

The Last Polar Bears by Harry Horse

Read the chapter and answer the questions.

Chapter 18

1. Why was Grandfather happy that the penguin had woken up?
2. What was wrong with the sky?
3. What else was strange about today?
4. What is going to happen tomorrow?



Friday 32 October  
Wairus Bay

*Dear Child,*

Hip hip hurrah, and three cheers! The little penguin has woken up! It has a slight bump on its head, but apart from that is perfectly well. It ate six dried fish for breakfast and went back to sleep.

Went outside to get wood for the stove and it struck me that something was wrong. At first I could not make up my mind what was wrong. Then I noticed the sky.

One half of it was a deep blue and the other was a bright yellow. But even stranger than that was the sun and the moon.

They were side by side!

The sun had risen, as it always does, but the moon hadn't gone where it normally goes during the day. It had stayed.

I rushed back into the cabin and then I noticed the calendar. It said that today was the thirty-second of October, which can't be right as October has only thirty-one days, and today should be the first of November. Told Roo, and *she* said that she couldn't care less how many days there were supposed to be in October – every day was the same to her, and days shouldn't have numbers attached to them anyway.

Something very strange is happening though, despite what Roo says. I think we should set off as soon as possible for Bear Ridge, before it gets any stranger.

I started to pack immediately. Sent Roo down to the mailing station with a list of all the things we needed. She came back an hour later and said most of the food had gone. It seems as if everyone is leaving. Cannot decide what to do with the penguin. I feel responsible for him, but he does eat an awful lot of food. I cannot leave him here though. I shall take him with us until we find him a penguin colony to join.

Early night tonight. The wolves are very quiet. Tomorrow, come what may, we will head for Bear Ridge.

Do not worry about us, Child. We will be careful. I have my one-iron and I have Roo.

Sweet dreams.

*your Grandfather.*

*A marshie Rabbit.*

