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THE FLOOD THAT CHANGED MY LIFE

Today I've stopped for a while to remember what I lived five years ago. I still feel the fear, sadness and helplessness of reliving those hours when everything I had was completely destroyed. I am Martina, a sixteen-year-old girl who lived in Mallorca, one of the Balearic Islands of Spain, in the Mediterranean Sea, known for its beach resorts, for its coves, for its spectacular limestone mountain range, for its beautiful fishing villages and for its unique rural landscape of typical crops.

It was the ninth of October 2018 and everything seemed normal... my parents were working, my little brother was at a friend's house and I was at home studying, with my dog "Captain", a faithful companion and great friend to whom I owe my life.

Suddenly the sky became dark with big black clouds and it started to rain... I remember that the sound of the water against the windows became louder, faster, more intense... without stopping! And there was no going back... The rain was falling in an unusual way, and the water started running all over the street, all over the city, rising, sweeping everything in its path...

Then I realised what was happening: the stream that ran through the town had overflowed and caused a huge flood! The houses were destroyed, the buildings fell down, the cars were dragged down the street by the water, crashing into each other and taking everything with them; the trees fell, crushing everything under them, and then I tried to leave the house, but I could not open the door!

A branch of a tree was stuck in such a way that I could not move it because of its size, and it did not allow me to escape in any way. And then Captain came out of one of the broken windows and started barking and barking, luckily two firemen noticed and came to get me! Hours later I was able to rejoin my parents and brother and begin to recover from the catastrophe we had experienced.

Finally, I needed an explanation as to why all this was happening, so I started reading: After the research carried out by students, professors and researchers, it was concluded that the amount of rainfall was not "normal", so that because it rained a lot in a very short time, the ground did not have time to drain the water and this circumstance, together with the characteristics of the terrain, caused the torrent to overflow, causing deaths and material damage of great importance.

From all this I learned that there are things that cannot be controlled and that thanks to teamwork and the help of everyone in general, especially people with purchasing power and the government, you can get ahead and that is why I made the most important decision, which would be to dedicate my life to the research and study of these natural phenomena to find possible solutions or at least to prevent them so that no one else has to experience these disasters.

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