

## Young Shetland Writer 2008

**Winner - Age 10-13 Years**  
**Charlotte Verdcourt-Lawrence**

### **2050** ***The Diary of Vicky Lost***

*Shetland 2050. Glaciers cover the land. The temperature is on average 3 degrees. Life is difficult. People live far apart from each other. Everything is constantly changing. A girl by the name of Vicky Lost, is living on the St. Ninians Glacier with her three young children and her new husband Jay ...*

Friday 4th May

The Snowstorms are getting worse. Its like the earth is encased in a giant block of ice. The temperature has dropped by another 5 degrees. As if it weren't cold enough already! My son Cal has the worst cold. Jay has been away for a week now. He's gone to send his father off. He died last winter. But he did promise to find someone to marry us. I can barely believe it's been three years since he proposed. People never get married nowadays. Morgan (my 10 year old daughter) is so excited about the wedding, I promised she could be the bridesmaid. Cal has been outside all morning waiting for the post. It's a two day journey over the glacier and with the storms; we haven't had post for a month!

Sunday 6th May

Jay is home. He arrived back late last night with Father Jean who has agreed to marry us. Jay and Cal went out to the fishing hole and caught a couple of fish for tea. I have told the children they must behave whilst Father Jean is here, as he is old and the journey from Lerwick tired him.

Wednesday 9th May

My wedding gown is GORGEOUS. I couldn't stop hugging Jay! It's a long white sleeveless gown with a long fur trimmed cape in gold! Morgan is wearing the same. Jay and Cal will be wearing gold suits with long black boots! Its going to be a quiet event, just family and a couple of friends. Whilst I put Morgan to bed she told me that it will be superbly sunny on the day! I personally agree!

Saturday 12th May

Some people say that your wedding day is the best day of your life. Mine certainly was! Its beauty shined like the sun! Everything went really well and the weather was gorgeous! (Morgan's face as she pranced down the isle, like all the queens of the world were looking at her!) Cal yawned the whole way through the service, but cheered up when we got to the after party. I think I saw him disappear under the food table. We are heading over the glacier for a two-week honeymoon tomorrow.

Saturday 26th May

We arrived back at dawn. I had a wonderful time in Stormhold (Once known as Sandwick I think). We visited an old school, went round all the archaeological digs and even went to the hot springs to bathe! We met up with a doctor who said I am due and day now!

Tuesday 29th May

Urrrrrrrrrrgh the pain is unbelievable, after having two children I should be used to it! I'm lying on the rug now screaming in agony. Morgan is hovering at the doorway looking terribly worried. Cal is pale and sickly looking, He's never seen a birth before. The concentration's are coming quicker now the pain is escalating. Blood is seeping slowly across the floor. Jay is clutching my hand telling me not to worry. Pushing and pushing. I let out an ear splitting scream. It's a girl!

Wednesday 30th May

We have called her Kathy after my grandmother. She's a small child with dark hair like Jay but her eyes are a bright sea blue like mine. She is the sunshine of my life. Jay has been offered a job up in Mousa. We can have a proper house, money and the children will have a better upbringing! But we have no way of getting there. We can't afford it. St. Ninians is a nice enough place but Mousa we feel Mousa would be safer.

Friday 1st June

We've finally got transport. Three large sledges and twelve huskies. Kathy's terrified of them but Cal just adores them. They're playing outside in the snow, Cal's chucking snowballs for them. Morgan's helping Jay sort out sealskin rugs for the journey.

Monday 4th June

We set off at dawn. I woke the children and sorted them into their warmest clothes. It's Cal and Kathy's first time over the glacier. We couldn't have wished for better weather. Cal is feeding the huskies before we go. Morgan's saying goodbye to the house. Odd child!

Wednesday 6th June

We're in the sledges, Cal and Morgan are in the first sledge, Kathy and I in the second and Jay in the third with our luggage. We have made it over the glacier, not much trouble but we did lose Monogran the huskie. Cal was very upset. (but he'll get over it sooner or later!) Stopped off at the Port of Bigton, it looks so beautiful with the snow. We even had time to go to the Da Neuk ice palace!

Sunday 10th June

Morgan and Cal both have colds. Kathy hasn't caught it thank goodness; she's only thirteen days old. We found a small hut by the side of the road they gave us food and supplies and told us to take the Stormhold road if we wished to get to Mousa quickly.

Wednesday 13th June

Stormhold. At last, the journey felt like forever! Cal is developing the flu. It wouldn't do any harm forty years ago, but it's become a lot worse with the ice. We start our journey over the ice on Friday.

Friday 15th June

We are at the ferry, except theirs no boat; only a sledge. Two other families are there packing their belongings into a cabin.

A cabin is a large sledge with a small living area built on top. It will take us to the mountains. Then were on our own.

Monday 18th June

We are approaching the mountains. Cal. Oh Cal. His eyes are homes for silent prayers. I had hoped that the warmth of the cabin would help him recover. He is burning up like the ice in the summer. Morgan cannot stop worrying. Cal is her only brother.

Friday 22nd June

We are sheltering in a cave. The wind whistles through the cracks in the wall. Kathy is lying in my lap, shivering with cold. The fire has burnt itself out. Occasionally Cal snuffles and twitches. We need help. Jay keeps telling me we'll be fine. I don't believe him.

Sunday 24th June

Mousa is in sight. We stepped over the ridge just as dawn broke over the snow-topped peaks. Morgan was the first to see it. We all cheered, even Cal, whose tonsils and vocal cords have swollen to twice their size. Jay doesn't think he will make it. But I keep holding on. Love is blind as far as the eye can see.

Thursday 28th June

Cal died. He didn't wake this morning. I ... I told Jay to let him rest, not to disturb him. He couldn't hold on anymore. He wasn't strong enough. We broke it to Morgan as soon as we realised. She didn't cry, she just stared at her brothers broken body. She didn't cry when we put him to rest either. But I heard her rackened sobs afterwards. It made me want to cry to. We encased him in a block of a coffin of ice. Placed him where the sun breaks over the ridge every morning. There could be no place more beautiful. But death will lie upon him like an ultimate frost. Yet, he will be at peace here.

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Four Years Later

Saturday 10th August

Four years since Cal died. We still visit him. Jay, Morgan, Kathy, Hunter and I. Hunter. He was born three years ago. He looks so like Cal. Its almost like Hunter never existed. He is the son I never really had in a way. Like Cal was reborn. I am still sad. Sometimes memories break through and I'm happy again with Jay, Morgan and Cal. He was a lively child. Some people look like there sleeping, but he was so active you couldn't look at him and think anything but death.

Morgan loves Hunter so much. She feeds him, plays with him and tucks him up at night. Jay loves them both as well. Hunter is his son and he loves Morgan more than before. We have made a better life for ourselves here. I look out of the window and see a place full of love. I now know that I will enjoy endless days of golden peace.

Written by Charlotte Verdcourt-Lawrence  
Aged 12