

1st August

Łukasz Zbigniew Magdziarz



Contents

Chapter 1.....	3
Chapter 2.....	5
Chapter 3.....	6
Chapter 4.....	7
Chapter 5.....	9

Chapter 1

I thought of a bike trip. It was the best way to get to a distant place on the other side of the forest. But my friends did not like this idea. They were right. See I am a fanatic of bike adventures. Especially when I ride via forests or mountains. In my opinion, this is the best way to relax or just take care of your health. Anyways... My story started on 1 August at about noon. It was a beautiful day. The Sun was shining and I jumped on my cycle for a trip. When I was passing the district where my friends live, I thought that with friends there will be more fun. So, I came into their house and tell them:

- Hi, Wanna go out for a ride?
- Are you crazy? It's gonna rain - Ana said - Haven't you seen the weather forecast?! They say it will be the storm of a century!
- Oh, don't panic Ana - Ben shouted from his room - You always destroy all of the fun
- No, I'm just a realist. If you're stupid then go out with your friend for this dumb ride
- Wow, wow, wow... Calm down Ana - I said - It's just a question. If you don't want to go with me that's okay.
- No! She doesn't wanna go with you! I am going. I'm just tired of living with her.

Yeah... I forgot to mention. Ana and Ben were siblings, so they lived together. In my opinion, every family argues with each other from time to time, but that's normal.

- If you go, I'll tell my mom and you'll be grounded.
- I HATE YOU SO MUCH! - Ben shouted at her

This time their quarrel was enormous, so I don't want to disturb them.

- Yeah... I think it's time for me.
- You don't wanna something to drink? Maybe coffee? I just bought it today. - Anna said in a surprisingly calm voice
- Thank you, this time. I have a long road ahead of me.
- Okay, but be careful.
- I'll be, I'll be. Don't be afraid. CYA!
- CYA!

I admit, that I ignored Ana's warning and this was one of the worst decisions in my life. I mean I am not scared of storms or any kind of weather. In my opinion, it was just an excuse not to exercise, but not this time.

On the way, I stopped by the shop, because I didn't have much to drink. I met my friend David there by accident. Maybe "friend" is not a good term for him. I just knew him from school. He took drugs and also sold them behind the train station. He also wore the same blue shirt with white stripes every day. David had many troubles with the police, but police officers never had any proof to accuse him. Anyway, I hated him, but he liked me so when he saw me, he said:

- Hey dude! What's up?
- Ahhh, nothing. Just buying some water.
- Maybe you wanna buy something better than water?

- Ay! I told you. I don't take drugs!
- Oh, It's fun! I have special discounts for friends
- I said. I don't want it.
- Ahhh, your loss

He left the shop. He was kinda happy that day.

I reached the fridge and grabbed 2 liters of water. It was so cold! Oh, I love drinking cold liquids.

- Hey, man. How you doin'?' - my friend the salesman said
- Not bad. I'm just preparing for a small bike trip.
- Today?! You know it's gonna rain?
- Yeah, yeah. I know it's gonna rain.
- And you still wanna go on a trip? You're crazy - Salesman said jokingly
- Hah, I know that,
- Anyway, what would you like to buy?
- Just this water.
- Alrighty, That's £5.
- How much?! - I said incredulously
- £5.
- But, that's expensive.
- Yeah.
- But...
- Inflation. The answer to your question you wanted to ask is "inflation".
- Ahhh...
- I know your pain. Everybody knows it today. Soooo... You wanna buy it?
- Yeah, I guess I have to.

Two minutes later I also left the shop. That was the most expensive water in my life, but I was running out of time, because the clouds started to get bigger and darker, so I had to buy it.

The journey has officially started!

Chapter 2

Something about 10 minutes later I turned left and left the main road. Then the journey got interesting because it started to rain. I haven't seen any changes because the trees were protecting me from raindrops.

When I reached my destination, I wasn't happy, because the rain turned into a storm. Till today I remember those bright flashes of lightning and thunders. They caused me to see nothing and I was cycling almost blindly. Furthermore, one of the trees fell to the ground almost killing me! That was enough for me. I decided to hide somewhere. I saw a hole in the ground so I jumped in. There was wet because all the water in the area drained there, but it was safe. Then safety was the most important thing for me. I haven't seen before that enormous storm.

The storm lasted for 1 hour. It was the most frightening hour of my life. Meanwhile, I realized how life is important and that I didn't appreciate this miracle that I can live. It was a lesson for me to enjoy life because we don't know when we gonna die.

Yeah... Today I also think that I was right that day.

I wanted to call someone but my phone wasn't waterproof and it stopped working.

After hiding in this cold shelter, I realized that my arm hurts. Probably one of the branches might hook on it. But I had to go forward anyway because staying in the pool with cold and dirty water would be unhealthy for my already aching body. I said:

- Okay, don't panic. Everything is gonna be alright. Just stay awake.

Then I noticed that about 30% of trees were broken. Moreover, the road was no longer a road. It was a big river full of mud and dirt.

- Where is my bike? - I said

When I think about it now, my bike may have been taken by this river. In that case, I was in the middle of the forest, without any warm clothes or any vehicle. So, I just started walking towards the city. There were no chances that I would do it. I reached the intersection of two paths then I lay down on the ground. There was some grass so I could feel more comfortable. Luckily the Sun started shining so there was getting warmer and warmer. It was something about 4 p.m., so it wasn't as cold as at night. Especially on the winter night. Thank God It was a holiday. Otherwise, I would be dead because of too low temperature.

