved playing basketball with his friends and going to the park on Sundays with his family and their dog.

One day his mother told him that they would travel to Europe during the summer holidays. She also said that he could choose the place where they would go. John was very excited about this because it was his first journey. He ran to his bedroom to take a look in a Geography book. There he saw a lot of pictures of European cities, places, nature, beaches and landscapes. He didn't know where he wanted to go because there were so many beautiful places so he decided to ask his mother for help. She wanted to go to Italy but John thought that it would be boring there so he asked his mother if they could go to Spain. His mother liked that idea because she had heard about wonderful Spanish beaches and so they decided to go there.

Two months later it was time to take the plane to Spain for their five-day holiday. John was very excited because it was his first flight and he felt a little scared but when he saw his mother next to him, he felt better. It would be a long flight! Almost ten hours ! The plane took off and after ten minutes his mother dropped off. So, he started to play with his video game console but one of the hostesses warned him not to play with it. For a few minutes he tried to sleep because he got bored without his game console but he couldn't managed to sleep. So, he decided to roam around the plane. He saw a bookshelf at the back of the plane and there were a lot of comic books on the shelf. He took most of them to read. He read all the comic books and then he started to sleep.

His mom woke him up because the plane had landed in Spain. He was very excited about their trip but when he got out of the plane he saw that it was raining. So, they went to the hotel and couldn't go out because it was raining very heavily.

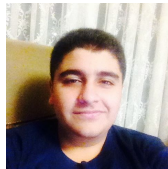
On the second day the weather was sunny and really hot so they decided to go to the beach. John spent the whole day on the beach. On the third and fourth day they visited a lot of historical places and landmarks. On the last day they planned to taste the delicious food of Spain. At night it was time to go back home. John was very satisfied with the trip.

As soon as the plane took off he fell asleep.

Luisa Minrath



Eren Davut



THE CARIBBEAN ISLANDS

It was my 18th birthday and I had waited a lot for that. It seemed a terrible day: my family and friends pretended they had forgotten my birthday and I got really sad, so I slept all day. In fact, they were organizing a surprise party for me and finally we had a great time!

As a present I received two tickets for a holiday in the Caribbean, one for me and one for Mary, my best friend.

We set off the day after, we went to the airport and checked in our luggage, we were so excited and we were looking forward to sunbathing on the beautiful beaches all day long!!

We got on the plane with a bit delay, they told us they had had to repair something in the engine. We finally took off at 3.30 pm.

On the plane Mary and I relaxed even if there was a lot of turbulence so the flight was bumpy.

At a certain point the lights went off and the plane began shaking. Everyone got very frightened and the flight attendants shouted to keep calm because it was just a big turbulence.

Later we found out that the engine had had a problem and it hadn't been just a turbulence!

What's more a cat was in the plane and it was running! Flight attendants were running after the cat, too. Some of the passengers were scared and some of them were laughing and everyone forgot their panic.

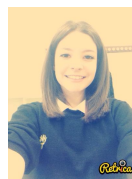
When the plane eventually landed we passed through the passport control and here we were - in the Caribbean!

The airport was so interesting due to the pictures on the walls and it didn't look like an airport, rather a mini shopping mall.

First we were a little frightened because many strangers looked at us. Then it seemed normal and we got so excited. We sang songs, danced and we were so happy. And then we entered our hotel and it looked super; there was a big pool in the room and in the hotel there was a big massage room and spa. Let the holiday start!

We had only three days to spend in the Caribbean and we wanted to have fun. On the first day we went swimming and we had such great a time because not only did we swim, but we also played with the sand and rented a boat. By boat, we went to some different islands of the archipelago. Then we returned to our hotel and we were so tired that we slept for 10 hours. On the second day, in the morning we went swimming, then we had breakfast. Afterwards we visited some boutiques. We bought some souvenirs for us and our families. Then we returned to our hotel, had our dinner and prepared our luggage. The following day, as our plane was at 7 p.m. we had a lot of time to have a last swim, have breakfast, play some games, prepare, drink some cocktails and do lots of things to make us remember the Caribbean islands.

