
Subject: Re: Home is Where the Heart Is
Posted by [Lillehafrue](#) on Sun, 29 Jul 2012 14:48:41 GMT
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From: Tawnyangel22 Sent: 8/14/2006 11:17 AM

Tracy Island -- July 25th 2068 -- early afternoon

Tin-Tin had agreed to teach Kat to learn to fly. Now the Malaysian girl was waiting in the hangar for the young mechanic. She could hear hurrying footsteps and Kat, breathless from running, came into view.

"Hi, Tin-Tin. Sorry I'm a little late. Brains and I were so engrossed in working on the Laser Cutter vehicle that we simply forgot the time."

Tin-Tin smiled. "That's okay, Kat. I know it's easy to lose track of time when you get involved in something. I haven't been waiting long, anyway."

Asking her to follow, Tin-Tin led the way to the Ladybird. On the way, she said, "I understand that you are familiar with the plane."

"Oh yes," came the eager reply. "This was the first vehicle that I worked on when I came to the Island."

Kat clambered up the retractable ladder behind Tin-Tin and sat in the co-pilot's seat. Tin-Tin asked her to name the controls as a refresher. Kat did so and looked at her teacher for confirmation.

"Actually Kat, you've missed one thing; though strictly not a control as such, you didn't mention the clock," she said, smiling at the young mechanic. "But apart from that you remembered very well. Now," the older girl continued, "I understand you didn't do too well in the simulator."

"Actually on my very first lesson with Scott, I managed to crash the plane on landing. I've gradually got better, but I'm still nervous."

"I think then for a few lessons, I'll take off from Tracy Island, and once we are airborne, you can take over the controls, handing them back to me so that I can land the plane. I want you to watch me and listen carefully to what I tell you during both taking off and landing, so that when the time is right, you can start to take off."

She called for clearance. Virgil's voice was heard over the radio. "Clear for take off. Have a good lesson."

The plane taxied to the end of the runway, then Tin-Tin began to build up speed before releasing the brake. The plane gathered speed down the runway, until it was going fast enough to get airborne. All the time, Tin-Tin was talking to Kat, explaining what she was doing and why.

Kat watched and listened to her every move intently. Will I be able to do this? she thought to

herself. Of course you will, an inner voice seemed to say.

"Okay, Kat. It's all yours. Now just relax and take things easy."

The young mechanic took control of the plane. Carefully she began to work the controls.

"Hold her steady, Kat, don't push the levers too hard, just relax."

Kat flew in a large circle over Tracy Island, and a little out to sea, before handing back the controls to Tin-Tin, so that she could land.

Once back on the runway, Tin-Tin glanced at her trainee. "Now, before I take the plane up again, I want you to tell me the sequence I followed."

Kat went through the sequence of steps. "That was accurate; you didn't miss anything," Tin-Tin told her.

The same procedure as before was followed, and again Kat took over once they were airborne. This time the young mechanic felt a little more confident. She couldn't believe that she was actually in charge of a jet for the first time.

"Good," Tin-Tin remarked, "you're relaxing at last. Now take a wider sweep over the island, and a little farther out to sea. You're doing fine."

Looking at the vast expanse of ocean below her, Kat noticed the water was a lighter shade in patches, due to reefs lying just under the surface. She noticed that a few small rugged atolls broke the surface of the ocean, causing the water around them to appear like white foam. In the far distance, the ocean and horizon seemed to blend together. This is wonderful, she thought as she felt the exhilaration and feeling of freedom. I really want to get my licence. I shall feel a complete member of International Rescue, when I can fly on my own. A little turbulence made her momentarily panic, but with Tin-Tin's calming words, she was able to compensate, a feeling that pleased her.

When they landed again, Tin-Tin said, "I think that's enough for one lesson. I'll give you more lessons, just doing the same as today. "When I think you're ready, we'll start working on take offs." When you are fully conversant with that, then we'll start circuits and bumps."

"Circuits and bumps?" Kat queried.

Tin-Tin said. "That's the term for taking off, circling and landing. You will have to do that over and over, until I'm confident that you've fully mastered every aspect of flying."

"Can I try that in the simulator for extra practice?" Kat queried.

"Yes, you should have more lessons in the simulator. I'll have a word with Scott about scheduling more time for that purpose."

Kat thanked Tin-Tin for her lesson, and headed back to her apartment.

She couldn't get over the feeling of elation of actually flying the jet. Wow! That was amazing! I'm

going to tell Mum and Dad I'm learning to fly; they'll be absolutely astounded.

Back in her apartment, she opened the patio door and standing on the balcony, looked up at the sky. To think that I was up there flying, being in control of the Ladybird. Going back inside, she began to fix herself a snack before sitting down at her computer.
