

Dearest Diary

Oh my goodness! I've never been so frightened in all of my life! Well, except for the gun to my head, getting lost in the jungle and nearly drowning in the raging rapids. But anyway... yesterday I found myself trapped in an ancient Maya temple, yes a real temple - that's right, oh and with a monkey girl - and I'm still here. Can you believe it? Me, Max! Little Max Murphy from little old Boston.

It all started when we were trying to escape the caped psycho Diego De Landa, after riding raging rapids and being sucked down a giant toilet, we found ourselves at an ancient Maya temple. Don't get me wrong, I am grateful to be here...alive, but ever since I set eyes on Lola the crazy monkey girl, it has been one near death experience after another!

Anyway, off we went into the creepy old temple to look at an old map room. I knew right away that this map was linked somehow to the red jaguar stone, the stones my parents had been searching for - I eventually persuaded Lola to place the stone onto the table and do you know what happened? It only lit up the whole room and repaired itself... as if by some sort of magic! I know...magic, it sounds crazy, but it's true.

It must have been very powerful, as we were then able to control the weather with our hands. We made it rain as easily as sprinkling glitter on a Christmas card and cleared the jungle growth from the temple like sweeping

breadcrumbs from a chopping board. I was so scared that we were going to die right there at the entrance to the pyramid, but we decided the only thing left to do was to go in and find a way out. I mean, my stomach was churning; I thought I was going to be sick.

I really thought I could be brave. How wrong I was. The slippery steps - the icy water dripping from the ceiling - the darkness. Oh the darkness. I felt its hands around me, dragging me in to the shadows, like a warm, comforting blanket, telling me to give up. Oh, Diary! You wouldn't believe the bones and skeletons I saw, crawling with white ghostly centipedes and something else... something that I could sense but not see. I was sure we were going to die and that ancient temple would become our tomb.

We finally arrived at the top of the temple, it was warm and airier than the lower levels and for just a short while I believed we were going to make it out alive, but my heart sank when I looked around. We were trapped. *We are* trapped! I cannot see a way out of this. Perhaps I should have listened to Uncle Ted; perhaps I shouldn't have even boarded the plane. It is too late now; all that is left to say is...goodbye...

Max