Margherita Biscaroni Ylul Yasasever



THE IRISH WOLFHOUND

It was a sunny morning when we left for Dublin. The flight took almost three hours. When we arrived at the airport there was an old man waiting for us. He greeted us and explained what our program for the week would be; he also gave us a little bag in which there were booklets of restaurants, a block notes and a pen.

A few minutes later he gave us two sheets with instructions about how to arrive to the train station from our host-house and how to come back home.

We left the airport by coach and we finally got at the meeting point where we met our guest family. After welcoming us they took us to their house. We left our luggage in our room and we went out for a walk.

I didn't know that, those days would be the worst of my life.

Suddenly the sun set and there was no light to walk anymore. We were scared of that because we didn't know what to do as Dublin was not our native town.

When we arrived at a traffic lights we heard someone screaming: HEEELP!! SOMETHING IS BITING ME! HEEE....

When I turned the corner I saw two big Irish Wolfhounds attacking a woman. The people around us were not doing anything. I thought that the people around us must think it was an ordinary event . Suddenly a man appeared and saved the poor woman from the two big Irish Wolfhounds.

I helped the brave man to take the poor woman to the nearest hospital. She was lucky. The doctor said, if we had taken her to the hospital five minutes later she would have lost her left leg because of the amount of blood lost. I wanted to know the brave man's name and I asked him, he said his name was Blake.

Then the Irish Police came and took me and Blake to the police station for investigation. Somehow the policemen thought we had attacked the poor woman. We stayed in jail for two days. Then the

poor woman came and told the truth. She said to the policemen: ‘It is a misunderstanding. Why are they in jail? They saved my life!’ The policemen immediately trusted the poor woman. I asked a policewoman what was going on and I learnt that the poor woman was a policewoman in this police station.

Blake and I thanked the poor policewoman and we were freed. I rejoined my family and the next day I flew home, Warsaw.

Jonathan Ofosu



Kemal Tan Karademir



IT HAPPENED IN DUBLIN !

Last week my class went to Dublin, a beautiful city in Ireland. We took the plane from Fiumicino Airport in Rome, we flew for about three hours and finally we arrived at the Irish Airport, we collected our luggage and after getting on the bus to go to the meeting point, we were very excited and anxious because we couldn't wait to meet our families. After a few minutes my friend Cecilia and I met Phil, the father of the family; in this journey it was arranged that we were accommodated in pairs so that we wouldn't be homesick and I think it was a very great idea.

Phil is a retired man and he does a lot of sports, he practises canoeing with his dogs. We arrived at their house, in a quiet and peaceful district.

The house was big, but seemed very cosy; we entered and met the rest of the family: Mary, the mother, who was very kind (she had even made a cake to welcome us!), Eoin the eldest son who plays rugby and David who is fifteen; he wasn't very friendly because he didn't speak a lot.

In the evening we had dinner all together. We ate an Irish speciality which was very good.

I was eating when I suddenly started feeling bad: the world started spinning, I couldn't see anything and I dropped my spoon, the last thing I saw was Cecilia running toward me terribly scared. They looked at me and didn't know what to do; after a few minutes, Cecilia told me later, they decided to go out. All the people were frightened and gathered in the gardens, the children were crying and the parents felt helpless.

Probably it was a terrible earthquake but luckily it didn't destroy any building. Though the shock was enormous.

Lucia Maurizi



Melisa Ecem



A STRANGE HOLIDAY

Last year I went to Ireland with my friends. It was a very strange experience. We took a plane from Rome and we were supposed to land in Dublin, but we didn't.

In fact, Dublin's airport is big and always crowded, but we landed on a small, isolated place. There weren't other passengers with us, so we couldn't ask anyone where we were.

We got off the plane and we realised our suitcases weren't there; we were tired and really angry with the pilot, who took us to an unknown place without our baggage.

As we reached the cockpit to protest, we found out no one was there. We had been abandoned in a place we didn't know! Our teachers went mad and started shouting to get help, but nobody answered.

