

How soft your cheek is, and so warm too, and I am so icy cold !'

Nina kissed the little girl ; she breathed her warm breath on her cold cheek ; she longed beyond words to have some stimulant to put between the blue little lips.

The snow once more ceased to fall, and the moon came out, and Nina was startled by the ghastly look of the child.

'Let's go to sleep,' said Rosaleen drowsily. 'What is the good of keeping awake ? I am in no pain now, and why should we stay awake ? Let's take a long, long sleep. Let's say "Our Father" we used to when we slept together long, long ago.'

'Yes, we will say "Our Father, which art in heaven,"' answered Nina. 'Listen to me, Rose. Keep your eyes open.'

Rosaleen opened her dark eyes wide. Nina repeated the Lord's Prayer. When she came to the sentence, 'Deliver us from evil,' she stopped. 'God will hear us,' she said. 'Now, stay perfectly quiet, Rosaleen ; don't stir. I shall be back with you again. I am just going to run up to the top of the quarry and wave my lantern and shout with all my might. You'll promise to keep awake while I am away ?'

'I'll promise,' answered the child.