

two were found clasped in each other's arms, both cold, white, still, and sound asleep, at the bottom of the quarry.

The party had taken the precaution to bring a stretcher with them. This was piled with warm blankets. The girls were both laid upon it and carried home. It was a miserable home-coming when Nina Carlingford and Rosaleen Frere were brought into Dr Frere's house in the early morning. Everything possible was done for both girls; and Nina, who had been a much shorter time exposed to the influence of the snow, soon opened her eyes. She was cramped and stiff, but there was no danger whatever.

Dr Frere ordered her to be put between hot blankets, and she was laid in a bed in the very same room with Rosaleen. But for some time there was great fear with regard to the Dark Rosaleen; and when at last, after repeated efforts, and everything possible had been done, she did open her eyes, it was with a sigh of intense thankfulness that her mother bent over her.

'Oh Rose!' she said—'Rose, my little darling!'

Rosaleen looked round with a kind of wintry smile on her poor little face.

'But I have been very wicked. Is God going to forgive me?' she asked.