

A New World

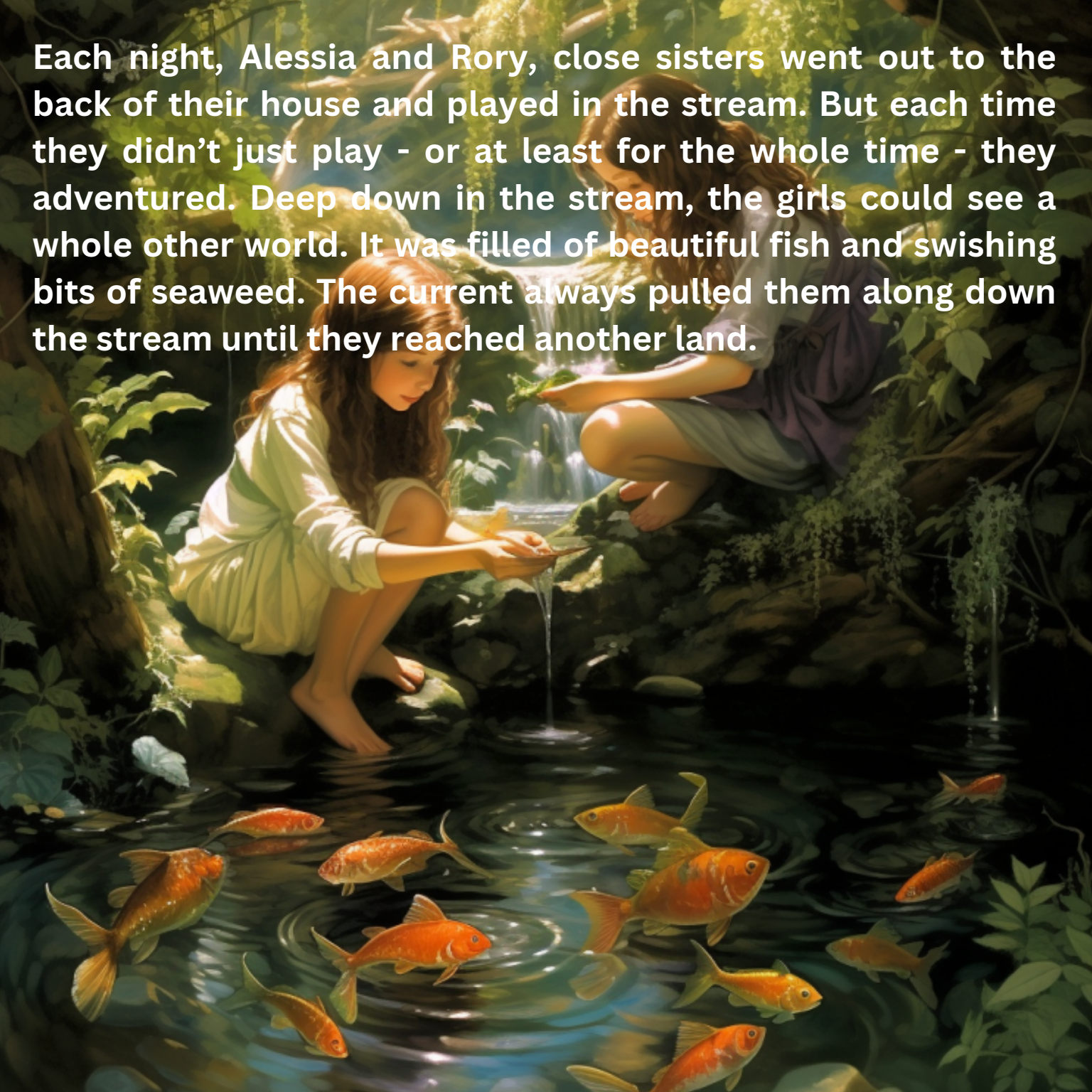
A fantastical landscape featuring a large, dark, jagged mountain peak in the center. A bright, ethereal light emanates from the top of the peak, creating a vertical beam of light that reaches the top of the frame. The sky is filled with dark, swirling clouds and a starry night sky. In the foreground, two figures with long hair are sitting on a dark, rocky outcrop, facing each other and holding hands. They are illuminated by a warm, golden light that appears to be coming from their hands. The background shows a vast, misty valley with rolling hills and distant, smaller mountain peaks. The overall atmosphere is mysterious and awe-inspiring.