We kept asking for help but people kept ignoring us. We were mad and lost, not a good combination. We kept asking for help but nobody seemed to see or hear us, then after a while we sat down and started thinking. What were we going to do? We were in an unknown place and there was no one who apparently wanted to help us. Our two teachers went around to find a signal in this small airport while we, the students, were still sitting. My friend Alice crawled towards me then sighed, "I think.. I think there must be a reason why people can't hear us."

"There is a reason, Alice. They might not like strangers."

I shrugged, not bothering to look at her.

"No, see!" Alice hissed, pointing to the new passengers coming from another plane.

"So what?"

"They are talking to them, God..."

I stared at her, confused. Then I stared at the new passengers. I got even more confused. Then something caught my eye. It was our teacher, she was holding her phone in the air and was walking around. Her name was Rachel, she was a very kind teacher. The thing that made me gasp was that someone had walked right *through*

her. I flinched, parted my lips then came to a horrendous realization.

“Alice. I think... I think...”

“You think what?”

I kept quiet for a few minutes then shared the absurd news with my friend.

“I think we are dead.”

Giulia Latini



Aynil Aybaba



CIEL

We are in the Victorian England , in 1800.

A strange fog enveloped the city of London.

In this city lived Ciel Phantomhive, a rich boy of about 12 years old who had inherited a fortune from his father's toy industry. This boy was always accompanied by his faithful butler, Sebastian Michaelis.

The task of the Phantomhive family is to investigate around the world, on behalf of the English crown, on mysterious and insoluble problems, mostly related to the occult and supernatural forces, and for this reason the family was called "The Watchdog of the Queen."

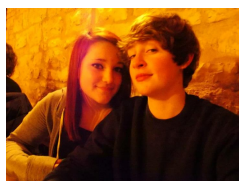
But, unfortunately, Ciel was alone because his parents had died in a mysterious fire.

Ciel's only friend had been his dark butler since Ciel's parents death; The boy begged a demon to help him discover the reason for their mysterious death. The demon settled in the Phantomhive mansion in the form of a Butler.

During a quiet day at Phantomhive's home, Ciel was called from Japan to solve a case, because the Emperor of Japan had been kidnapped.

So, Ciel called Sebastian in his office, and the two packed their suitcases, put them in the car and set off to the discovery of Japan. It was a long way from England to Japan by ship and it took him several weeks to arrive. That's why he was so tired. As soon as he arrived, he went to his room which was in a palace of the emperor's. The Emperor's wife called Ciel and she wanted Ciel to relax so that the next day he would be able to investigate better. Ciel slept, the next day he was so happy because he had slept so well. He had breakfast with the Emperor's wife, and then Ciel fell in love with her, and also she fell in love with him . They got married, had babies and lived happily forever.

Giulia Mancinelli



Alp Atabek



THE SAND CASTLE

School had finished and summer holidays had arrived at last!

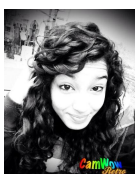
We were all happy about that. This year my sister and I would go to Cuba. I had always wanted to go there and to visit the cities there. I had also heard of the wonderful beaches there and so I couldn't wait to leave.

Finally the 13th July arrived and we took the plane to go to Cuba. The flight was very long-lasting so that when we arrived we went to the hotel to sleep a little bit. The man at the reception was very kind. He spoke only Spanish but that wasn't a problem because I could speak it and so everything was all right.

We slept very well and on the next day we went to the beach and there we saw a giant sand castle. It was so big that twenty-one people could use its shade. My sister came and hurled a wrecking ball at it that crushed half of the castle. The boy who had been making this castle got very angry. He stared at my sister and threw his shovel on the ground and then ran after my sister. My sister escaped to sea. She swam so fast that he couldn't catch her. She came out of sea when the boy left the beach. She was walking towards me but she stepped on a mine. She hadn't noticed it. The mine exploded and my sister died.

So never go somewhere you don't know. It may be dangerous.

