



BOOKASSIGNMENT

THE TIGER'S NEST

TRUEIT, TRUDI

215 PAGES

BY MAAS VERMEULEN

CLASS 20

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28 - 05 - 21

Introduction

For the third book assignment of this year we were allowed to choose a book ourselves. I have read the book *The Tiger's Nest* written by Trudi Trueit. This book is the fifth book in a series. This series of books is called: *Explorer Academy*. I've read all four previous books too, so I know what the story is about. But I can understand that it is more difficult for you, because you haven't read the previous parts. That is why I first give a small summary about the previous books.

In the story you go on an adventure with Cruz Coronado. Later in this assignment I will tell more about him and the other characters in the book.

Cruz is a student at the *Explorer Academy*. The students are called explorers. At this school, children from all over the world are trained to be adventurous explorers.

Not only is Cruz busy with school, he also has a secret mission. He must find pieces of a puzzle that his mother has left for him. Before she died in a mysterious accident, she worked for the *Synthesis*, a secret department of the *Explorer Academy*. Very special medicines are developed here. If Cruz has found all the pieces of the puzzle, he has the formula of a very special medicine.

The pieces of the puzzle are scattered all over the world and he can only find out where they are if he manages to solve complicated coded clues. He travels to all these places because he and his school are on a yacht, the *Orion*.

But finding these pieces is not that easy. The mysterious organization *Nebula* is after him and the puzzle pieces!



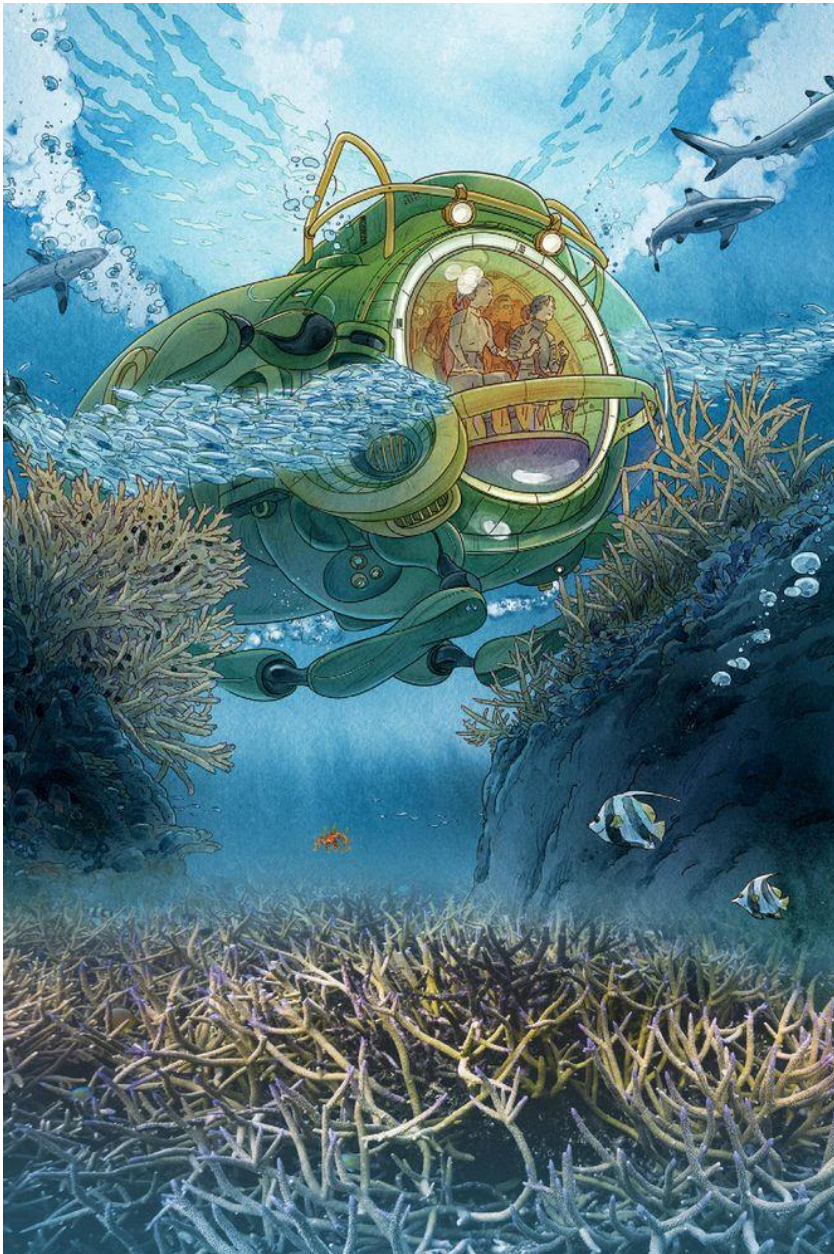
2: Summary

*In this chapter I give a summary of *The Tiger's Nest*. This summary consists of six small summaries of 30-40 pages of the book.*

Chapters 1-4 (pages 1-37)

Cruz has just returned to the Orion after visiting his father. Immediately afterwards he and Emmett are allowed to sail with the submarine of the Orion. This is a very special moment for Cruz, because the last time he was in this submarine, he almost got killed by someone from Nebula. Fortunately it went well this time.