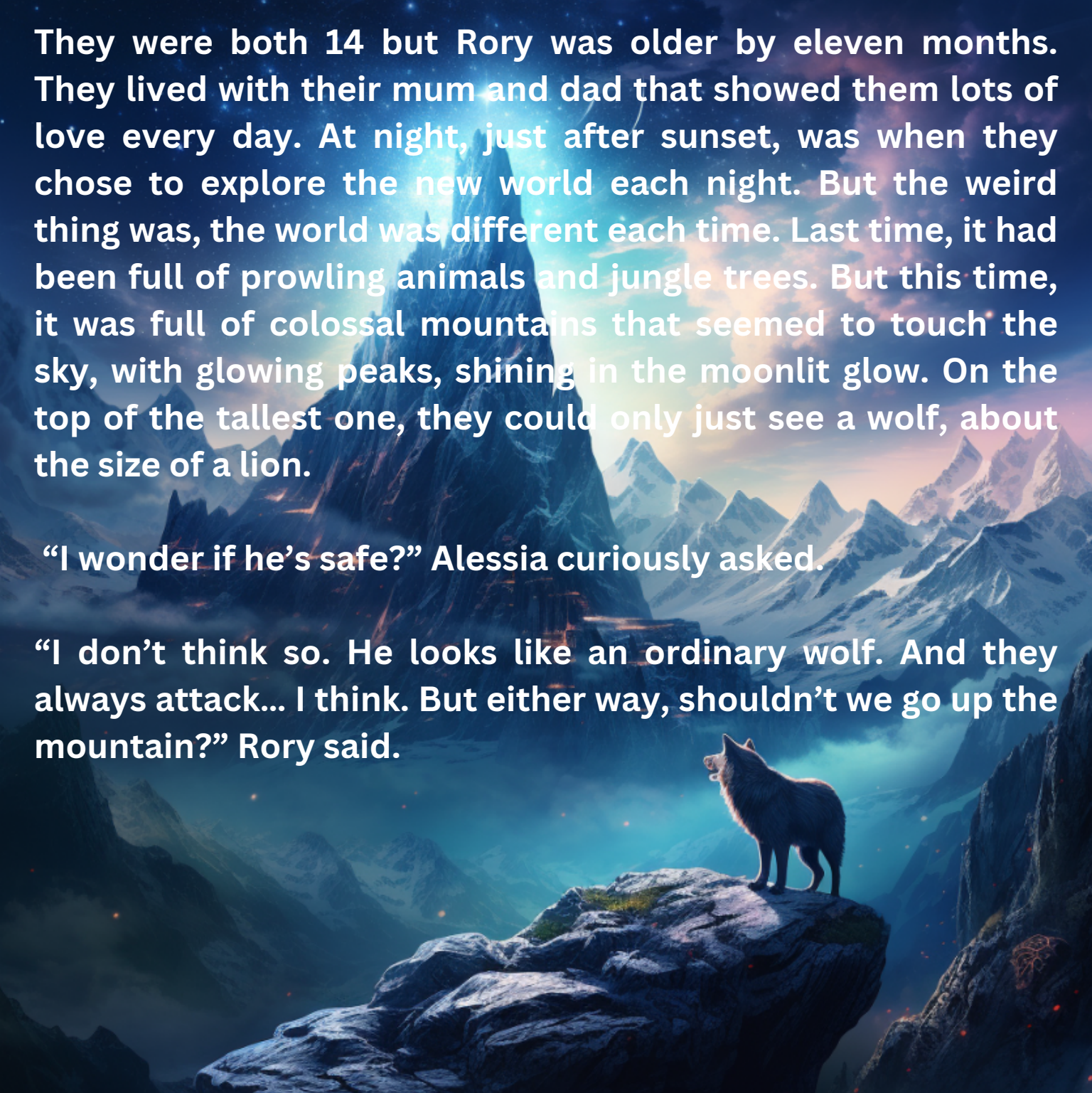
Jeremy R





Each night, Alessia and Rory, close sisters went out to the back of their house and played in the stream. But each time they didn't just play - or at least for the whole time - they adventured. Deep down in the stream, the girls could see a whole other world. It was filled of beautiful fish and swishing bits of seaweed. The current always pulled them along down the stream until they reached another land.

