

The Jump

Walking on the trail with backpacks as heavy as themselves. Twenty - one year old Remstine and nineteen year old Nate were on their way to the most beautiful place in their opinion, Castle Rock. Castle Rock was three hundred fifty feet tall and Remstine and Nate were going to do their first ascent. Ascent means the first time for the rock to be climbed. They always go out on the weekends and find new rocks to climb that other people haven't.

Remstine is a mellow easy going guy who almost everyone gets along with. His face is round and he has a big nose. Remstine's eyes being mesmerizing brown and his nose as big as a fish.

Nate is your typical teenager. About five foot eleven inches, short blonde hair and small green eyes. Nate's very energetic and loves to talk.

"Finally Castle Rock" says ,Nate . "It's beautiful" Remstine adds. "We should probably camp here tonight and wake up to a good start tomorrow" says Remstine.

Nate and Remstine set up camp and made a fire. They sat by the fire till about ten o'clock eating hot dogs for dinner and then went to bed.

It was morning and Remstine woke up to the sweet smell of coffee. He unzipped the tent and Nate handed him a cup of coffee. "Well Nate, you ready?" "Yep I guess. Let's get ready."

Minutes later Nate and Remstine were at Castle Rock and starting to climb. Remstine decided that he was going to do all the leading. Leading is climbing and then putting in all the gear so that the rope is at the top. The climb they are doing is five pitches. Pitches are when you have to climb about forty feet and then the other person has to climb about the same so that they can bring up the rope. If you don't use pitches on a climb that is more than a hundred feet you can run out of rope. After two pitches Nate and Remstine are going to rest and camp out on the rock for the night.

Remstine put his first set of gear in the rock and then keeps climbing. Remstine is doing well and now Nate starts up. While Remstine belays Nate until Nate gets to him. Belay means to use a device to pull the rope up while the person is climbing so that the person doesn't fall.

Now Remstine is almost up where they are going to stay the night and he starts to belay Nate up to there. Nate starts to have some trouble on the top of the climb. Coaxing him Remstine says, "Nate your almost there. Come on!" Nate gives it all his might and he's to the spot. And once again the two of them set up camp.

"Well I'm going to bed ,Nate" yawns Remstine. "Okay good night."

Nate decides to stay up and watch the stars. He gets to thinking about his childhood memories and remembers never seeing his older brother again. Nate stands at the edge of the cliff and thinks to himself, "I never get to see my brother. I don't think he's alive and I love him so much I don't want to be alive anymore either. Nate pictures himself jumping off the cliff and then being in

heaven with his brother. "Oh how I want to see him." ,Nate whispers and feels the wind coming towards him fast.

Early next morning Remstine wakes up and he doesn't smell coffee. He shakes Nate's tent and yells wake up at least four times. Nate's a light sleeper ,but he's not waking up at this time. Remstine unzips the tent and Remstine feels his heart fall to his feet and his stomach feels cold. Nate's not there.

Remstine didn't know what to do. He thought maybe he decided to go and climb the rest without me. And over and over he thought of mang things that Nate might do. Remstine new Nate would try to climb down on his own so Remstine decided to climb the rest hoping that Nate was at the top of the rock.

Remstine ate a protein bar and started his free solo. Free solo means to climb without ropes or a person to belay you. (Th most unsafe way to climb). Climbing higher and higher Remstine was scared and hoping he wouldn't have to tell his family what happened to Nate. Remstine also was hoping his instincts were right about Nate being at the top.

Remstine made a stepped on a loose hold on the rock and didn't think much of it. His leg felt achy and he put all his weight on the loose hold. The next thing that Remstine felt was his heart beating as fast as a bullet being shot through a gun. His arms were holding his body his foot had slipped. Remstine hung there knowing that he might die. With one last tug he jumped and grabbed another hold. His feet were on a hold and he was safe. Remstine caught his breath and kepted going.

Up ahead of Remstine he could see something moving. Remstine was excited thinking it was Nate. He climbed fast and tried to catch up. When he got close he yelled. "Nate, is it you?" The objct kept climbing fast and Restine yelled Nate again. Remstine followed the object to the top of the cliff.

When Remstine got to the top he ran to find Nate. It was a person about the same height as Nate. "Nate?" remstine questioned. The person turned around. It was an old man. Remstine was in shock. "Who are you?" said the old man. "Um.....Um..." "Well spit it out now." "M....M....my name is Remstine and I was climbing here with me friend." Remstine replied. "He disappeared last night and I free soloed the rest thinking that he might have climbing to the top. So what are you doing here anyways?" Remstine asked. "Well said the old man, I don't exactly know. I live here." "You live here?" Remstine asked. "Yes, my wife and I used to climb here together when we were a little older than you are about now. She died about a month ago and I thought that if I came back here to our favorite place I I could remember her more and our memories here." "Wow I can't believe it. I'm so sorry about your wife." On know don't worry about it. I love to talk about her." "Hey, can I ask you a question?" said Remstine. "Sure, anything." The old man replied. " Have you by chance seen my friend. He's about five eleven, nineteen years old, blonde hair, green eyes?" "I'm really sorry man, I haven't" The old man replied. " The only thing I could think of is that your friend jumped." Said the old man.

Remstine decided that he was going to head back to ground and call Nate's family and tell them the news.

Remstine packed up his gear and started down the mountain. Again about half way down Remstine set up camp on the rock and went to bed. He had a hard time sleeping ,but about one - thirty in the morning he finally fell asleep.

Remstine could hardly make out what he was seeing. He saw Nate standing at the edge and talking about his brother. Then he saw him again, but in his thirties and again in his forties. At first Remstine didn't understand his dream then he realized it. Nate kept getting older until he was about seventy – five years old. The seventy – five year old man looked familiar. It was the same old man at the top of the mountain. Remstine woke up and he was still on the rock camping out. There were houses surrounding him. He was in the future and the old man was Nate.

Remstine looked around again and woke up. As if the rock and the houses were a dream. And he layed still in his bed. It was a dream Remstine will never forget.