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Subject: Re: Celebrations and Challenges  
Posted by [artisticrainey](#) on Fri, 27 Jul 2012 01:59:44 GMT  
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Saturday, May 5, 2068, 10:30 a.m., the Tracy ranch, Wyoming

Tin-Tin was having fun. Lots of fun. Far more fun than she thought she'd have. Almost too much fun, she thought with a giggle.

She was on a trail ride with Cherie and her friends. Tin-Tin had come along as a chaperone, and the leader of the ride was none other than... Alan. As the horses had been prepared for the excursion, Tin-Tin had listened in on the giggling girls as they had fun ogling the fifth Tracy brother and making comments on his "natural endowments", as Erika had put it. After breakfast, she had been in the kitchen helping Naomi, Dianne, and Lisa with the clean up, and she had overheard mother and daughter giggling, too, laying bets on which of the adolescent females would end up with a crush on Alan, and which would swoon over John.

So far, Bonnie was in the lead for Alan. She had that sickeningly sweet tone that teenaged girls get when approaching someone they think is "minty" and she contrived to ride beside him as often as the trail would permit. The other girls tittered at her, "Oh, that's so fascinating, Alan," and more than once Erika had done a sotto voce rendition of it.

But the best part of all, Tin-Tin thought was the way that Alan was reacting to it all. He was used to the adulation of women from his racing career but the puppy dog-like adulation of teenaged girls was something that was beginning to make him very... uncomfortable. It's strange, Tin-Tin thought, Last year I would have been annoyed and possibly angry at these girls and the way they're making Alan squirm. But this year? It's just too funny!

Cherie dropped back to pace Tin-Tin, her face a study in annoyance. "Why are they going so ga-ga over Alan?" she groused. "I mean, I can see it over John, but Alan? Don't they know how they look?"

"You must admit, Cherry, you've become part of a family of very good-looking men. And I'm sure you'll look a boy that way sometime yourself. But right now, I'm more interested in how Alan looks," Tin-Tin admitted. "I'm enjoying how Bonnie is making him squirm."

"Hey!" Cherie said, comprehension dawning. "You're right! He is... squirming, isn't he? Maybe I should encourage Bonnie."

"Not too much, Cherry. Don't want to leave your friend with a broken heart," Tin-Tin said.

Cherry gave Tin-Tin a perceptive look and nodded. "Right. I'd better move up and join them."

Cherry gave her mount a little kick and trotted up farther in line. Tin-Tin watched her fondly. I do believe, she thought happily, that I am finally over Mr. Alan Tracy. And it feels so good to be that way.

From: Tikatu Sent: 8/28/2005

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