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Subject: Re: Winds of Change  
Posted by [Tikatu](#) on Sat, 28 Jul 2012 03:21:28 GMT  
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From: MagicMaster8 Sent: 6/27/2007 6:00 PM

September 10th, 5:30 P.M.

Brandon walked down the path leading to the beach. Wanting some time alone, he was heading to his special place. As he continued down the path, he tuned into the jungle sounds, listening to the birds and various insects. A sound behind him made him stop.

Thinking it was Gordon trying to sneak up behind him, he turned quickly around. Instead of the copper-haired prankster, he saw a German Shepherd sitting there, looking at him quizzically, his tongue hanging out.

"Well, hello there, big guy. You must be Rommel; Gordon told me about you." Brandon put his hand out for the dog to smell. After a few sniffs, he licked the back of Brandon's hand.

"Hey, Rom likes you. Of course, he likes everybody he meets."

Brandon turned his attention from the dog to its owner, introducing himself. "Hello. You must be Luke Morel. I'm Brandon McCain. Gordon mentioned you on our flight back from Christchurch."

Luke held out his hand and grasped Brandon's firmly. "Nice to meet you. I heard something had happened to your parents. Hope things are looking better now."

"Things are looking better. My parents are undergoing more therapy and, with luck, should be back to a normal routine soon."

Rommel grew tired of the lack of attention and began nudging Brandon's leg. Without thinking, he reached down and scratched the dog behind the ear.

"You're just a big love, aren't you?" Brandon said, continuing to scratch Rommel's ear. "I think you and Rocky would get along just fine."

Luke merely rolled his eyes. "He's a vicious killer, isn't he? Rom, come." He snapped his fingers and the dog instantly trotted back to Luke's side. "We were out exploring," he explained. "It's a lot different than the Rockies."

Brandon smiled widely. "If you like, I can show you around the island some time. I've done some exploring myself and can point out some interesting places."

Luke nodded. "That'll be great, thanks." He sat down on a nearby log and pulled a chocolate bar out of his pack. "So, you're an aquanaut? Did you serve in WASP?"

Brandon nodded. "I was assigned to the Tigershark for ten years. After that, I served with the Rescue Patrol."

"Nice. Did you see any action?"

"I saw some action. The biggest incident I was involved in was the rescue of some scientists at an underwater research station off the coast of Africa."

Luke's eyes widened. "Wow. Sounds like some rescue." He idly scratched Rom's head. "I've done a few rough ones. Snow and rock stuff mostly." He shook his head. "The plane crash about a month ago was pretty bad." His eyes took on a faraway look as he remembered. Then he shook himself. "But there's always the good stuff to win out over the bad."

"I know what you mean. You get out there and do your job, wondering if what you do is worth it. Then you see the results of your efforts and know all your hard work paid off."

Luke nodded. "Right." Then he chuckled. "I never thought I'd be working for International Rescue though. Talk about hard work!"

Brandon laughed. "Tell me about it." He looked up, noticing the setting sun. "We'd better head back. It'll be dark soon."

"Good idea. I don't know the area well enough to go tromping through the jungle at night." He stood up and Rom stood with him. "I guess I'll see you around then."

"Probably will, since we're neighbors." Brandon replied as he and Luke, with Rommel between them, started down the path.

Post by Magicmaster8 and Lillehafrue

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