It was Sunday, that meant Funday (Sunday + fun), something Taryn had invented to distract the students a bit from school. During Funday, Cruz and his group came up with a toy for



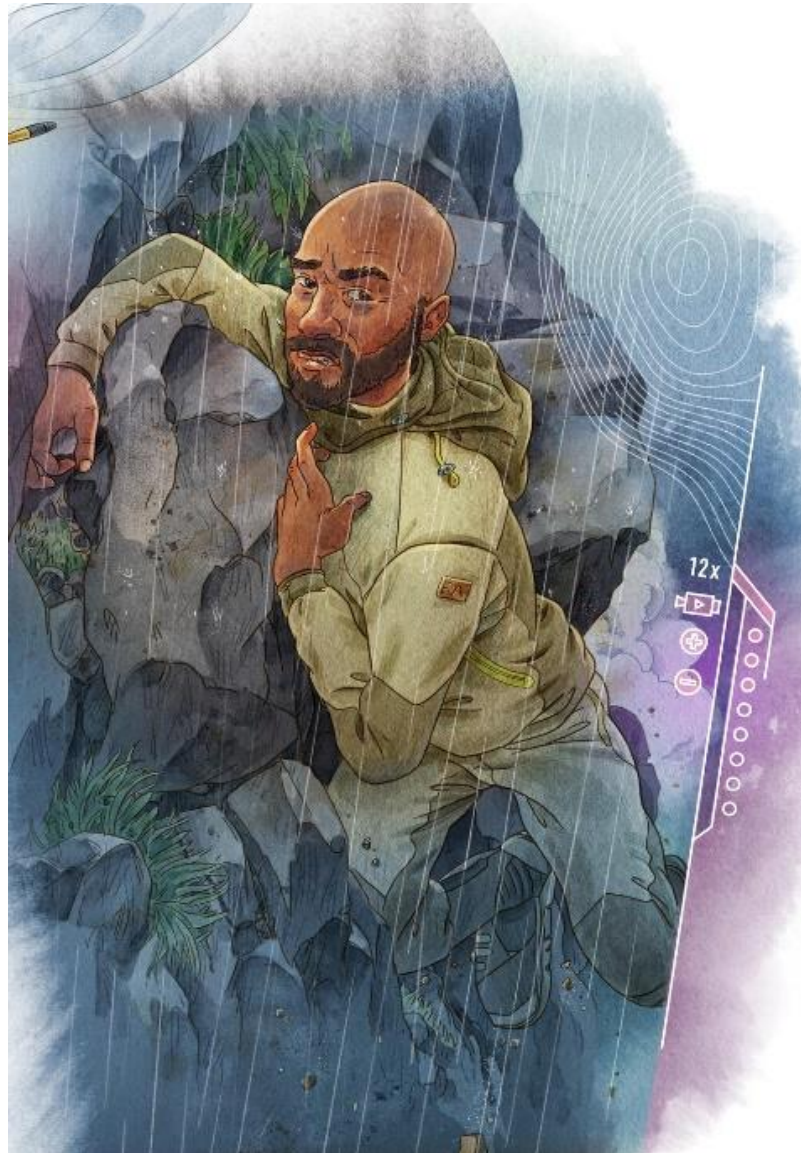
Hubbard, Taryn's dog. The dog can control it with his mind, but during the first tests it didn't work very well. He flew into the hallway, but luckily Taryn had caught the ball in time.

Also, Cruz and his best friends received the clue of the fifth puzzle piece: the code "*NEMINARET 1129*". He and his friends had no idea what Cruz's mother meant by this, but they didn't give up.

The day after, Cruz received a mysterious message from an unknown person. It said: "*There is a spy on board. The danger is closer than you think!*".

Chapters 5-9 (pages 38-79)

The clue to the fifth puzzle piece was damaged. Fanchon, head the lab on the Orion, was able to recover this photo. They found out that his mother's diary, which contains a lot of classified information, is in the Archives of the Explorer Academy. And quite coincidentally, Emmett's father works there. Cruz didn't know this yet, because the Archives and the Synthesis are strictly classified by everyone, many people don't even know that it exists. Later that afternoon, Team Cousteau was called to the Cave (an augmented reality rehearsal room in the Orion). Team Cousteau is the group of explorers made up of Emmett, Lani, Sailor, Bryndis, Dugan and Cruz. In the Cave they hear that they have to do a mission to plant trees. But



they find this very boring, they had hoped for the mission with sea turtles.

When Team Cousteau goes on the mission, their teacher, Mr. Gabriel, suddenly disappears. Later it turns out that he is hanging on a cliff. Because it is raining very hard and because their teacher is in a place that is difficult to reach, they don't know how to save him.

Chapters 10-13 (pages 80-113)

