

Tracy Island, Monday May 21 st 2068, night time

Kat felt restless, sleep seemed to be denied her. She got up and opened the French windows, and looked at the clear starry night. ~I wonder! she thought to herself. Getting dressed, she left her apartment and made her way up onto the roof where John kept his telescope.

Everything was quiet and peaceful. She had just readjusted the telescope so that she was able to look through the lens, when an amused voice, made her jump.

"Someone else having difficulty sleeping?"

"Oh, John, you startled me, I hope you don't mind. Yes, I couldn't sleep and the stars looked so welcoming. I just had to come and have a look." Kat replied.

John came over to her side. "You'll always be welcome here, Kat," he said.

Suddenly a shooting star shot across the sky.

"Look at that!" Kat remarked. "Make a wish," and she closed her eyes.

On opening them, she saw John looking at her with amusement in his eyes.

Feeling foolish, she said, "I guess it is just superstitious nonsense."

"Well, you never know, wishes can come true," John replied.

He thought back to a few days earlier, when they had all been sitting round the pool. He had been unable to take his eyes off her, a fact that his brothers hadn't failed to notice. He had looked at Gordon, who was rolling his eyes in a lovesick manner, with his hand pressed against his chest. John had left them to their silly games, hoping that Kat hadn't noticed. Now, back on the roof, he wasn't sure how to approach her.

"It's sure great to have all you new personnel here on the Island," he said, "and it's a great help and relief to Dad, and in fact to all the family."

"It's great to be here," Kat replied. "Just think that my world has been turned upside down in the space of a few months. Last New Year's Eve Party at Creighton Manor, I met your family, and now here I am actually working for International Rescue."

Suddenly another shooting star flashed across the sky. John closed his eyes. Kat laughed and closed her eyes as well.

On opening his eyes, John looked at Kat and said, "I have a feeling that our wishes might come true."

Kat blushed.

"It depends on what we wished," she said.

John smiled at her.

"Well, I think I might have a remedy for your sleeplessness," he said.

"Whatever you think will be wonderful," Kat said.

John was taken aback slightly by the tint of adoration in her tone. He cleared his throat and continued.

"I thought we could go down to the kitchen and make some hot chocolate."

Kat nodded enthusiastically.

"Oh, gosh, that would be lovely!"

They headed for the kitchen, where John made their drinks. They chatted about both their hobbies and interests. Kat talked about the times she used to ride.

"Did you compete?" John asked.

"Sometimes, although I wasn't very good. Mainly I rode for pleasure, just riding through the countryside. You simply can't beat riding a horse really early in the morning in summer. Everything is so quiet and peaceful. It seems as you and the horse were the only two living beings." She flushed slightly. "Sorry I get carried away when I am talking about horses." Kat laughed, and then glanced at him "Did you ride whilst you were at the ranch during Cherie's birthday celebrations?"

John replied that, yes, he had, but nothing more than a steady hack around the ranch.

"I suppose you ride western?" Kat queried. "I'd love to try that style."

"Maybe you will someday" John answered her, hoping that she would get a chance to go to the ranch.

Suddenly Kat tried to stifle a yawn.

"Oh, my, I do apologize, John," she said, "but I really must head for my apartment, otherwise I shall fall asleep here."

John walked with her back to her apartment.

"Goodnight Kat, and thanks for the company,"

"Goodnight, John and thank you for the hot chocolate." Kat replied, letting herself into her apartment.

From: Tawnyangel22 Sent: 10/16/2005

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