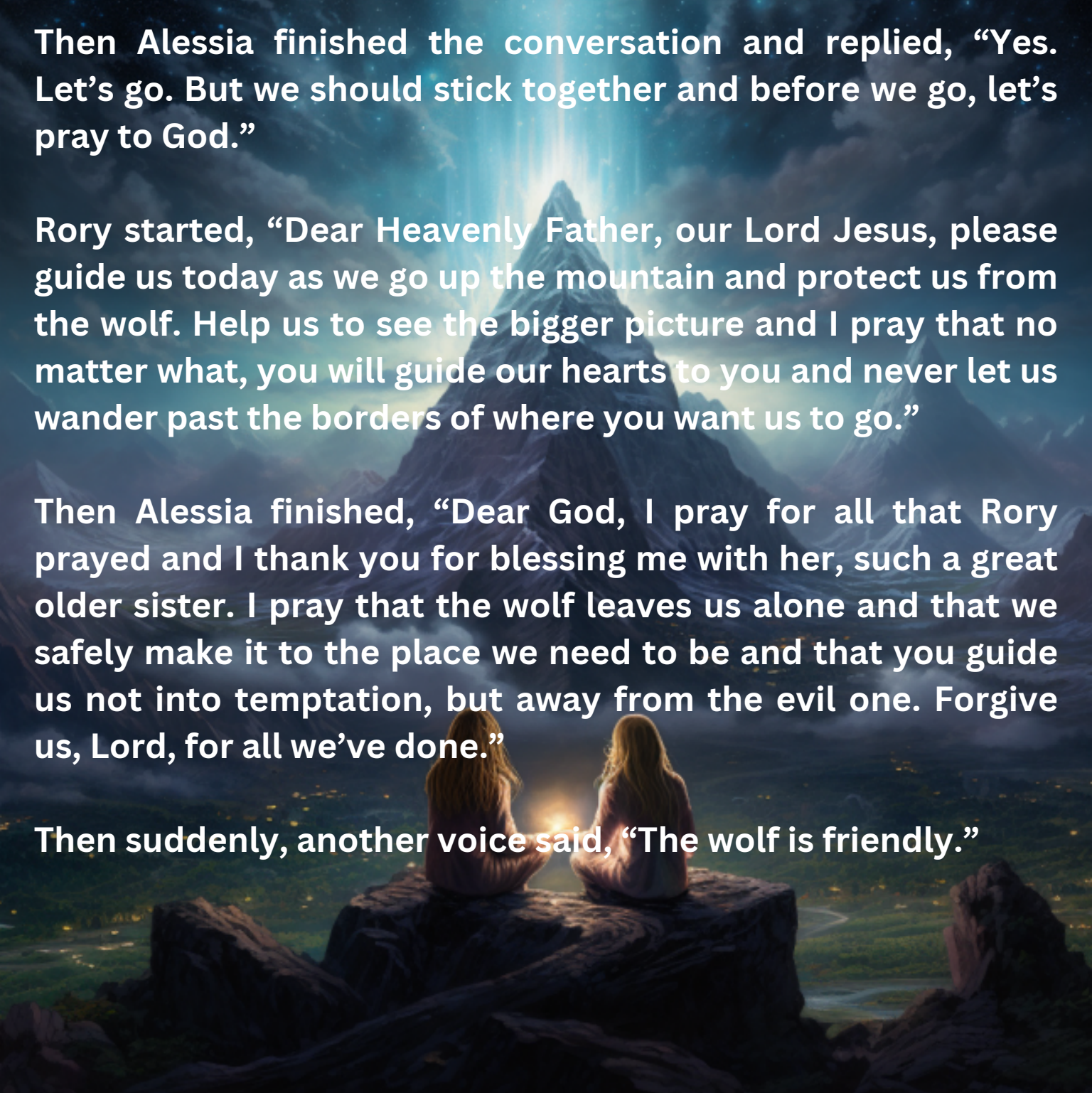


A fantastical mountain landscape with a wolf on a rock. The scene is set in a dark, atmospheric environment with a blue and purple color palette. In the foreground, a large, dark rock formation juts out, and a wolf stands on its peak, looking towards the left. The background features a range of jagged, snow-capped mountains under a sky filled with soft, glowing light. The overall mood is mysterious and adventurous.

They were both 14 but Rory was older by eleven months. They lived with their mum and dad that showed them lots of love every day. At night, just after sunset, was when they chose to explore the new world each night. But the weird thing was, the world was different each time. Last time, it had been full of prowling animals and jungle trees. But this time, it was full of colossal mountains that seemed to touch the sky, with glowing peaks, shining in the moonlit glow. On the top of the tallest one, they could only just see a wolf, about the size of a lion.

