

THE GUARDIAN OF WAYFARERS

TORGNON

In Ponty, a short distance from the houses of Petit Monde, one autumn morning some shepherds, found a statue of Our Lady among the rocks that flanked the path. No one knew where it came from and how it had arrived there, and also who had placed it in that spot, often threatened by landslides and mudslides: that was a mystery. Be as it may, the mountaineers told themselves that they could not leave the statue without shelter, and decided to take it to the nearby chapel in Triatel. But the statue returned to where it had been found because that is where it wanted to stay, to protect the wayfarers' path. The inhabitants of Torgnon, respectful of the heavenly will, which the prodigy had revealed, built a chapel on that very same spot.

Taken from: T. GATTO CHANU, *Fiabe e leggende della Valle d'Aosta*, Rome, Newton & Compton Editions, 2004