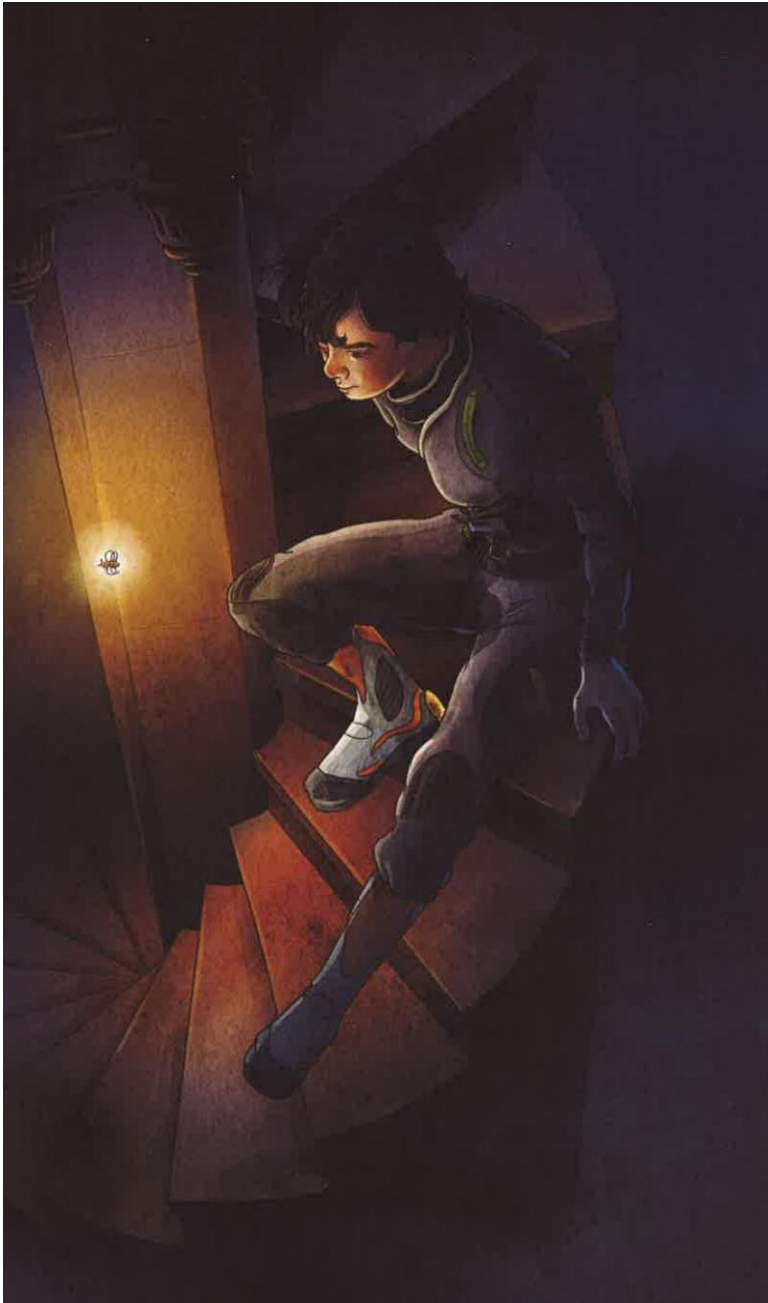
Yet they manage to find a way to save Mr. Gabriel. They tie the ropes of their parachutes together. They have just enough rope to make Lani climb down the cliff. She helps Mr. Gabriel to climb up, but then Lani has to go back up as well. Cruz had his robot bee Mell. The bee saw that Lani was gone. Everyone from Team Cousteau was very shocked. In the end, it turned out that Lani had taken a different route, because it took so long. Fortunately, she had not disappeared. After the mission, the explorers flew back to the Orion, where Aunt Marisol was proudly waiting for them.

That night, Lani had a solution to find the spy. They would send a message on behalf of someone else saying that they found a piece of the puzzle.

They would then hide and wait for someone (the spy) to come. In the end, the trap worked and it turned out to be Felipe, the boy in the room next to Cruz's!

After that Cruz and his friends continued to solve his mother's clue to the puzzle piece. They found out they had to go to the Taj Mahal! When they got there, they immediately started looking, but unfortunately they couldn't find anything. They decided to go back the next day when suddenly a girl came up to Cruz. She was the one who sent the secret messages about the spy. She gets that information because her father is the boss of Nebula. The girl says that that people from Nebula are after him on his trip to the Taj Mahal.





Chapters 14-18 (pages 116-153)

When the girl walked away, Cruz quickly ran back to the Taj Mahal. He looked at everything again, and then he discovered something. There was a loose stone and when you move it a door opens. When he sees the entrance, he is very relieved, because he had expected that he would not find anything.

Cruz walks through the doorway and sees a staircase. It is a wooden staircase that creaked a little. When he had carefully walked down the stairs, he heard a bang; it was the door through which he had come in. Cruz was locked up!

Cruz saw something in the wall, it looked a bit like a window. He felt the "glass" to see if it might be a door. It turned out to be a kind of pudding. Suddenly a kind of hologram screen appeared. In the hologram he saw his hands with the word "match" above them. It later turned out to be a kind of

security that works through biometrics. That is also the technique used for facial recognition on a telephone, for example.

Finally, Cruz finds the fifth puzzle piece and goes with his friends to look at his mother's next clue about the sixth puzzle piece. This showed that they have to go to Bhutan!

Chapters 19-23 (pages 154-195)