“I wonder if he’s safe?” Alessia curiously asked.

“I don’t think so. He looks like an ordinary wolf. And they always attack... I think. But either way, shouldn’t we go up the mountain?” Rory said.

A dramatic landscape with a glowing mountain peak and two people sitting on a rock in the foreground. The scene is set in a dark, atmospheric environment with a bright light source behind the mountain, creating a silhouette effect. The two people are sitting on a large, dark rock in the foreground, looking towards the mountain. The overall mood is contemplative and spiritual.

Then Alessia finished the conversation and replied, “Yes. Let’s go. But we should stick together and before we go, let’s pray to God.”

Rory started, “Dear Heavenly Father, our Lord Jesus, please guide us today as we go up the mountain and protect us from the wolf. Help us to see the bigger picture and I pray that no matter what, you will guide our hearts to you and never let us wander past the borders of where you want us to go.”

Then Alessia finished, “Dear God, I pray for all that Rory prayed and I thank you for blessing me with her, such a great older sister. I pray that the wolf leaves us alone and that we safely make it to the place we need to be and that you guide us not into temptation, but away from the evil one. Forgive us, Lord, for all we’ve done.”

Then suddenly, another voice said, “The wolf is friendly.”

A dramatic landscape with a glowing mountain peak and three girls standing on a cliff. The scene is set against a dark, stormy sky with a bright, ethereal light emanating from the top of a jagged mountain peak. The light creates a vertical beam of blue and white, illuminating the surrounding clouds and the mountain's surface. In the foreground, three girls are standing on a dark, rocky ledge, their backs to the camera. They are looking towards the glowing mountain. The girls are dressed in dark, simple clothing. The overall atmosphere is mysterious and awe-inspiring, with a mix of dark blues, purples, and bright whites and blues from the light source.

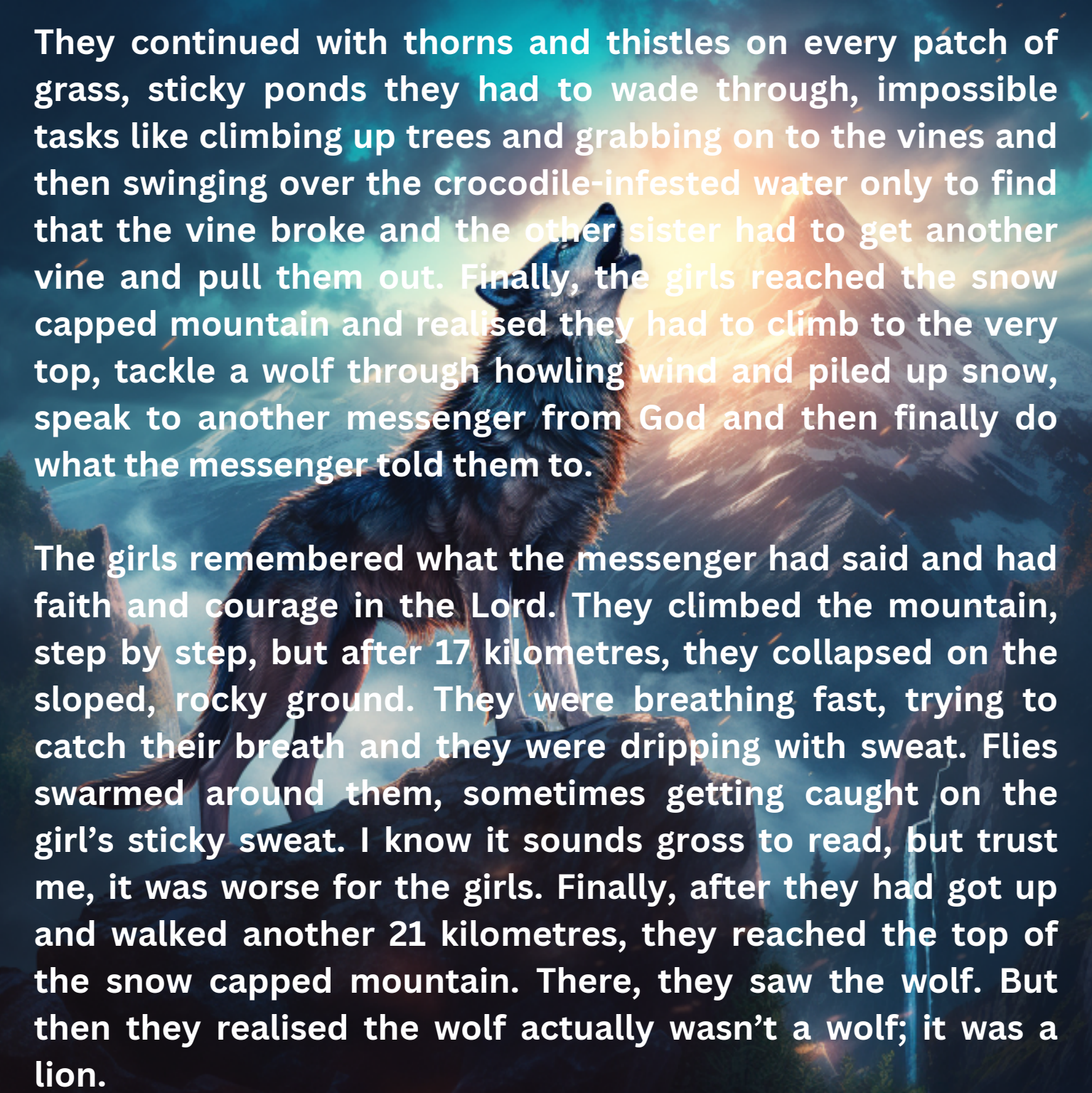
And both girls, Alessia and Rory asked, “Who are you? How do you know?”

