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Subject: Re: Home is Where the Heart Is  
Posted by [Lillehafrue](#) on Sun, 29 Jul 2012 21:44:06 GMT  
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From: FrankieCTB2 Sent: 9/9/2006 5:46 PM

August 1st, 7:30pm, Tracy Island.

Since the announcement of Virgil Tracy's upcoming birthday bash at Paradise peaks, the most talked about topic on the island was fashion - at least for the women. The men would, of course, all be wearing tuxedos including Alex and Tyler. It was a different story for the female inhabitants of Tracy Island.

"I'm so NOT wearing that!" Nikki emphatically stated, pointing to the computer screen, which Cherie had pulled up. Moans and groans could be heard around the room.

Tin-Tin, Elise, Kat, Callie, Nikki and Cherie had all congregated in Nikki's apartment about an hour ago. Elise had noticed that Kat was a little down in the dumps when she ran into her in the laundry room earlier that day and all but dragged her to the get together they were having. "I thought you liked shopping!" Elise had said to her when Kat had tried to get out of going. Then, ignoring the rest of her pleas and excuses, Elise escorted Kat to the apartment.

"What's wrong with that one?" Cherie asked a little impatiently. She'd lost track of how many different styles she'd searched online for.

"It's just, well, too flouncy!"

Kat giggled, Elise rolled her eyes and Tin-Tin just shook her head and suggested another website to Cherie. As they continued to look, they listened to Tin-Tin's suggestions and started to find what each was looking for, as well as a few that shouldn't be seen in daylight!

"Oh my gosh! There's nothing to that one!"

"Wait. Hold on.... look at it in orange!"

"Who would seriously wear that?"

"Maybe we should get it! It'll shock Virgil!"

"It'll shock everyone not just the birthday boy!"

"I wish I could be there just to see who does show up wearing that!" Callie added. "Being with my family is more important to me, but I will miss you all!"

"You need to change your birthday to February or something, so you don't miss any cool parties!" Cherie said, smiling. Callie laughed along with the others.

The banter continued with giggles and laughing in between. Kat's spirits had been lifted and she

found herself helping Tin-Tin pick out colors. Elise got sodas for everyone and Nikki helped set out snacks.

"You know," said Elise, leaning against a counter, legs casually crossed at the ankles and eating a yogurt, "Paradise Peaks is a ski resort, right?"

"Yes," came a collective reply.

"Well, why can't we just wear ski pants and a sweater?"

Cherie spun around on the computer chair, mouth agape. "We can't wear ski pants!" she exclaimed.

"Are you crazy girl!" added Nikki.

Elise laughed. "It was just a suggestion!"

"Trust me, when my dad and brothers plan a big party... they will be dressing up! So will my mom for that matter."

"In that case, we'd better get serious then." Nikki tried not to smile as she spoke. It didn't work.

As they began finalizing their choices, it was Kat who suggested the idea of them all wearing the same color. "Tin-Tin? Don't you think that'll work? The men will all be in black tuxes, so we could all compliment them!"

Tin-Tin nodded, liking the idea. "Yes, I think it will work, ladies, but first we have to decide on the color."

The next half hour was filled with comments about colors, and shades and the occasional, "Yellow makes me look ill!" and "I look fat in that color!" "No, you don't; it'll look great!" "If you like it so much, you wear it then!"

Finally Tin-Tin raised her voice to put an end to the humorous squabbling. "LADIES!" The room was instantly quiet, all eyes on the pretty Asian. "I think that red will work for everyone. That seems to be what most of you are looking towards"

After a few seconds, it was unanimous. Red it was. Tin-Tin assured everyone that Grandma Tracy would be happy to do any alterations if needed when the dresses arrived. They each took turns ordering online and printing off a copy of their dress.

"Cherie, are you going to print out some of the dresses for your Grandma and Mom to look at?" asked Tin-Tin.

"Yes, I'm going to show them tonight! Hopefully Mom will like the same one I do!" Cherie held up her hand and crossed her fingers. Tin-Tin smiled at the young girl's enthusiasm. Cherie then grabbed her handful of print outs, announced her departure and rushed off to find her mother.

"I've never been to Paradise Peaks before; this is going to be awesome!" Kat stated.

"Me neither but Tin-Tin has, haven't you?" asked Elise with a smirk. Virgil had told her during one of their training sessions about the time he'd raced TB2 against a cable car with Lady Penelope and Tin-Tin in it.

"Yes, I have!" Then, upon the begging from the others, Tin-Tin told them of her adventures at Paradise Peaks.

"You got to hang out with Cass Carnaby? I'm SO jealous!"

Callie's announcement brought forth peals of laughter as Tin-Tin continued her story.

In the meantime, Cherie had found her Grandma Lisa in the kitchen helping Grandma Tracy cook. "Hmmm ...Smells great!"

"Well, hello there, sweetie. What brings you here?" asked Lisa, giving her granddaughter a hug.

"I'm on my way to find Mom to show her the dresses we've been looking at for the party."

"Well, let's have a look then!" Lisa led Cherie to the table and sat down. "Emily, come and look at these lovely dresses Cherie has picked out."

For the next few minutes, both women "oohhed and ahhhed" over the dresses and laughed at Cherie as she became excited all over again about them.

"I do like this one, but you know your mother has to have the final say young lady, don't you?" Lisa said.

"Yes, Grandma, I know."

"Oh don't be so glum, sweetheart. You're blossoming into a lovely young lady and I'm sure your mother will see that and approve of what you like," Emily added.

Cherie smiled again and said, "I hope so," as she hugged her Grandmas once more and left to find Dianne.