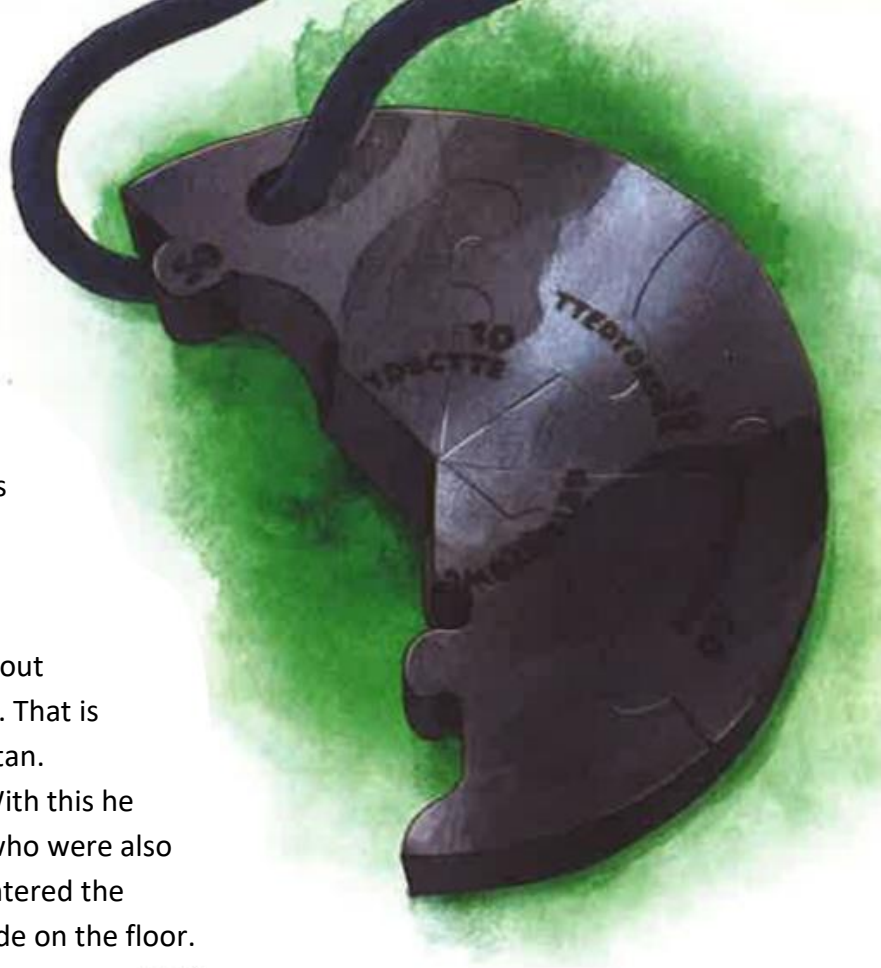
They heard Dr. Hightower, the director of the Explorer Academy, that they were allowed to go to Bhutan. But on one condition, an adult had to come along. Taryn turned out to be that adult. Cruz and his friends were very relieved because they trust Taryn very much.

At the clue of Cruz's mother, they also received a code in Bhutanese. It turned out that they need to go to The Tiger's Nest. That is a monastery on a high mountain in Bhutan. Cruz went there early in the morning. With this he wanted to get a head start on Nebula, who were also after the sixth puzzle piece. When he entered the monastery a kind of maze had been made on the floor.

When he cleared that maze, the ground started to shake. Then a box came up from the floor. This contained the sixth puzzle piece.

Walking back to the hotel, he met Mr. Rook again. Mr. Rook is also after the formula, and he had almost killed him while he was at the Explorer Academy in Washington. That's why Cruz knew he had to watch out for him.

Mr. Rook had a special gun with which you can take out someone without a sound. He asked for the puzzle piece and Cruz gave it. But then suddenly Taryn was standing there. Mr. Rook and Taryn got into a fight. Taryn pushed Mr. Rook in a ravine, but Taryn had been hit by the gun. Unfortunately, Taryn died.



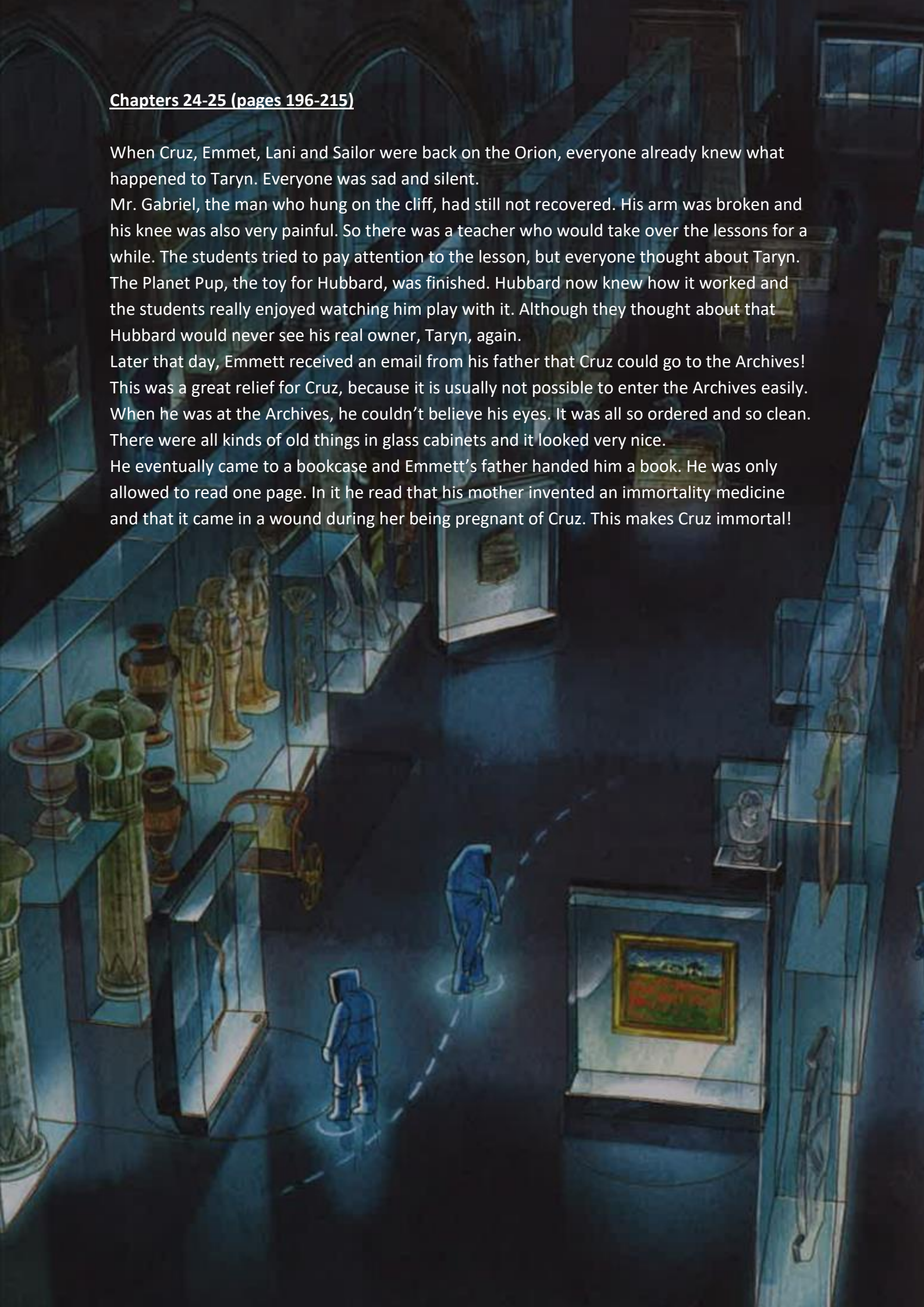
Chapters 24-25 (pages 196-215)