But the girl said, “My name is Leah and I tell you, the wolf is friendly.”

But the sisters didn’t have faith. “How do you know?” The girls asked again.

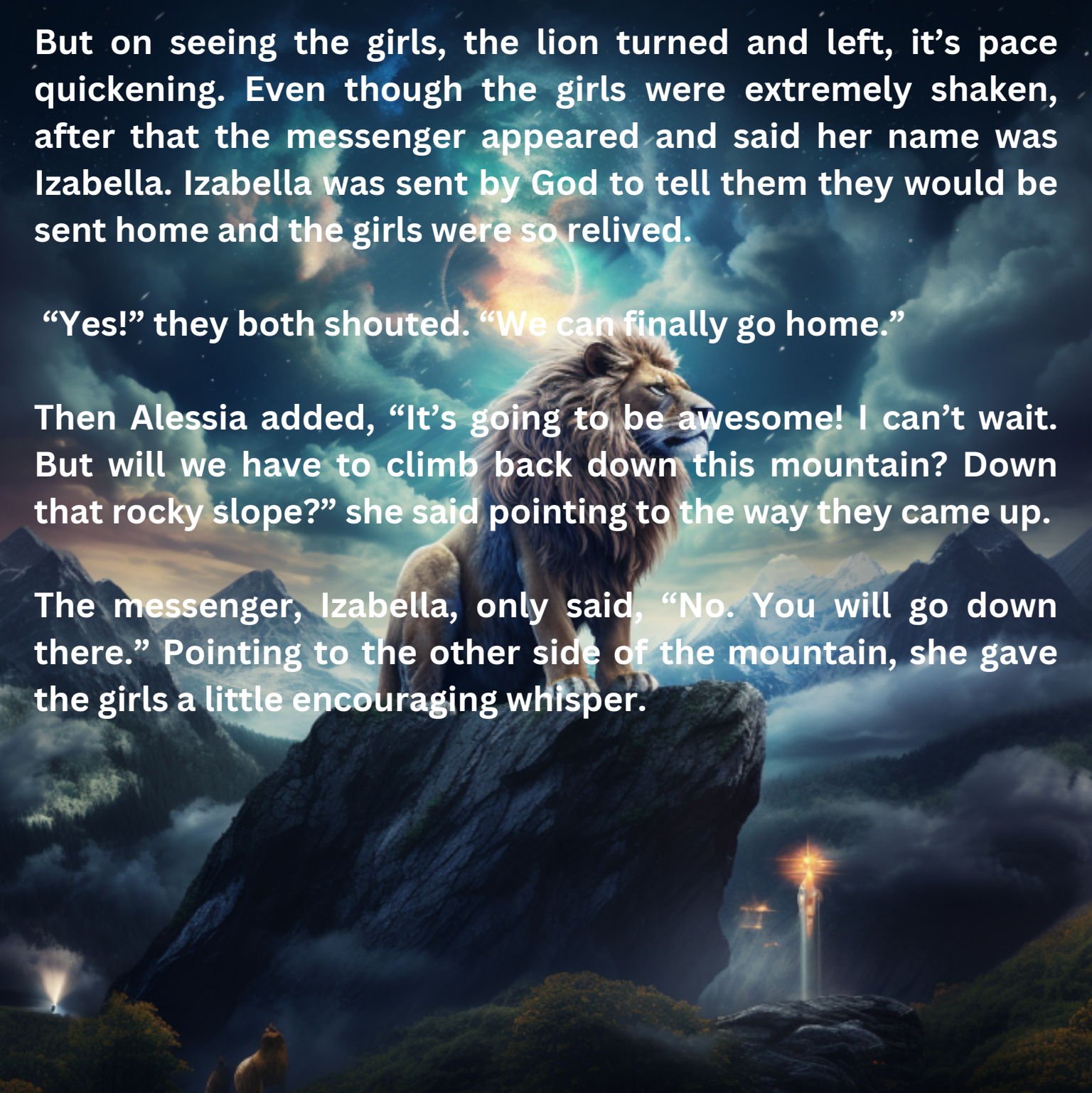
“Have faith. I am a messenger from the Lord. I can see your hearts and I know you are scared. But it is only a wolf. Have faith and be courageous. Now, walk up the mountain and you will find another messenger waiting for you. You will know the Lord has sent her because her eyes will shine from being with the Lord and her body will reflect the sun.” Then she disappeared into the stream which she appeared out of.

