

12 January 2069, 7.45pm, Tracy Island

Dominic straightened Joshua's little bow tie as the monorail car came to a stop.

"Best behaviour, Jak?"

Joshua tapped his little black shoes on the car floor and grinned.

"Best behavior, Daddy!"

"Promise?"

"Pwomise!"

"All right then."

Dominic took Joshua's hand and led him to the lounge. There weren't many people present just yet, but Dom glanced at his watch. There's time yet. As they reached the lounge, he waved to John and Gordon, who were standing just across the room with the lady he recognised as the new agent.

"Gowdon!"

Joshua bounded across to the brothers and Dominic strolled after him.

"Evening, gents," he said.

Gordon grabbed Joshua and tossed him in the air, and John gestured to the woman.

"Izarra Soto Fernandez, meet Dominic Kelly, our resident nurse. Dominic, meet Izarra, our new agent for New Zealand -- and also our family dentist."

"Nice to meet ya," Dominic said, reaching out to shake Izarra's hand.

"The pleasure is mine," she said. "Are all the men here so guapo?" Izarra asked John.

"Eh?" Dominic cocked an eyebrow.

"Handsome," John explained.

Dominic grinned.

"Ah, cheers!" he said.

The little group continued to chat as the rest of the guests gathered to await Penelope's arrival.