When Cruz, Emmet, Lani and Sailor were back on the Orion, everyone already knew what happened to Taryn. Everyone was sad and silent.

Mr. Gabriel, the man who hung on the cliff, had still not recovered. His arm was broken and his knee was also very painful. So there was a teacher who would take over the lessons for a while. The students tried to pay attention to the lesson, but everyone thought about Taryn. The Planet Pup, the toy for Hubbard, was finished. Hubbard now knew how it worked and the students really enjoyed watching him play with it. Although they thought about that Hubbard would never see his real owner, Taryn, again.

Later that day, Emmett received an email from his father that Cruz could go to the Archives! This was a great relief for Cruz, because it is usually not possible to enter the Archives easily. When he was at the Archives, he couldn't believe his eyes. It was all so ordered and so clean. There were all kinds of old things in glass cabinets and it looked very nice.

He eventually came to a bookcase and Emmett's father handed him a book. He was only allowed to read one page. In it he read that his mother invented an immortality medicine and that it came in a wound during her being pregnant of Cruz. This makes Cruz immortal!



3: The characters

In this chapter I describe the characters in The Tiger's Nest. I first give information about the main characters and then about the secondary characters.

Main characters

Cruz Coronado

Cruz is at the Explorer Academy, where a lot is expected of him. He's not afraid of doing dangerous things and Cruz isn't quick to give up either.

Cruz really enjoys the exploration classes at his school, especially because of the high-tech equipment they use there. An example of this is the Cave. Here you are in an augmented reality space while you perform those missions. Unfortunately, there is also less fun going on. Cruz is being followed by the mysterious organization called Nebula. They are after him because they don't want him to complete his mother's formula. Cruz and his friends search for the puzzle pieces his mother left for him years ago.



Lani Kealoha

Lani is Cruz's best friend from Hawaii, where they used to live. In the second year of the Explorer Academy, Lani entered Cruz's class. Lani upgraded Mell the robotbee so that Cruz can now control Mell with his voice. This is very handy, because in certain situations he can not control the bee with his hands.

Lani does everything she can to help Cruz and she is not afraid of danger at all, just like Cruz. For example, she went down the cliff to find Mr. Gabriel.

Sailor York

Sailor is from New Zealand and like Cruz and Lani, she is not afraid of dangers, but she is also smart and social. Cruz and Sailor are very good friends and she helps him a lot in solving his mother's mystery and also goes everywhere without fear. Sometimes her New Zealand expressions confuse Cruz a bit, but when he's in a bad mood, Sailor always makes Cruz laugh and makes him recover.



Emmet Lu

Emmett is Cruz's Canadian roommate on the Orion and he was also at the Explorer Academy in Washington. Emmett invents and makes the coolest gadgets. He has made his own glasses that change color and shape to how Emmett feels. He also once made a gadget during Funday that could keep track of how turtle eggs are doing.

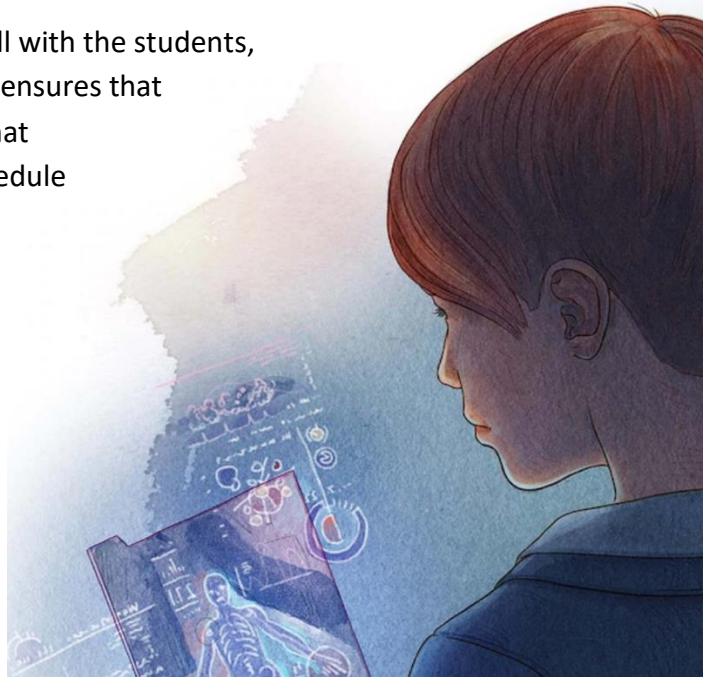


Emmett is Cruz's best friend at the Academy, and he, too, will do anything to help Cruz solve his mother's mystery.