The girls plodded on, their feet squishing in the mud, mosquitoes flying all around, disaster striking as a band of bats flew in their faces around each corner. Wild dogs were leaping at them, biting their wrists until their wrists swelled up.

A wolf is shown in profile, standing on a rocky outcrop and howling upwards. The background features a dramatic, mountainous landscape with a large, snow-capped mountain peak under a bright, hazy sky. The lighting is warm, suggesting a sunrise or sunset, with rays of light filtering through the clouds. The overall scene is atmospheric and majestic.

They continued with thorns and thistles on every patch of grass, sticky ponds they had to wade through, impossible tasks like climbing up trees and grabbing on to the vines and then swinging over the crocodile-infested water only to find that the vine broke and the other sister had to get another vine and pull them out. Finally, the girls reached the snow capped mountain and realised they had to climb to the very top, tackle a wolf through howling wind and piled up snow, speak to another messenger from God and then finally do what the messenger told them to.

The girls remembered what the messenger had said and had faith and courage in the Lord. They climbed the mountain, step by step, but after 17 kilometres, they collapsed on the sloped, rocky ground. They were breathing fast, trying to catch their breath and they were dripping with sweat. Flies swarmed around them, sometimes getting caught on the girl's sticky sweat. I know it sounds gross to read, but trust me, it was worse for the girls. Finally, after they had got up and walked another 21 kilometres, they reached the top of the snow capped mountain. There, they saw the wolf. But then they realised the wolf actually wasn't a wolf; it was a lion.

A lion with a thick, golden-brown mane stands on a dark, jagged rock formation. The background features a dramatic mountain range under a dark, cloudy sky. A bright, glowing orb with a rainbow-like aura is visible in the upper left. In the lower right, a tall, thin, glowing pillar of light rises from a rocky outcrop. The overall scene is atmospheric and fantastical.

But on seeing the girls, the lion turned and left, its pace quickening. Even though the girls were extremely shaken, after that the messenger appeared and said her name was Izabella. Izabella was sent by God to tell them they would be sent home and the girls were so relieved.

“Yes!” they both shouted. “We can finally go home.”

Then Alessia added, “It’s going to be awesome! I can’t wait. But will we have to climb back down this mountain? Down that rocky slope?” she said pointing to the way they came up.

The messenger, Izabella, only said, “No. You will go down there.” Pointing to the other side of the mountain, she gave the girls a little encouraging whisper.

The girls could see a slide and they slid down it, all the way to the foot of the mountain. Alessia went first and when she reached the bottom, she found herself at home. Then Rory eagerly went too, and found herself at home.

They had learnt that even climbing up a mountain (which they guessed to 100 kilometres high) would take them to have better lives. God sent the lion away on purpose. He sent the messengers with the perfect messages on purpose. He wanted to see if the girls were faithful, like he did in the Bible. He will always provide a better way than the first.



