

APRIL 28TH - BASECAMP

WE HAD A LEISURLY BREAKFAST AND THEN I HEADED OVER TO SAY HI TO THE DISCOVERY TEAM AS I HEARD THEY WERE ALL DOWN AT BASECAMP. THEY WERE ALL ON GOOD FORM AND SHAUNA IS DOING GREAT... I THEN MET ALLIE, SHE IS THE DOCTOR FOR THE ADVENTURE CONSULTANTS TEAM, A VERY ATTRACTIVE BRITISH GIRL AND LOUIS BENITZ'S GIRLFRIEND. WE SPENT AN HOUR CHATTING AND I MUNCHEDED MY WAY THROUGH SOME OF LOUIS'S RED LIQUORISH STICKS UNTIL HE RADIOED DOWN FROM CAMP 2 TO TELL ME TO STOP EATING THEM ALL.

I THEN WENT BACK TO OUR CAMP AND DAVID BREASHEARS DROPPED BY HAVING BEEN FILMING IN THE ICEFALL ALL MORNING. HE TOOK ONE LOOK AT MY HARNESS AND THREW IT ON THE GROUND SAYING I WOULD NEVER MAKE THE SUMMIT WITH SUCH A HEAVY HARNESS - MOSTLY DUE TO MY HAVING INDUSTRIAL SIZE WEBBING AND A DESCENDER THAT WAS SO HEAVY AND STRONG IT COULD PULL A TRUCK OUT OF A CREVASSE.

WE HAD LUNCH AND THEN I WENT OVER TO DAVID'S CAMP TO INTRODUCE HIM TO ANDREW LOCK, WHO IS IN MY VERY GOOD BOOKS AT THE MOMENT FOR HELPING ME GET DOWN FROM CAMP 3!! ANDREW WANTED TO CHECK OUT DAVID'S TIBETAN RUGS IN HIS MESS CAMP. AMY WAS THERE TRYING ON HER OXYGEN MASKS, I TRIED THEM ON TOO AND THEY ARE HUGE, WE LOOK LIKE WE ARE OFF ON SOME SPACE MISSION. IVE LENT AMY MY HARLEY DAVIDSON TYPE GOGGLES WHICH FIT MUCH BETTER OVER THE MASK THAN THE REGULAR GOGGLES. ANDREW ALWAYS HAS GREAT ADVICE AT WHAT TO DO AT HIGH ALTITUDE AND MY GOGGLES WERE SOON COVERED IN DUCK TAPE SO AS NOT TO STEAM UP HIGH ON THE MOUNTAIN.

WHILST WE WERE ALL CHATTING THE WEATHER DETERIORATED AND A FULL SNOW STORM BLEW IN SO I RAN BACK TO OUR CAMP AND TOOK A NAP BEFORE DINNER. MY NOSE IS STILL REALLY PEELING FROM THE COMBINED EFFECTS OF THE COLD AND EXTREME SUN FROM CAMP 3 AND HOPEFULLY A WEEK AT BASECAMP WILL GET RID OF THIS UNATTRACTIVE LOOK...