Secondary characters

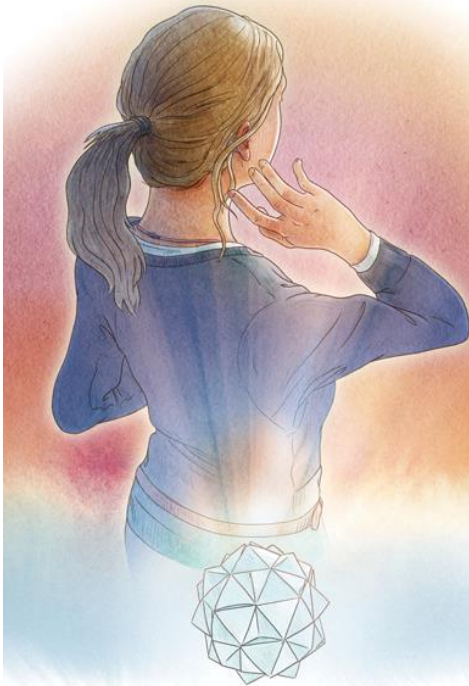
Taryn Secliff

Taryn ensures that everything goes well with the students, you can see it as a kind of mentor. She ensures that the rooms on the Orion are in order, that everyone is aware of, for example, schedule changes or assignments that they have to do. She cares a lot about the students, Taryn is seen as the “mother” of their class. She helps the students solve problems and often gives them advice. During the trip to The Tiger’s Nest, she died in a fight with Mr. Rook.



Petra Coronado

Petra Coronado is Cruz’s Mother. She used to be a student at the Explorer Academy herself. Marisol Coronado was her best friend. That’s Cruz’s aunt.



After Petra graduated from the Academy, she joined a special section of the Explorer Academy, the Society. There she founded the secret laboratory Synthesis.

Cruz’s mother died in a mysterious accident. Nebula probably has something to do with this. She died when Cruz was only five years old. Before her death, she left clues and codes all over the world about her secret formula of a special medicine. And only Cruz can decode that!

Marisol Coronado

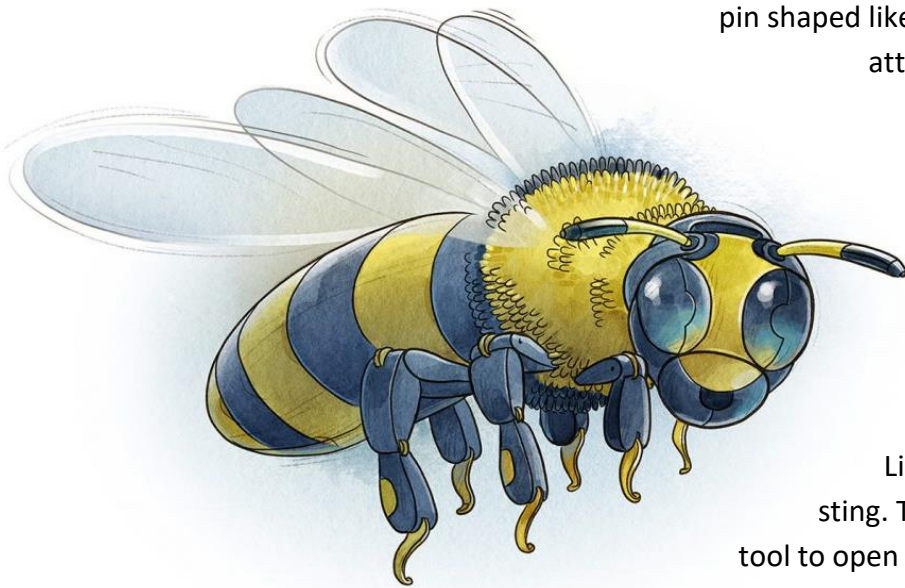
Marisol Coronado is Cruz's aunt. She teaches anthropology at the Explorer Academy. Anthropology is about how humans originated and how they have changed over the past millions of years. Cruz is taking anthropology lessons from his aunt, how nice is that! Marisol used to attend the Explorer Academy herself. Her best friend there was Cruz's mother, Petra Coronado.

Marisol likes to wear striking, brightly coloured clothing. When on vacation, she always sends Cruz coded postcards that Cruz has to unravel.



Mell, de bijendrone

Mell is Cruz's bee drone, a micro-air vehicle (MAV). He once got it as a gift from his father and since then Cruz has always had Mell in his pocket. Before Cruz entered the Explorer Academy, Lani upgraded Mell. She has made a small remote control that allows Cruz to control Mell with his voice. The remote is a tiny pin shaped like a honeycomb that Cruz has attached to his shirt. This upgrade has helped Cruz out of dangerous situations a few times. The robotic bee can wave its antennas and blink its eyes. This allows the drone to communicate with Cruz. Like real bees, Mell also has a sting. This sting can be used as a tool to open something, for example. This feature of Mell has also helped Cruz out of dangerous situations.



