

Cambridge English Readers

Starter Level

Series editor: Philip Prowse

Arman's Journey

Philip Prowse



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Contents

Chapter 1	The soldiers	6
Chapter 2	Over the wall	8
Chapter 3	I don't want to go	10
Chapter 4	Over the wall again	13
Chapter 5	You must be Arman	17
Chapter 6	I'm going to call you Arm	19
Chapter 7	Rose	22
Chapter 8	You can't make me	26
Chapter 9	Police	29
Chapter 10	I'm coming	31

People in the story



Arman:
lives in a
small town.



Leyla:
is Arman's
mother.



Dani:
is Arman's friend.



Jacob:
lives in London.
He is Leyla's uncle.

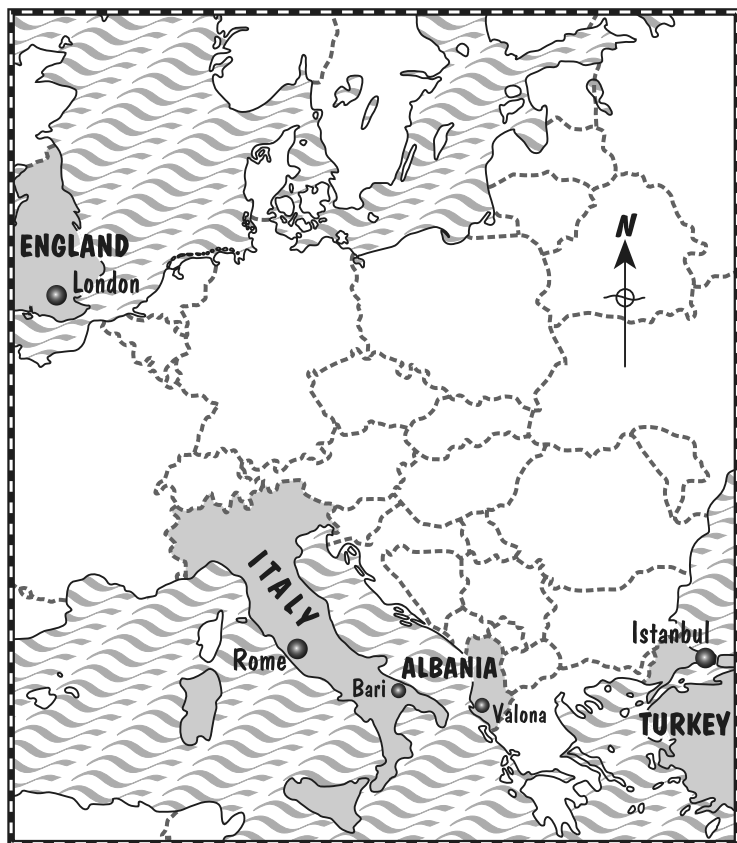


Fred:
lives in England.
Arman works for him.



Rose:
is Fred's daughter.

Places in the story



Chapter 1 *The soldiers*



‘Arman!’ shouts Leyla, my mother. ‘Breakfast time!’

I’m seventeen and I live with my mother in a small town. My father is dead. I don’t have any brothers or sisters, and we’re not rich.

After breakfast I walk to school.

I see soldiers in front of a café.

There's fighting in the mountains near our town. Sometimes the soldiers come into town. They're looking for food and drink. And for young men to be soldiers with them.



Chapter 2 *Over the wall*



At twelve o'clock soldiers come to my school.
'Everyone out!' a tall soldier shouts.
'How old are you?' the soldier asks us all.
'Fourteen,' a short boy answers.
'You can go back to your room,' the soldier says. 'And you?' he asks me.
'Seventeen,' I answer.
'Over there,' the soldier says.
I go across to the other boys. We're all afraid.

The soldier smiles at us. I don't like his smile. 'Today's a very good day for you,' he says. 'You're coming with us. You're going to be soldiers.'

I don't want to be a soldier. I turn and run to the wall.

'Stop!' the soldier shouts and runs after me. But I'm very fast.

The wall is high, but I get over it. The soldier gets to the wall. But he doesn't come after me. I run quickly back to my house.

