

19th March 4.15pm

Christopher gazed around the cockpit of Thunderbird 2. He listened to the communications chatter on his headset.

"Thunderbird 7 to CJ." He heard Dianne say over the comlink. "We are ready to go."

"F-A-B, Doc." Christopher smiled as he flicked the toggle to lower the main body of the vehicle. "Strap yourselves in."

Christopher fired the retros, lifting the vast cargo carrier into the air. He then fired the main engines, pushing the craft forward. He quickly checked the camera detectors for any anomalies then turned Thunderbird 2 towards the nearest hospital, which was in Edinburgh. Making a quick mental calculation, he worked out the arrival time.

"Thunderbird 2 to Thunderbird 1, 5 and 7, the ETA is around ninety minutes from now."

He heard all parties respond in the affirmative, so he decided to concentrate on the flying.

"Thunderbird 7 to Thunderbird 2." Nikki's voice came on. "One of our patients has gone into critical status! We need to get to the hospital as quickly as we can!"

Christopher punched up the maps for the area, scanning for any areas that he could use for a diversion. "Yes!" He grinned as he scrolled to an area that he thought would serve his purpose. The RAF had used to use this valley for training purposes, and he had flown through it a number of times.

"Batten down the hatches,," he said. "I'm taking a little detour." He turned Thunderbird 2 towards a valley that in his estimation would shave some time off the journey. He received confirmation from his passengers that they and their passengers were secure, then he increased his speed slightly.

Getting closer to the valley entrance, he tilted Thunderbird Two ever so slightly, just enough for the vast craft to fly through the valley. Christopher constantly checked from side to side, adjusting and compensating for the wind speeds in the valley. After a fraught few moments, which saw Christopher adopt a grim expression, Thunderbird 2 emerged from the valley.

Christopher turned the vehicle towards Edinburgh, and then toggled the comlink. "Everyone ok?"

"Thanks, Thunderbird 2," Nikki said in a relieved tone. "I didn't think we would make it."

"Well, I managed to shave a little bit of time from the journey," Christopher said as he saw the Edinburgh skyline in the distance.

Getting closer to the Royal Edinburgh Hospital, he saw Thunderbird 1 sitting there waiting for him.

Easing his huge ship around, he touched down. Then after raising the main body up, he relaxed.

The lights snapped on as Edinburgh disappeared from the view ports, and two doors slid open to reveal Virgil and Brains sitting at a bank of screens.

Christopher unbuckled himself from his seat. "How did I do?"

Post by The_Wrong_Trousers on 28/11/2004