Bryndis Jónsdóttir

Bryndis is just like Sailor, Emmett and Lani with Cruz in Team Cousteau. Bryndis is from Iceland's capital, Reykjavik. She's smart and patient, which is why she's a good member of Team Cousteau. She makes sure that everyone stays calm when something goes wrong, but at the same time she is also trying to find a good solution.

Cruz has a crush on Bryndis, but it seems she has less feelings for him.

Bryndis is much less in the story than the other members of Team Cousteau. This is because she is not involved in the search for Cruz's mother's puzzle pieces. Why she is not involved is unclear. But one reason could be that Cruz doesn't fully trust her.



Hubbard

Hubbard is a small dog, a West Highland Terrier. Hubbard is always happy and wants to play very often. The Planet Pup that Cruz and his friends made is for Hubbard. He understands how the special toy works and often plays with it.

Hubbard is very loved by the students on the Orion, but he prefers to play with Cruz. Hubbard wears a bright yellow life jacket on the Orion so that everyone recognizes him and he is safe on the boat.

Taryn is Hubbard's owner. After her death, Cruz decided to take care of him.

Dugan Marsh

Dugan is also on Team Cousteau. He is often grumpy and grumbles a lot with his classmates. Dugan is from Santa Fe, a city in New Mexico. Cruz doesn't like Dugan very much, because he often brags about things and because he is very competitive. That doesn't make it fun to play a competition or a game with him. Dugan often says that Cruz wasn't fairly hired at the Explorer Academy because his Aunt, Marisol Coronado, is a professor at the Academy. Like Bryndis, Dugan comes not often in the story. This is probably because Dugan is not really a friend of Cruz.



4: Quotes

In this chapter I will tell you something about two quotes that I found in the book. I explain what the meanings of the quotes are and why I thought they were important.

I found the first quote in chapter 3, on page 28:

“Even when you have a talent or a passion for something you still have to learn the skills. Also, no one expects you to be anything other than yourself.”

This quote means that you should not assume that you will succeed the first time. If you really want to do something well, you have to practice it. And the more you practice, the better and faster you can do something. The quote also states that you do not have to behave or pretend to be different for others. Nobody thinks it is strange that you cannot do something right the first time.

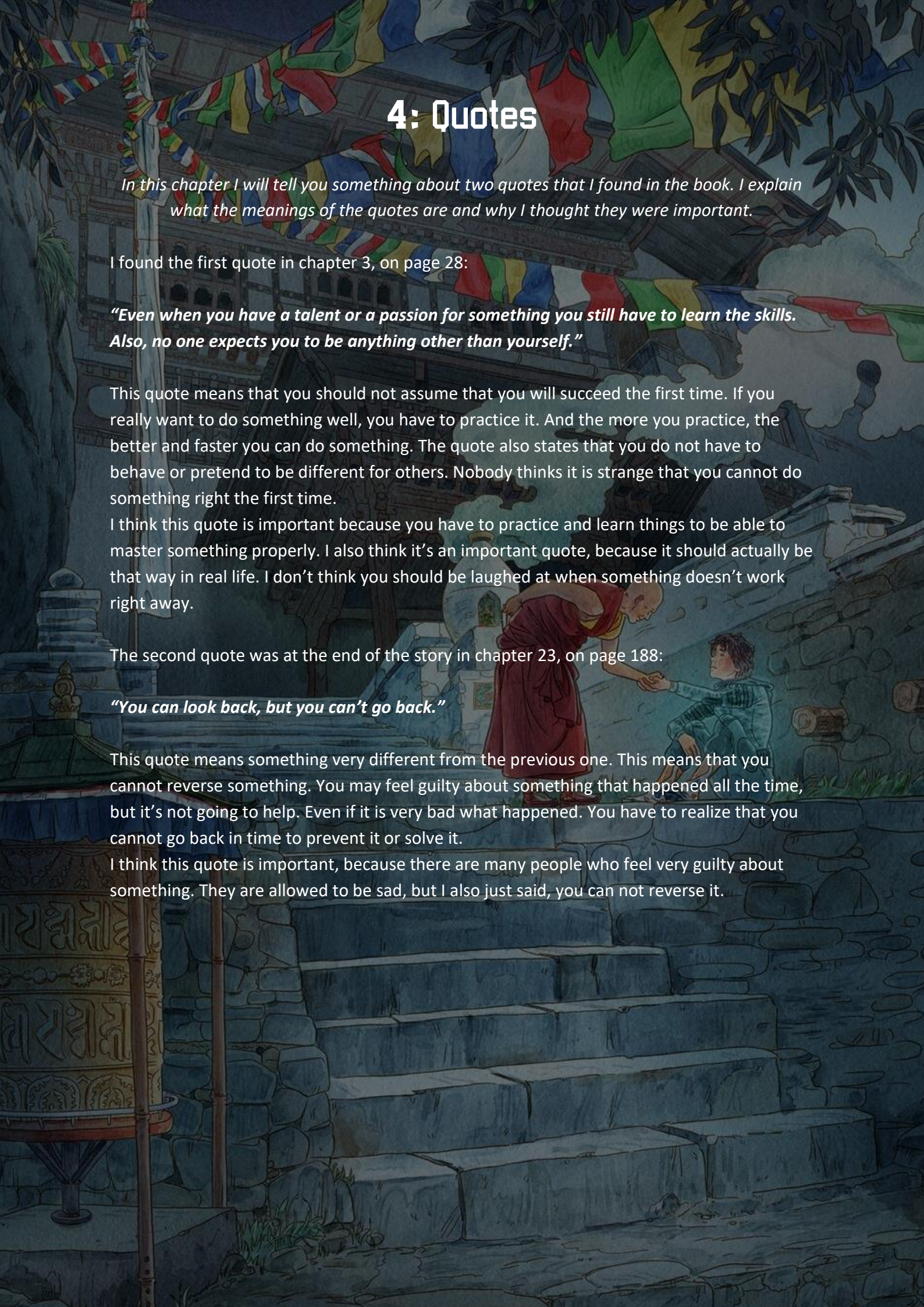
I think this quote is important because you have to practice and learn things to be able to master something properly. I also think it's an important quote, because it should actually be that way in real life. I don't think you should be laughed at when something doesn't work right away.

