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Subject: Re: Home is Where the Heart Is  
Posted by [Lillehafrue](#) on Sun, 29 Jul 2012 13:40:14 GMT  
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From: FrankieCTB2 Sent: 7/22/2006 1:11 PM

July 21st, Tracy Island Lab.

As Tin-Tin entered the lab, she found Brains pacing back and forth mumbling to himself about specs and thermodynamics.

"Brains! You'll wear the floor out if you keep moving like that!" Tin-Tin laughed as she spoke.

At the sound of her voice, Brains looked up and half smiled but kept walking. He had so much on his mind that he was starting to muddle things. He needed to be certain that all the written material he wished to take with him was in order, and had spent the last few hours at his computer making sure everything was airtight, so to say. Yet, he still wasn't satisfied. These conventions made him much more nervous than usual, and being the perfectionist that he was, he had to have everything 'just so'.

"Oh, Tin-Tin, I, er, I didn't hear you come in. I'm sorry. I was just making sure that all the data I need for the conference is, um, secure. After the recent problems we've encountered with viruses, I need to be 110% certain that no one can hack into any of my files, especially as I'm sure I'll be adding to them while I'm there."

Tin-Tin's smile faded a little as she remembered that the e-mail she'd opened from Giles had set off a series of problematic events culminating in Lena's kidnapping. Although not directly responsible in any way, she still felt guilty and ashamed that she'd let someone like Giles Hightower influence her. "Yes, of course, Brains. I understand."

Brains noticed her change in demeanor and changed the subject a little. "While you're here, Tin-Tin, would you mind double checking my flight reservation and confirmation at the hotel?"

Tin-Tin brightened again. "Gladly!" she answered and sat down at her computer. "All right, Brains, you're all set. Once you leave the island and arrive in Sydney, you'll connect to Qantas Flight 900, First Class all the way to Paris. Once you arrive, the limo Mr. Tracy insisted on will be there to take you to the hotel." A question crossed her mind as she was reading out loud. "Brains, maybe you could ask Lady Penelope and Parker meet you in Paris at some point. You know, for extra security? After all, Penelope is very familiar with the city and Parker knows his way around. I was just thinking how extra security could have helped when Lena was kidnapped."

Brains stopped walking and came over to Tin-Tin. "I, er, I don't think that's going to be possible, Tin-Tin, the, um, arrangements are very specific. I'm sure that if she were needed, she would be there, possibly incognito. Mr. Tracy may have even contacted our agent in Paris for assistance."

Tin-Tin smiled at his logical train of thought. He always seemed to be prepared for every possible scenario. She liked that about him. That, and many other things, like his genuine enjoyment of her company when they'd spent downtime together. The walk and picnic they'd had on the beach a while ago had been a very pleasant afternoon. She couldn't recall such a relaxed afternoon like

that with Alan, at least not towards the end of their relationship.

"Don't worry about me, Tin-Tin, I will be back here before you know it!" Brains added.

She smiled at his attempt at humor and rose from her seat. "Would you like some help packing the rest of your things?" she asked.

Brains was quite taken aback by her offer. He was so used to doing things for himself that he hadn't given thought to anyone ever paying this much attention to him. He stuttered a little as he answered, causing Tin-Tin to giggle softly. "Um, y-yes, if you'd, um, like."

"Yes, Brains! I would very much 'like'." They both chuckled as they left the lab.

I'm really going to miss him, Tin-Tin thought as they walked along together.

I think I may really miss her, Brains thought to himself as Tin-Tin happily walked beside him.

"Brains?"

"Yes, Tin-Tin?"

"You will be extra careful when you're in Paris, won't you?"

"Yes, I will. I promise," Brains assured her, finding that he liked her concern for him. "Now, to find the suitcases I need!" he said as they entered his suite to begin packing.