

The last hope by Aleyna Karadavut, Q2b

It was an evening like the days before, when Liza was suddenly woken up from her sleep. A loud bang released Liza from a fright. She called for her father, but there was no answer from him. "He must still be at work." Liza thought to herself. She went down the stairs and noticed that the balcony door was open. She crept quietly to the door. Suddenly her father came in from the balcony covered in blood and yelled at Liza: „Get ready, quickly!“ She was still scared because of all the blood on his shirt. She couldn't move, as if her bones were as heavy as metal. Suddenly a creature came through the window and attacked Liza. The father shot this creature right off its head. The blood felt wet on Liza's face. Liza screamed out of fear: "What was that, Dad?" He answered: "I don't know Liza, I just don't know!" Suddenly Liza's uncle arrived with a car. They got in and drove to escape.

No matter where they went, people were screaming and crying. There were dead and injured people lying in the streets. Because of the traffic jams, Liza, her father and her uncle did not get far. Suddenly a creature jumped on the car and hit the window. Liza's uncle shot the creature and they fled from the car. They ran into a yard. There was a soldier there. Liza's father called out to the soldier, but the soldier thought that they were also some of the creatures and aimed at Liza. Liza's father noticed that something was going wrong and whispered to Liza: "Bend down carefully!" At the same moment the soldier shot at Liza and her father shot back. The soldier was dead and Liza's father quickly went to Liza. He tried to close her wound to stop the bleeding. Unfortunately, Liza did not make it and she died in her father's arms.

The grief and frustration remained even after 15 years. In the meantime, the life of the people changed enormously. There was a curfew as well as hygienic measures. An identity card to confirm that one was not one of those creatures. People were shot by soldiers if they were found to be infected. Everything was strict and heartless. Contact with other people was non-existent because the fear was huge. Liza's father and his friend Janne set out to find a cure. Fleeing to other cities was strictly forbidden, but Liza's father wanted to put an end to all the horror. So they set out and came across a gas station. They noticed fresh traces of blood on the ground. Janne said fearfully: "Let's move on before something else happens here!" But he did not react. Suddenly, eerie noises could

be heard. Janne and Liza's father looked at each other and took a step back. Hunched over, they tried to escape from the surroundings. But it did not work out as they had hoped, some kind of group called "the Snakes" were approaching with weapons. They wore masks to hide their identity. To hide his fear, Liza's father asked in a raised voice, "Who are you?" But they did not answer. Janne whispered to Liza's father: "Let's just go!" So they carefully left the gas station. But suddenly they heard a scream and quickly ran back to the gas station. The group was attacked by creatures. Liza's father and Janne helped them: "Lucky you!" Janne said breathing heavily. The group took off their masks and said: "Now we owe you something."

So Liza's father, Janne and the group went on their way to the abandoned hospital. When they arrived, they made an astonishing discovery. The abandoned hospital was full of medicine and there was the antidote. The scientists had found an antidote for the creatures before, but it was hidden from the people. They grabbed the medicine and the antidote and went to a safe place.

From now on, everyone had to be vaccinated. There were many who were against the vaccination, but it was a duty and the people had no other choice. A few years later, the government downplayed the measures. Unfortunately, in the meantime, Janne died. Janne helped a child whom the soldiers wanted to shoot because the child tested positive for the disease. The child now lives with Liza's father, deep in the woods. They had to flee because they were persecuted by the soldiers and the government. Actually, they would not have had to worry anymore, but they did not know what else would await them there. Surprisingly for Liza's father, the child had a great resemblance to Liza.