Ikram El Amrani



Ege Lise

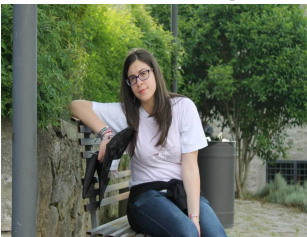


A JOURNEY TO LONDON

Last year I went to London with my family and my cousins. I was very happy because London is my favorite city. In the morning my family, my cousins and I went to visit this city, London. My family and my cousins were happy too. In this city there are many museums, galleries, theaters, and concert halls, but there are many palaces. One of the most famous is Buckingham Palace and is near the palace of Westminster with the tower of Big Ben too. First we visited the palace of Buckingham Palace, where we very fortunately met the Queen of the United Kingdom, who showed us around the palace. It was very exciting to meet her. While we were walking along the beautiful corridors of the palace, we saw the curtains move, but there was no wind at all! I tried to understand that strange phenomenon and went towards the curtains. What I saw behind one of the curtains is something I will never forget!

A plane ticket to Istanbul! First, I was very excited because it is really unusual to find a ticket behind the curtains but then I thought that it couldn't be real fun. London was beautiful but I should go to that place because someone might want to meet me there. I was suspicious about it. I prepared my bags and waited for the next day. My family was worried about me but I told them that nothing bad would happen. The day after I went to the airport to go to Istanbul. My flight was delayed because of a bomb warning. Two hours later I entered the plane. It was really comfortable. I dropped off after ten minutes. Suddenly, I woke up. Wow, what had happened!

Silvia Bigaroni Can Dikicioğlu

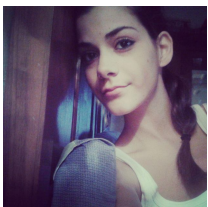


A SPANISH HOLIDAY

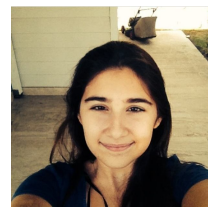
In the first week of September, my mother and I went to Granada. We stayed in a flat near the school where my mum took flamenco lessons (I don't like Spanish because it's very difficult for me, but Spanish people are very sociable and friendly.) Every afternoon we went to the countryside and rode horses with an instructor. We saw a lot of tango and flamenco shows, that were very funny and interesting. We visited the "Alambra", an important building, and we saw a lot of Arabian influences.

Everything seemed to be good but one night while we were in our room at the hotel a very horrible thing happened. Earthquake. We were very scared and at first we didn't know what to do. My mother told me to calm down but she was very scared and panicked too. We lay down under the table in the hotel room and decided to wait there for the earthquake to end. But it was getting stronger and stronger every other second so we decided to go outside. My mother fainted- I guess she thought we were dying. I took my mom and drag her outside. We were shaking very badly. When we got outside everyone was so scared. A lady came near me and asked me whether I was okay. That night we packed our bags and went home.

Maddalena Tacchio



Sude Karademir



TRAVELLING IS COOL ...

Last week, with my class, I went to Dublin, on a school trip to improve my English.

Before leaving I was very curious to discover this new city and I was looking forward to arrive there. We got on the bus at 7:00 am to get to Fiumicino airport in Rome. All of us were excited but also a bit sleepy as we had got up early in the morning. The flight was at 11:50 am, so we arrived at Dublin airport at 4:00 pm. After collecting our luggage, we got to the meeting point to know our families. At home my friend and I were accommodated in a double room so we felt at ease.

When we got home, we tidied our clothes and before dinner the family showed us our district, Killester, that was small and peaceful with a lot of nice people. The family was composed of four people: Ann, a fifty-five-year-old woman, Jim, her sixty-year-old husband, who has retired, their daughter Julie, that is 26 years old and is married but her man was in Canada to work. They have a son, Leonardo that is 6 months.

At dinner we met all the family and talked about the rules of the house. Finally, we went to our bedroom and I jumped on the bed. The day had been tiring and full of events. We started to open our suitcases. Our bedroom was pretty nice; it was a cute little room. We liked the house, the family, and the bedroom. We were excited for the day after to travel around.

Finally on the first day of our trip the bus came to our house. We got on it. We had a delicious breakfast in one of the traditional restaurants. Helping ourselves with the map, we got to our first landmark: one of the biggest historical museums. While we were looking at the artistic treasures, suddenly my friend had stomach-ache. We went to the toilet. I guess we stayed there quite a lot. When we got out, we realized that our friends had disappeared. We

started to look for someone but nobody was there. So we walked along the streets and entered all the free of charge places. By 7 pm we had visited all the historical places without our friends.

Suddenly we saw a police station and our friends were . They were talking with the policemen. They were looking for us! They were really happy to find us and so of course were we, because we didn't know anything about this city and we didn't have any money to survive in this foreign place.

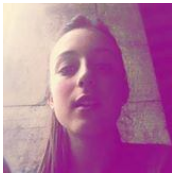
When we went home, we told everything to our host family and they started to laugh because it was really funny that they hadn't even realized that we were missing .

The memory of this day will always remind us that we managed to take care of ourselves.

The trip lasted a week. It was cool and magnificent. When we went back, we wrote a story about it and wanted to tell everybody.

Maria Vittoria Mariani

Ilayda Aysal



LIKE ROBINSON

It was dark....I had been travelling for long hours without a destination, I didn't know where to go, I didn't remember so much of what had happened. The only thing I knew was that I was alone. My friends.. disappeared, the plane in which we were travelling.... disappeared and around me I saw only sea. I ended up on a deserted beach, the total silence was frightening, there wasn't a soul, I was lost and I feared that I would have to live like Robinson Crusoe, the story I had ever loved since I was a child. But now I had to face reality, that reality I had never imaged. I stood up, my clothing was covered of sand and wet, the current probably had swept me away as far as the sea shore. No lights, no noises, no help and I still couldn't realize that disaster. Then I realized that I was hungry and I started to look for some food. I started to walk in forest. While I was walking, I suddenly heard a strange noise which scared me. Instantly the lion started running directly to me, and I started running away from the lion but it was faster than me and the lion caught me and I woke up and I thanked God because..... it had been just a dream!

Veronica Antonini



Yunus Burkev



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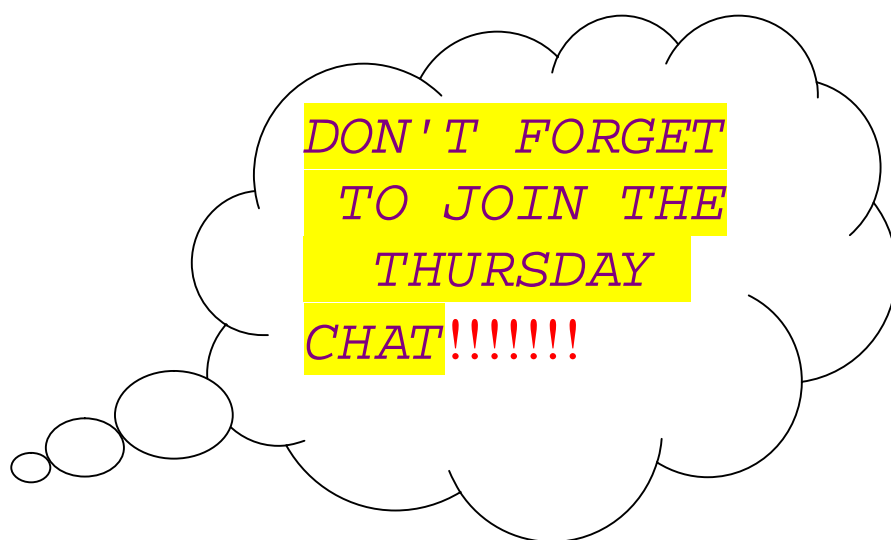
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From the BLOG:

'The world is a book and those who do not travel read only one page.' -ST. Augustin.

Snow In ISTANBUL

15 December 2013 15:49



I WOULD LIKE TO REMIND
EVERYONE THAT THE THEME
OF OUR ACTIVITY IS
TRAVELLING



Özel Ayazağa Işık Lisesi, Istanbul-Turkey



Liceo Jacopone da Todi, Todi- Italy

The teachers:

Donatella Calamita & Bengi Erim

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