

Tracy Island; Tuesday, March 6th, 8:15AM

After he got the report from Thunderbird 5, Brains turned on the television again. Kat and Lisa, who had gone to the kitchen for a few minutes, returned just then, and they all caught the end of the news report on the rescue. "Once again," the news anchor was saying, "the rescue has been successful. The captain, who was washed overboard, along with a member of the rescue team, has been found and is being taken to the Excelsior. He will be helijetted to the naval base and transferred by ambulance to the hospital in Peterhead. All of the rescue team members are safe and accounted for. Once again, we owe our heartfelt thanks to International Rescue."

When they heard the news that the rescue team was safe and on their way back, Kat and Lisa hugged each other jubilantly. "They did it! I knew they would," Kat exclaimed. Then she felt the fatigue that had been pushed away for so long by the tension and worry. She started to sag.

"Easy, Kat," Lisa said. "I think you'd better go get some sleep. When they return, you may be needed to work on that winch. You need to be alert."

"Are you sure? I don't like to leave if you two are going to stay up."

"No, no. I'm going to try to catch some shuteye after I finish up here," Brains said. "You go on ahead. Lisa's right. I'll need you alert and ready to work this afternoon."

"And I'll go with you. I want to check on Joshua. He should be waking up about now, if he isn't already awake," Lisa added. The two women headed out of the lounge together, leaving Brains to finish his report.

When they reached Cliff House, Kat said, "If you don't mind, I'd like to take a peek at Joshua before I go to my apartment. He's so cute, but I've never seen him asleep."

"I don't mind a bit. But just a peek, then off you go to get some rest. You'll have a long day once the rescue team gets home, young lady," Lisa answered.

They went into Dominic's apartment and headed to Joshua's bedroom. Quietly Lisa opened the door and peered in. She choked slightly and turned with a humorous glint in her eyes. She whispered to Kat, "You have to see this!" and opened the door wider for the girl to look.

Joshua was awake, lying on his right side with the back of his head at the edge of his pillow. Facing him, with his head on the other side of the pillow, was Asterix. The two of them were just looking at each other. Joshua put out a hand and stroked Asterix's side. "Kitty," he said. The cat yawned and meowed at the same time.

Kat clapped her hand over her mouth to keep from laughing aloud, while Lisa walked over to the crib. "This is Asterix, Joshua. He came with Christopher, who is away right now but will be back soon and wonder where Asterix is." She looked at the cat. "We're going to have to figure out a

way to keep tabs on you, if you're going to have the run of the place." The cat raised his head and looked at her for a few seconds, then yawned again. He put his head back on the pillow, and stretched, then closed his eyes and went to sleep.

Kat laughed and Joshua sat up and looked at her. "Hi, Joshua," she said, with a big smile on her face. Then she yawned. "I'd better go now, before I fall asleep where I stand. I'll see you later."

"Okay, Kat," Lisa replied. "Sleep well." As Kat left the apartment, the older woman turned back to the child and said, "Let's get you dressed. Then we'll see about getting you and Asterix some breakfast."

Post by Hobbeth on 21/08/2004

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