

# In the Shadow of the Mountain

Helen Naylor

## Before reading

1. Read the book in two minutes! Read the front cover, the contents page and the back cover. What sort of story do you think this is going to be?
2. Look at the map on page 5. What do you know about Switzerland?
3. Read the information about the characters on page 4. Imagine what they look like.
4. If you have the cassette, listen to Chapter 1.

## Check your reading

### CHAPTER 1

1. Who ...
  - a had been frozen for many years?
  - b needed time to think about the future?
  - c was glad that some things had remained the same?
  - d had never talked about dying before?

### CHAPTER 2

1. Match the beginnings and endings.
 

1 Clare's grandfather, Edward Crowe,	a she was going to collect her grandfather's body.
2 Clare phoned her editor, Kevin, to tell him	b had died in a climbing accident.
3 Her editor thought Clare should definitely	c the chance to interview a football star's wife.
4 Clare was anxious not to miss	d write up the story for the newspaper.

### CHAPTER 3

1. True or false?
  - a Marjorie found living alone difficult at first.
  - b The news about Edward Crowe was a surprise to Marjorie.
  - c Marjorie would have to make all the funeral arrangements.
  - d Clare had always been good at organising things.

### CHAPTER 4

1. Clare is worried about the future. Make a list of her worries under these headings:
 

Personal  
Professional

### CHAPTER 5

1. What is fact or opinion about Edward Crowe?
  - a He left his wife.
  - b He provided money for his wife and child.
  - c He left England because of a business scandal.
  - d He didn't intend to see his wife again.
  - e He met another woman.

### CHAPTER 6

1. Match the sentences with places in the story.
  - a Here spring was well advanced and the sun had real warmth.
  - b The setting sun had bathed the whole thing in a pinky-orange light.
  - c There was just enough light and warmth left for her to sit on the balcony ...
  - d ... Wonderful old wooden buildings standing on what looked like stone mushrooms.

### CHAPTER 7

1. Put the events in the right order.
  - a Clare didn't know there had to be a post mortem.
  - b Clare didn't like people talking about her grandfather.
  - c Clare realised an old guide may have met her grandfather.
  - d Clare didn't want another journalist to write the story.

### CHAPTER 8

1. Match the beginnings and endings.
 

1 Clare waited until after lunch	a was still alive and well.
2 Clare insisted that her grandfather's story	b when she asked if he had met her grandfather.
3 Clare found out that Ulrich Grunwalder	c was a private family matter.
4 Ulrich Grunwalder said he couldn't remember	d before she returned Kevin's call.

### CHAPTER 9

1. Complete the summary.
 

In 1923, Ulrich was ..... years old. He had started ..... with his father, who had been killed on the ..... . He now had to ..... for the family. Ulrich was ..... when his sister Marianne went down to the village with him to ..... some work. At the ..... hotel, where the ..... climbers stayed, they learned they would be working for the ..... family.

### CHAPTER 10

1. True or false?
  - a Marianne could speak some English.
  - b Edward Crowe already knew Ulrich and Marianne were brother and sister.
  - c Ulrich wanted to find out more about the Crowe family.
  - d Ulrich and Crowe had a disagreement on the mountain.

### CHAPTER 11

1. Match the beginnings and endings.
 

1 At the hotel reception, Clare discovered	a she might have to write her grandfather's story.
2 Andrew was annoyed	b more information about the Grunwalder family.
3 Clare explained to Andrew that	c his memories of Edward Crowe.
4 Ulrich Grunwalder wanted to forget	d about what he had read in the newspaper

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## CHAPTER 12

- Who said what?
  - 'I'm afraid there seems to be nothing for 1924 for the Matterhorn.'
  - 'Surely someone in such a small community would have known ...?'
  - '... the only thing I can suggest is that you talk to Ulrich Grunwalder.'
  - 'Are you in Zermatt for long, Clare?'
  - 'Just a short break to get away from everything at home.'
  - 'But would you like to meet for a drink later?'

## CHAPTER 13

- What things do Bruno and Clare have and not have in common?

## CHAPTER 14

- Complete the summary.

At the police station, Clare received the result of the ..... and was given a ..... which was found on the body. Inside it was a photo of her ..... She learnt the answer to one of her questions: her grandfather had a climbing partner, ....., who also ..... Clare phoned Kevin, her ....., to tell him she would write the story. She hoped ..... would help her to set up a meeting with Ulrich.

## CHAPTER 15

- Match Clare's questions with Bruno's answers.
  - 'I'd like to ski on that run that goes near the bottom of the Matterhorn. We did it yesterday, d'you remember?'
  - 'Did you know that the man they got out of the glacier this week was my grandfather?'
  - 'Do you think you could arrange for me to talk to him?'
  - 'D'you think Grandpa Edward stayed in that hut in 1924?'
  - 'I don't know if he'll remember very much, he's a very old man now.'
  - 'Possibly, it was certainly there then.'
  - 'Fine, but we'll have to go now. We have to go up on the cable car in order to get over to it.'
  - 'Yes, of course. Everybody knows.'

## CHAPTER 16

- Put the events in the right order.
  - Ulrich Grunwalder agreed to talk to Clare.
  - Bruno told Clare he was Ulrich Grunwalder's grandson.
  - Bruno thought something strange happened on Edward Crowe's last expedition.
  - Bruno talked to Ulrich Grunwalder about Clare.

## CHAPTER 17

- True or false?
  - Bruno knew about Edward Crowe's relationship with Marianne.
  - Some people thought Edward Crowe's death was a good thing.
  - Gordon Younger asked Edward Crowe to return to his wife.
  - Gordon Younger wanted Edward Crowe to return to his wife.

## CHAPTER 18

- Look at the words in italics. Who is *she*, *we*, etc.?
  - 'Maybe *she* actually wanted people to find out after her death.'
  - 'Anyway, do you think *we* should tell Mum?'
  - 'I wonder if the name Gordon Younger means anything to *her*?'
  - '... *it* had everything: love, jealousy, danger, secrets, death ...'

## CHAPTER 19

- Complete the summary.

On the walk, Clare decided it was the ..... she was in love with, not Bruno. She got to know Bruno better and learnt that he rarely saw his ..... Bruno suggested that they had a ..... relationship, but Clare was still not ..... She said they should think about it, and invited Bruno to stay in ..... After a long goodbye ..... at the hotel, he left. Clare's editor, Kevin, was ..... for her to finish the story and he promised not to ..... a word.

## CHAPTER 20

- Put the events in the right order.
  - Clare realised that there was something important between Bruno and herself.
  - Clare apologised to her mother about the article.
  - Clare resigned from her job.
  - Clare was furious when she read her article in the *Daily News*.

## CHAPTER 21

- Who said what?
  - 'Why can't they leave us alone?'
  - 'Remember, you're a writer not a journalist.'
  - '... I was just going to ring you.'
  - 'I thought I might come and visit you soon.'

## After reading

Choose some of these activities.

- Do you think Edward Crowe's death was an accident?
- Imagine you are making a film of *In the Shadow of the Mountain*. Which actors would you choose to play Clare and Bruno? Would you make any changes to the story?
- Do you think *In the Shadow of the Mountain* is a good title? Make up an alternative.
- Either: write the article that Clare wrote for the *Daily News*. Or: write the article that actually appeared in the *Daily News*.
- What happens to Clare and Bruno after the end of the story? Write another chapter.
- Make your own activities for other students to do. e.g. Write some True/False questions.
- Imagine Bruno wrote to Clare instead of phoning (pages 95–96). Write Bruno's letter or Clare's reply.

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