I got up something about 2 hours later. There were some ants in my left shoe.

- Of course! I had to lie down on the anthill!

And yes... There was an anthill. Anyway, I shouldn't complain about my luck because I was still alive and there were only 4 kilometres to the city.

I made it.

Chapter 3

I saw the sign of the city name. It was the most beautiful moment in my life at that time. However, I had 6 kilometres to my house anyway. So, I walked inside the shop. It was the same shop where I bought my expensive water.

- Dude, are you okay? – Salesman asked - I started to worry about you. You look terrible.
- Yeah, I'm okay.

I wasn't okay.

- Don't lie. Come on. I'll prepare some tea for you.
- Thanks, man.

I followed him to the back of the store. There was a large couch with a wooden table. There were wallpapers on the walls with a panorama of the city. He also had a small kitchen in the corner, perfect for someone who works 9 hours behind the counter and wants to eat something during the break.

- Make yourself comfortable

I sat on the couch. It was soft.

- Here you have your tea
- Oh, thanks man you rescued me!

He smiled

- Just one question. Where I can find the bathroom?
- Oh, It's the first door on the left via this corridor.

I had to go to the bathroom. I was smelly.

I walked in and saw my face in the mirror. It had several wounds and it was dirty with earth. I opened the faucet and washed it as best I could. I returned to the salesman. He was finishing his tea. Then the bell rang.

- Oh, I probably have a new customer. I gotta go. Enjoy your tea. You can also have a nap.
- Thanks man, again

The tea was warm but not hot. I can say It was perfect. I drank it for about 5 seconds and I lay down on the couch. I was exhausted. I wanted to take a nap but the bell rang from time to time so I couldn't fall asleep. See... some shops have a small bell which is ringing when somebody enters the shop. It was annoying for me at that time but I was too tired to complain.

5 minutes later I was very close to falling asleep, but then I heard a loud:

- **HEY OPEN UP THE DRAWER!**

Chapter 4

Firstly, I thought that I just misheard it, but then I heard

- All of, the money here!

I realized I wasn't dreaming

Carefully I stood up and headed toward the counter. I could see the main hall of the store through a crack in the door. There was a robber with a gun pointed at the forehead of the salesman.

- What are you waiting for? Just toss 'em in!

There was a large black bag in which the seller was putting money.

- I can't die today - I thought - He can't also die today - I thought about the salesman

Then the bell rang, but it wasn't the same one that woke me up when I was trying to sleep. It was a phone.

- Phone! - I thought - Where is my phone?

Then I remembered that it was broken because of the water. There was no rescue.

- What?! - the robber shouted to his phone - I'm doing my job okay?! Be ready and don't disturb me!

He hung up

- Quicker, quicker. You wanna say "goodbye" to your life? Your time is ending
- I'm packing as quickly as I can. - salesman said
- Remember, pack any penny because if I see the money that's not in the bag, I'd be really mad at you. Do you want me to be mad at you?

Robber brought the gun closer to the ear of the salesman

- No, I don't want to.
- Then do your job quicker. I don't have all day.

I started to crawl between shelves and regals. I wanted to help my buddy, but I messed up. My foot caught on the door. The door creaked. The robber turned his head and the salesman picked up his gun. They started shouting at themselves. And I started panicking.

- Is it the end? - I thought - No, it cannot be. Not this time. I have deceived destiny once so I can do it twice.

I started running. Fast but quiet. I was 2 meters from the robber. 1 meter. 0.5 meter then I jumped on him. At the same moment salesman and the robber fired bullets from their guns. The salesman was shot and fell behind the counter. Meanwhile, the robber tried to throw me off his back. He hit me in my face and I landed on the floor. Then I saw the blue shirt with white stripes. I couldn't believe that. It was David. He was also shot. His stomach was bleeding, but he was

standing on his feet despite the pain. He knew that I recognized him. He grabbed my arm which hurt me and pulled. I screamed cause of the pain.

- Shut up! - he kicked me with his foot - Do you see what you have done?

I started crying and shaking.

- I said shut up!

I couldn't

- You don't want to? Huh? Okay, we will do this different way.

He pointed his gun at my head. I screamed:

- You can't be serious!

He closed his eyes and said:

- I'm sorry

Then the gun fired...

Chapter 5

- Am I dead? Wait. Am I still alive? - I thought

David fell to the ground next to me. How?

Then I saw a salesman. He was holding his gun. He also had a big bloodstain on his shirt.

- Are you okay? - He asked

I didn't answer. He dialled 112. I tried to help him.

- 112, what's your emergency?
- There was a robbery in the shop. The seller was shot.
- Okay, can you give me the address of the shop?
- No, I don't know it - I started crying
- That's okay We're tracking you. Everything is gonna be okay. Is anybody else injured?
- Yes, the robber, but I'm pretty sure he's dead. Yeah... I think he's dead.
- Okay, help is on the way. Everything is gonna be alright. Don't panic.

About 5 minutes later the ambulance arrived. It turned out that I had a broken arm and nose. The salesman lost a lot of blood. He had to go to the hospital immediately. He was operated on for 12 hours. Luckily, he survived. I also was in the hospital but I left it in 10 days.

That day was the most important lesson for me in my life. We as humans should care more about our lives. We don't know what will happen in 1 hour, 1 minute, or even 1 second. We should enjoy life. And help everyone to enjoy their lives too.