



Huge blocks of ice the size of houses can tumble down without warning. Meanwhile, steeply-sided towers of ice, called seracs, are at risk of sudden collapse.

It was through this maze of ice that Ed and his fellow climbers carefully picked their way. When they eventually reached the top, they found their way blocked by a huge crevasse.

They were forced to retreat. However, they left the mountain confident that they would return the following year with the equipment and the know-how to try for the top. Little did they know that the rug had just been pulled from under their feet . . .