THE BLACK FOREST

PIETER HAASBROEK

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by

### PIETER HAASBROEK

Published by:

## TREASURE CHEST BOOKS -PUBLISHERS

Strand Mews

Strand

2024

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THE BLACK FOREST by Pieter Haasbroek

ISBN 978-1-928498-97-1

Published by:
Treasure Chest Books - Publishers, Strand Mews,
Strand, 7140
South Africa

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Online Store: https://panther-ebooks.com
Website: https://www.softcoverbooks.co.za

#### **SUMMARY**

When Jack and Madeleine embark on a fateful drive through the notorious Black Forest, they unwittingly step into a malevolent realm beyond human comprehension. Their journey quickly transforms into a harrowing race against time as a raging storm bears down on them.

Seeking shelter from the tempest, they come upon an ancient castle deep in the woods. Within its shadowy chambers, eerie portraits seem to follow them and phantom footsteps approach their bed after the clock strikes midnight. Jack and Madeleine flee the haunted castle, only for it to vanish without a trace behind them. Even their parked Jeep had disappeared.

As if summoned, twelve gruesome monsters emerge from the darkness, surrounding them with knives glinting in the moonlight. Resigned to their grim fate, Jack and Madeleine share a final moment of love, before her scream pierces the silence.

When two student geologists, James and Pierre, hear this chilling tale, they set out to unravel the mystery. Their expedition into the Black Forest quickly turns ominous as a fatal bend in the road vanishes before their eyes. With two mysteriously punctured tires, they spot a dilapidated farmhouse and enter, discovering a set table awaiting phantom diners.

A blood-curdling scream echoes, luring James entranced down the cellar steps. When the entrance slams shut, trapping them inside, Pierre's flashlight reveals werewolf-like monsters with claws outstretched. Their fate seems sealed as screams give way to violent sounds of carnage.

These parallel tales of terror in the Black Forest will have your pulse racing. What is the source of the unspeakable evil that claims some victims while allowing others to live? Uncover the shocking truth woven throughout this masterfully crafted supernatural thriller.

#### **EXTRACT**

Ghostly laughter echoed in the room, merging with the thunderstorm in an unholy symphony. It drives cold chills down their spines.

"Jack! Look there! The portraits. The people or monsters in the portraits are starting to climb out of it!" Madeleine's terrified exclamation cut through the eerie room.

Jack, his voice filled with dread, responded to the unfolding supernatural horror. "Accursed devils! They're floating towards us, like they want to attack us."

Eerie ghostly laughter intertwined with the thunderstorm outside as Madeleine defiantly shouted at the monsters coming towards them. "You won't get us, you vile devils! Go away, leave us alone!" her voice screams out loud with a hoarse sound.

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#### 1. THE BLACK FOREST

## Chapter 1 INTO THE UNKNOWN

Jack's knuckles turned white as he clenched the steering wheel, guiding the car through the treacherous terrain. The rocky path seemed to echo the uneasy rhythm of Madeleine's concern. Her voice tinged with an anxious cadence matching the impending storm. The clouds hung ominously low, and lightning slashed across the sky, casting an eerie glow on the landscape.

"If you were paying attention," Jack's voice cut through the tension like a blade. "You'd notice that a storm is rushing towards us. We'll be engulfed in it before we reach the house, judging by the lightning and those dark clouds looming."

Thunder rumbled sporadically within the car, heightening Madeleine's unease. The unsettling echoes of the movie in town lingered in her head, a haunting tale of a masked figure and a wooden cabin concealed in the desolation of the forest.

"Jack, that movie didn't sit well with me," Madeleine confessed, anxiety dripping from her words. "I prefer gentler stories, like a romantic tale where the hero sweeps the woman off her feet."

Jack stole a glance at her, a flicker of comprehension in his eyes. "Next time, we'll watch something of your liking. I promise."

"Thank you, my love," she sighed, attempting to ease her

nerves. "That murder story tonight rattled me, and my stomach still churns from the tension."

Shifting the conversation toward the looming shadows of the Black Forest, Jack's tone grew mysterious. "Are you aware of the legend of the Black Forest we're about to drive through?"

Intrigued, Madeleine inquired. "No, Jack. I'm not aware of it. Tell me. Maybe it can distract me from the unsettling drama in the movie."

Jack's voice dipped into a sinister timbre. "The Black Forest has no pleasant history but a tragic and dark past. That is a place where you mustn't find yourself after midnight. Strange and ominous things supposedly happen from midnight onwards."

A shiver ran down Madeleine's spine. "Like what, Jack?" "They say those caught there after midnight never return," Jack whispered, heightening the tension. "I take it with a grain of salt, but some swear by it."

"Jack, you're giving me chills," Madeleine stammered. "We better be through the forest before midnight, just in case these stories hold any truth, right?"

Jack continued, weaving a chilling narrative. "There was one person who supposedly escaped from the forest. He reappeared days later after the entire region searched for him for weeks. It made the headlines."

"Goodness, Jack! What did he say?"

"Not much, he was half-mad and then institutionalized," Jack revealed. "Traumatized, his life was irreversibly altered. Before his death, he mumbled something about