Summary

The story is set in England and Switzerland. The body of Edward Crowe, a climber killed on the Matterhorn in 1924, has emerged from the glacier where it has lain frozen. Clare Newton, a journalist and Crowe's granddaughter, travels to Switzerland to collect the body and tries to unravel the mystery of what happened.

The trip is a welcome break from her job and a distraction from her recent divorce. She is under pressure from her editor, Kevin, to write up the story for her increasingly downmarket newspaper, which she resists. Before she leaves, Clare's mother shows her letters from Crowe to his wife, which indicate that his marriage had irrevocably broken up before his death and that he had gone to live in Zermatt.

Once in Zermatt, Clare looks for information about Crowe in the Alpine museum and discovers that an elderly mountain guide, Ulrich Grunwalder, may have met him. Clare finds Grunwalder but he claims to know nothing about Crowe. However, the truth is that Ulrich had met Crowe and had been his guide. Ulrich's sister, Marianne, had worked for the same family, looking after the little girl, now Clare's elderly mother. Marianne had become attracted to Edward Crowe.

The quest for information about her grandfather becomes increasingly important for Clare. On revisiting the Alpine museum, however, there is a mysterious dearth of information for 1924 and Clare fails to find out who Crowe's guide was on his last climb. The museum manager's advice is to find Ulrich Grunwalder. Clare then books a skiing lesson and enjoys the afternoon and evening with the instructor, Bruno.

The post mortem on Crowe is now complete, and Clare makes arrangements to fly the body home. At the police station she learns that Crowe's climbing partner was Gordon Younger, who also died on the mountain. Clare agrees to write up the story for her newspaper, and decides to enlist Bruno's help. He reveals that he is Ulrich's grandson, and that his grandfather wants to talk to Clare again, despite being upset by the appearance of the body.

A flashback to 1924 reveals that Marianne had cherished hopes for a relationship with Crowe, although he was married. Ulrich reveals that Crowe and Younger had been killed accidentally, but that Younger was in some way responsible.

The story of Ulrich and Crowe helps to bring Clare and Bruno closer together. They seem to have much in common but Clare is still unsure about another relationship. She invites him to visit her in London.

The body is flown back to England, and the story breaks in Clare's newspaper. To her horror, Clare sees that her story has been rewritten and sensationalised, upsetting her mother and brother. She resigns immediately. At Edward Crowe's funeral, Clare makes her peace with her family, explaining that she was not responsible for the article. The story ends with a phone call from Bruno and hope for a future relationship.
In the Shadow of the Mountain

Helen Naylor

Check your reading

Chapter 1

1. a Edward Crowe
   b Clare Newton
   c Clare Newton
   d Marjorie Newton

Chapter 2

1. 1 b, 2 a, 3 d, 4 c

Chapter 3

1. a T, b F, c F, d T

Chapter 4

1. Personal:
   Lack of family
   Professional:
   Lack of job satisfaction
   Changes at her newspaper
   Lower standards of journalism

Chapter 5

1. a F, b F, c O, d F, e O

Chapter 6

1. a around Lake Geneva
   b the Matterhorn
   c Clare’s room at the Grand Hotel
   Zermatterhof
   d the old part of Zermatt

Chapter 7

1. c, a, d, b

Chapter 8

1. 1 d, 2 c, 3 a, 4 b

Chapter 9

1. In 1923, Ulrich was nineteen years old. He had started climbing with his father, who had been killed on the Matterhorn. He now had to provide for the family. Ulrich was surprised when his sister Marianne went down to the village with him to arrange some work. At the Monte Rosa hotel, where the English climbers stayed, they learned they would be working for the same/Crowe family.

Chapter 10

1. a T, b F, c T, d F

Chapter 11

1. 1 b, 2 d, 3 a, 4 c

Chapter 12

1. a Herr Kronig
   b Clare
   c Herr Kronig
   d Bruno
   e Clare
   f Bruno

Chapter 13

1. They are both divorced, not looking for a serious relationship and dissatisfied with life. Only Bruno has children.

Chapter 14

1. At the police station, Clare received the result of the post mortem and was given a wallet which was found on the body. Inside it was a photo of her mother. She learnt the answer to one of her questions: her grandfather had a climbing partner, Gordon Younger, who also died. Clare phoned Kevin, her editor, to tell him she would write the story. She hoped Bruno would help her to set up a meeting with Ulrich.

Chapter 15

1. 1 c, 2 d, 3 a, 4 b
Worksheet
Answer Key
Level 5

In the Shadow of the Mountain  Helen Naylor

Chapter 16
1.  d, a, b, c

Chapter 17
1.  a F, b T, c T, d F

Chapter 18
1.  a  Agatha Crowe  
   b  Clare and Andrew  
   c  Marjorie Newton  
   d  The story of Edward Crowe

Chapter 19
1.  On the walk, Clare decided it was the landscape she was in love with, not Bruno. She got to know Bruno better and learnt that he rarely saw his children. Bruno suggested that they had a long-distance relationship, but Clare was still not sure. She said they should think about it, and invited Bruno to stay in London. After a long goodbye kiss at the hotel, he left. Clare’s editor, Kevin, was keen/anxious/waiting for her to finish the story and he promised not to change a word.

Chapter 20
1.  a, d, c, b

Chapter 21
1.  a  Marjorie  
   b  Andrew  
   c  Clare  
   d  Bruno