

Tracy Island -- Friday, 1st June, 3.30pm

"Okay. I think we'll call it a day." Gordon said. He had been doing more extensive training with Brandon on Thunderbird Four. "I'll have to hurry. I promised Alex and Tyler I would take them fishing after school."

Then he looked at Brandon. "Say! Why don't you come along as well? It will be nice to relax after the work I've put you through. Besides, I may need help with my younger brothers."

Brandon grinned. "Yep, it would be kind of relaxing. I haven't been deep-sea fishing for quite a while."

Once changed and refreshed. Gordon and Brandon headed for the boat pen; to be greeted with two eager young boys. Soon the boat was speeding through the water. A small pod of dolphins decided to follow the boat. Alex and Tyler pointed excitedly at them.

"Are there whales in these waters, Gordon?" Tyler asked.

"Yes, Ty," Gordon answered. "Whales do sometimes frequent these waters."

As soon as the boat was far enough out, Gordon weighed anchor and set about sorting out his fishing rods. Brandon sat down on the deck and watched as Gordon cast his line. Tyler and Alex were leaning over the sides, watching for something to tug on Gordon's line.

"Don't you want to fish?" Gordon turned to Brandon.

"Not just yet. I just think I'll watch you for the moment. Is there any beer on board?"

Gordon smiled. "Yes, in the small fridge in the galley. While you're there, please bring me one as well."

"And us," Alex cheekily added.

"There are some bottles of juice or lemonade for you two," Gordon said, as he concentrated on the line, which was moving gently in the breeze. He opened his bottle of beer and took a long swig. This was the life. The sun shone from a cloudless sky.

Brandon closed his eyes and relaxed. He began to think about everything that had happened in the three months since he had been appointed as a member of International Rescue. The rescues had been dangerous but at the same time exciting. He was working with a crack team. Not only the Tracy family, but the other new recruits like him. He was suddenly awakened from his daydream by the rocking of the boat.

"Hey, steady, Gordon."

"Brandon! Quick! There's a fish on Gordon's line!" Tyler was waving his skinny arms wildly, urging Brandon to join them at the side of the boat.

All four stared at the line, which was being pulled taut. Gordon tried to reel in his catch.

"Play it a little," Brandon suggested. "Otherwise it may snap the line."

Puffing, Gordon said through gritted teeth, "I am trying to bring it in."

"Can I help, can I?" Tyler was jumping up and down in his excitement.

"I want to help bring it in," Alex said. "Besides, you're too small." He gave his brother a look that clearly showed his seniority.

After half an hour of arm wrenching, Gordon finally managed to bring the fish to the surface.

"Wow! Just look at that!" Brandon exclaimed. "What do you think it is?"

"It's a small Skate," Gordon answered. "Kyranos will be pleased."

Carefully, and with the two youngest Tracy brothers' help, the fish was landed on the deck. Although it wasn't as big as they had first thought; it still thrashed its fins and head. Quickly, Gordon killed it.

"Can we have a turn, Gordon?" Alex asked his older brother.

"I think we'll move a little further out to sea," Gordon said, as he went and restarted the engine. After cruising for a further ten minutes, Gordon once again weighed anchor. Eagerly Alex and Tyler watched as Gordon put more bait on the hook; before showing them how to cast the line. Both Alex and Tyler tried to hold the rod together.

"Hey," Gordon laughed. "One at a time, guys."

"Can I go first please?" Tyler begged. "Alex always gets to do things before me."

"I don't," Alex began to argue back.

Brandon stood up. "There's more than one rod. I'll help you, Tyler."

For the next hour, all four continued fishing. All that could be heard was either Alex or Tyler calling

"Look! I've got one!"

"Aww, it got away."

"Steady. You're rocking the boat."

"I'm trying to reel it in."

"I've caught more than you." That was Alex, who was having more success with Gordon helping him than Tyler was with Brandon.

Eventually, Gordon looked at the ten fairly good-sized fish lying on the deck alongside the larger one he had caught.

"Looks like we'll all eat well tonight," Gordon said with a pleased look on his face.

"Well, I think we had better head for home," Brandon replied. "I promised Dom I'd meet him in the gym. We've planned to do a work out together." He looked meaningfully at Gordon.

"We landed some fish!" Tyler was capering around the deck, while Alex was trying to conceal his excitement. "Wait till we tell Mom and Dad!" he added.

Gordon just looked at Brandon. "I think that we helped them a little, don't you?"

Brandon laughed and nodded.

From: Tawnyangel22 Sent: 11/13/2005

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