

LONG WAY DOWN

Living in this wet and cold cave is not the best. But it is definitely much better than living under the control of the government. We call them the follower. Those who always follow the rules of the government. They tell us that they are keeping the peace and everyone, who is against them, is a thread. Just like me.

Don't get me wrong, it is save in our city now. But I don't want to be controlled. I don't trust anybody since my parents and my big brother died in the civil war which started because of a coup against the government. This is why I am living with other people like me in this cave, far away from the government.

But now I think it will change. The son of the leader of our government is standing with dirty designer clothes in front of me. „Hey.“, he says. „Hey.“, I answer. I feel insecure about him. Can I trust him? Why is he here? „I...I...“, he begins to stutter. I look into his eyes which are full of hope and I raise one eyebrow. „What?“, I ask him in a little bit too annoyed tone as I wanted. He takes a deep breath and answers: „You can call me Blue. You have to help me. I did my best that nobody followed me but I cannot guarantee it. I had to escape! But now I'm luckily here and far away from my parents.“ „Ok“, I whisper. He looks with wide open eyes into my eyes and says hopefully: „What?! You really want to help me?“ „That's not what I said, but maybe you can tell me why you need my help.“ „The government controls everyone and everything. They've heard about this cave and they wanna kill everyone who was involved with the coup. You and everyone here is in danger! And that's why I need your help. I want to end this civil war and build a new, free and democratic government.“ „Wow, that's a big plan. But you came here for nothing. We live here in freedom and the last thing how I want to end my life is that I am as an obliged follower in prison because a boy like you tried to make history.“, I say „Come on, Nila. You're dauntless and erudite and we need you because you are also a leader. There is actually no more time left to discuss this bec...“ Suddenly Blue stops talking because a group of guardians of the government comes in and starts to shoot.

My mouth is wide open, but in the next moment I can feel the adrenalin running through my veins. So I start to grab Blues hand and run as fast as I can behind a huge rock to hide from the gun shoots. Suddenly a bullet flies so close next to my head that I can even hear the hiss of the bullet. „I found him!“, someone screams loudly. „Run“, I scream at the same time and start to run. The guardians are right behind us now, but I know this cave with his waterfalls and cliffs better than anyone else does. „Stop running!“, they scream again and again while we're escaping from them and running next to a steep and rocky cliff. I am not sure anymore if I took the right decision by trusting Blue. My parents always told me that there is a better future. But now I don't know anymore what is right or wrong. I just know that there is a peaceful future, but it won't begin today. There are people who are against us and want to stop the idea of a democracy. But I will not let this happen. I will fight. So I turn around to scream back to them while I am running backwards: „You are never going to stop us!“ „Nila, watch out!“, Blue screams fearfully as I recognize the lose rock under my feet and I fell...

Everything hurts and feels awesome at the same time. I cannot see anything but finally I feel like being home. There where I belong to. I was dauntless like a warrior. Just like my parents and my brother Theo.