

Tracy Island, February 29th 2068

Kat went to her apartment to change into her working clothes, and headed for the boat pen. Finding no one around, she went on to where the planes were kept. There she found Brains busily working on one of the jets. He looked up when he heard Kat arrive.

"Hi, Brains, need any help?"

"Yes, please, I am just checking the compressor. In a minute can you start up the engine?"

Kat scrambled into the cockpit of the plane and sat at the controls; they seemed very complicated. Brains guided her through the complexity of starting the plane

"Now, please, Kat." Brains called out.

The engine burst into life. Gosh, Kat thought, I would love to fly one of these.

Brains emerged slightly oily from underneath the engine. "That seems okay,"

"What else needs doing?" Kat enquired.

"Nothing more here," Brains replied. "I have to go and help Tin-Tin with the Thunderbird crafts."

"Can I come and watch, please?" Kat asked.

"Sure, follow me." And he led the way back to Thunderbird Two's hangar.

There was no sign of Tin-Tin, so while they waited for her, they started talking.

"I think that once Dr. Tracy and the rest of the family return with Mr. Tracy, you may undergo some form of official training as International Rescue personnel," Brains explained.

"Ooh, you mean that I may actually go out on a rescue?" Kat exclaimed. "Wow, that would be unreal!"

Brains laughed. "Well, the chances are slight, but there may be rare occasions when your expertise would be needed."

Kat digested this piece of startling information. It had never occurred to her that she could actually be involved in a rescue. Surely the others were more qualified than she was. But if Brains had intimated that there may be the odd occasion, who was she to turn the opportunity down?

"So, Brains, how did you become involved with International Rescue?"

Brains explained the background to him meeting Mr Tracy and being asked to become a member of International Rescue.

"Of course, I knew John from college days," he explained. "My parents are both dead, they died when a hurricane destroyed our home. I was adopted by a Professor at a University in Cambridge. One day, I was giving a lecture, and not doing very well, being very nervous. In those days I had a stutter, which didn't help. Mr. Tracy approached me and told me I was the kind of person he was looking for and he explained what he had in mind."

Kat listened intently to Brains. "So now there is the need for an extra pair of hands to help with the vehicles? Perhaps even the Thunderbird crafts, eventually?"

"Yes, I have developed all kinds of projects, not only vehicles but gases and other equipment used by International Rescue." He went on. "Perhaps, at some point in the future, I could leave some of the repair and maintenance to you, which would free me to concentrate on new ideas for both vehicles and equipment."

Kat was stunned at this. "And to think John told me I would just be helping with the routine tasks of the boats and planes. I can't wait for the training to begin."

"Well, he may be right. I'm not entirely sure of all of Mr. Tracy's plans in that direction." He smiled. "Of course, having the boats and planes off my plate is a big help." He glanced at his watch and scanned the room for Tin-Tin. "As soon as Dr Tracy returns, I think the others will all be taken around on an intensive tour."

"Yes," Kat said. "At least I know all about what happens here. I had a very good tour with John. I hope that we can all take our turn in Thunderbird 5, that would be something absolutely wonderful."

Brains raised an eyebrow, but said nothing. At that point Tin-Tin arrived and work on the Thunderbirds began.

Post by Tawnyangel22 on 08/07/2004

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