Recently, there was footage of a snowboarder who got caught in an avalanche while hitting the slopes in Whistler, B.C. As the ground beneath him began to crumble, the snowboarder was saved by an inflatable backpack (specifically, the Black Diamond Halo 28 JetForce Avalanche Airbag Pack), which kept him above the landslide of snow.

As a snowboarder myself, I pray that I never endure such an experience. However, this served as a reminder that snowboarding has its risks and that I should be prepared in the case that I ever encounter an avalanche.

After some research, I learned what to do if, God forbid, I am ever caught in one of these.

# Equipment

Aside from the basic helmet, goggles, and appropriate attire, it’s a good idea to carry the following items on you before heading up to the slopes: