
Subject: Re: Home is Where the Heart Is
Posted by [Lillehafrue](#) on Sun, 29 Jul 2012 22:05:07 GMT
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From: Tikatu Sent: 9/10/2006 9:13 PM

Thursday, August 2, 2068, 7:45 p.m., Tracy Island

Dessert was nearly finished, though Dianne was still eating her entrée. She had arrived home around 7:20, missing the beginning of dinner, even though Jeff had asked that it be delayed for her. Kyrano moved around the table, refilling coffee cups and smiling at the banter between the various family members. After having refreshed Jeff's coffee, he put the thermal carafe on the sideboard, and went to stand next to Lisa, who had eaten with the family to keep an eye on the children in Dianne's absence.

He put a hand on her shoulder, and she glanced up at him, then she said, "If'n Ah could have everyone's attention..."

Those around the table quieted and their eyes turned toward the retainer and Lisa. Kyrano colored a little and cleared his throat, while Lisa smiled widely.

"We... Lisa and I... have an announcement to make," Kyrano said solemnly. He paused, swallowed, and continued. "Last evening, I asked Lisa to be my wife."

The audible gasp of shock and delight made him pause, but things didn't quiet until Jeff called, "And what did you say, Lisa?"

Lisa smiled even wider. "What else could Ah say? Yes, of course."

The table erupted into cries of excited congratulations. Emily leaned over and murmured so that only Lisa could hear, "I thought as much. That ring on your finger told me the whole story."

"Kyrano said you'd know before anyone else," Lisa murmured back. "Thanks for keeping it quiet until we could announce it ourselves."

"Have you set a date yet?" Tin-Tin asked her father.

He shook his head. "No, we have not. But it will not be far in the future. We are too old to wait for long."

"Hey!" Gordon cried. "This will mean that Mom and Tin-Tin will be step-sisters!"

"Gordon!" warned Jeff.

The redhead kept going. "And if our 'mom' is her sister... that makes Tin-Tin our step-aunt!" He waved at Tin-Tin gleefully. "Hey, Auntie Tin-Tin!"

Tin-Tin glared at him, as Brains shook his head and tried to keep from laughing. "Don't go there,

Gordon. Just don't go there," she warned, shaking her finger at him.

The others laughed, and Tyler piped up to say, "Hey! That means we'll have another grandpa! Grandpa Kyrano!"

Kyrano nodded. "You are correct, Master Tyler. But I would prefer to be addressed as 'Grandfather'."

"Can we start calling you that now?" Alex asked.

"Wait until after the wedding, okay, Alex?" Dianne said. She got up and circled the table to hug her mother. "Ah am so happy for you, Ma. So very, very happy."

"Ah'm pretty happy about it, too," Lisa said as she returned the embrace. "It just seemed to be the right time."

Dianne's eyes met those of Kyrano, and suddenly, she was unsure what to do. The retainer would soon be her step-father, but there was the man's general reservedness, and his deep sense of propriety... and somehow, a hug just didn't seem proper -- at least, not yet. Instead, she bowed deeply. "We will be happy an' honored to have you as part of owah family, Kyrano."

Kyrano returned the bow. "I look forward to becoming so... Dianne."

Meanwhile, Jeff had disappeared, and Emily with him. They reappeared a few moments later with a tray full of champagne flutes, which they passed out as Jeff said, "I have a bottle of champagne in the chiller, and I'll put another in as soon as that one is done. We must have a toast to the engaged couple."

Scott got up to help, as Dianne took her seat once more. The whole task took some time to organize properly, but soon everyone had a glass of champagne -- except the children, who had sparkling white grape juice -- and Jeff, standing at the head of the table, raised his glass.

"A toast," he declared. "To Kyrano and Lisa. May their marriage be as happy as their love is deep."

"And may all the preparations go smoothly," Dianne added. The rest of the family and friends around the table chuckled, then echoed, "To Kyrano and Lisa."

xxxx

Later, Lisa wrote an email to John.

Dear John,

Funny way for me to start a letter, that! Insert lame joke about "Dear John" letters...

I just wanted to let you know that Kyrano and I are engaged to be married. He asked me last night, and I accepted. We announced our engagement after dinner this evening, and everyone is

very, very happy for us. It will make a difference in some of the familial relationships around here, as Gordon told all and sundry once he'd thought them through. Word of advice: if you value your life, do NOT call Tin-Tin "Auntie"! And Kyrano will prefer to be called "Grandfather", but only after the wedding!

We haven't set a wedding date yet, though I think it will be either late this year or early next year. Kyrano doesn't want to wait long, and neither do I. Life is far too short to get caught up in preparations; it's the doing of the thing that matters.

We'd have spoken to you in person, but the evening got away from us, and I didn't want to keep you up too late. So we'll talk to you in the morning, as you deserve to ask your questions of us personally. Your father is sending an email to announce this to the other team members, and Dianne is writing our engagement notice, which she'll send to the papers in Greenville, complete with picture. She also insisted on taking a close up picture of my ring, which I've attached to this email. I'll be calling my brother and my other children as soon as the time zones align (as Dianne would say). I hope they are as happy for me as the family here is.

Take care up there, and I'll talk to you soon.

Love,
Grandma P.