The second quote was at the end of the story in chapter 23, on page 188:

“You can look back, but you can't go back.”

This quote means something very different from the previous one. This means that you cannot reverse something. You may feel guilty about something that happened all the time, but it's not going to help. Even if it is very bad what happened. You have to realize that you cannot go back in time to prevent it or solve it.

I think this quote is important, because there are many people who feel very guilty about something. They are allowed to be sad, but I also just said, you can not reverse it.



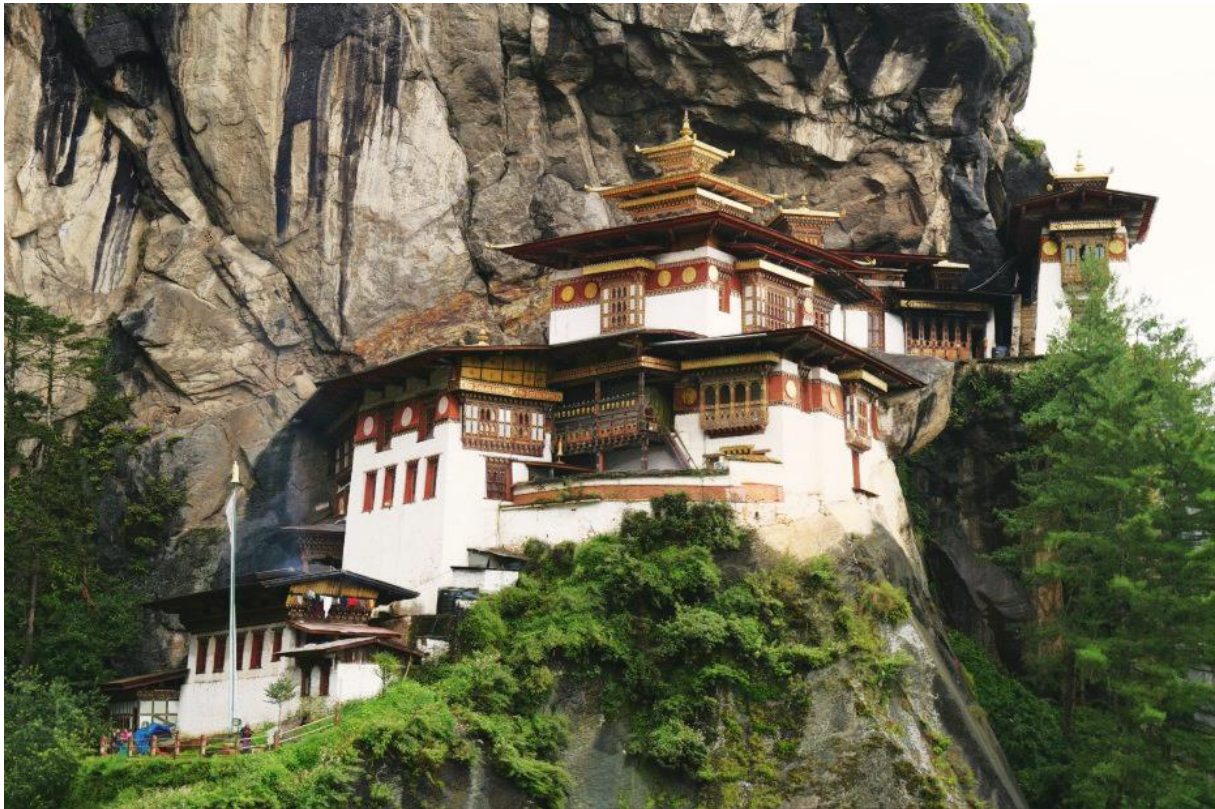
5: Book cover illustration

In this chapter I explain why and how I made the illustration on the cover page.

The first page of this report contains my illustration of The Tiger's Nest Monastery. I have chosen to illustrate this place because I think it is the most important scene in the book. A lot happens in this scene. Cruz finds the sixth piece of the puzzle, he meets Mr. Rook and Taryn and Mr. Rook die.

I made this drawing in Adobe Illustrator. This is a program that we have recently started using at Grafimedia. That is why I thought it was fun and a nice practice to make the cover page in that program.

Below is a photo of what The Tiger's Nest really looks like.



6: My opinion

In this chapter I will tell you what I think of the book and if I would recommend it to anyone.

Like the other parts in this series, I thought it was very well written. Since the main characters are about the same age as me, it felt like what happened in the story could also happen to me too. There were also many unexpected situations. This made the story very exciting.

I think the book is especially suitable for young people, and less for older people. That's why I definitely recommend the book to young people.

