

Tracy Island, March 14th, 3:30pm.

Jeff Tracy had been home for three days. Three days of bliss as far as his family was concerned. Elise thought back to what she'd seen over the last few days. Lots of love was what she mainly saw. Two happily in love parents and a slew of doting kids!

She smiled at the memories of seeing how the Tracy clan ate a meal together, how they joked around with each other. But somewhere deep inside her stirred a sadness. She'd never had the opportunity to share moments like these in her own family. Losing her parents when she was nine put an end to that. Her aunt loved her and raised her but it wasn't the same.

Elise turned away from the window of the guest room. This part of the house was quiet. John, her immediate next door neighbor, was gone away on duty, and unless she ventured out and mingled in the chaos of the rest of the house, she was alone. She was used to the feeling so it didn't bother her so much. Her ribs hardly gave her any more pain, the bruise on her face had faded, but the cheekbone was still very tender. Dianne had told her it may be that way for a few months yet.

She walked to the closet and took out some more of her things. She'd been here long enough, and now that Jeff had returned, she felt she was overstaying her welcome. New York will be a welcome change from all this tropical weather! At least she knew all of her personal things were safe, thanks to Scott and Gordon.

Scott. I need to talk to Scott about getting me home.

She continued to pack some things and make mental notes to herself until she heard a knock on the door. Laying down the clothes she was holding, she opened the door to find Scott standing there. "Well, hi! I was just thinking about you!" She smiled.

Scott smiled back. "All good thoughts I hope?" he joked good naturedly.

"Would there be any other kind?" She grinned and welcomed him in.

Scott noticed the packing and cringed inside. This was not going to be easy. He'd spoken to his Dad earlier that morning and both of them had agreed they would 'interview' Elise together... today. She had no idea, and was looking forward to going home.

She noticed him looking at the mess of clothes and the suitcases.

"It will be so nice to get back to New York, Scott. Don't get me wrong, I've enjoyed being pampered here, and everyone has been so good to me, but I need to get back to work, to flying. I miss it. You know how it is."

He nodded, "Yes, Elise, I do. I know you're chomping at the bit, but I came to see you to ask you if you would stop by Dad's study today?" Elise started to look a little unsure.

"Is he okay, about the crash, I mean?"

"Yes, he just wants to have a one on one with you, without all the others fussing around him!" He noted the relieved look on her face.

"Sure, I'd really like that."

Boy, I hate it when she gives me that totally trusting look! "Okay, then, I'll let Dad know, and, we'll say... 30 mins from now?"

"I'll be there." She smiled at him.

She followed him to the door and as he started to leave, he turned back to her.

"I'm glad you've enjoyed staying with us. Virgil said you'd like it, remember ...when we first arrived?"

Elise laughed "Yes! I do, I'll have to tell him he was right about that. That'll make his ego inflate a little more!"

They both chuckled as he departed. Elise closed the door and resumed packing.

At the sound of her door closing, Scott let out the breath he'd been holding.

How in the heck I'm gonna explain this to her? She's going to explode when she finds out we want her to stay.

Scott started towards his father's study. He was not looking forward to this. During the time he spent training her and the other pilots in her 'Flight', he'd come across that fiery temper more than once. Only once or twice had it been directed at him, and heavens did that girl get passionate about flying when she got all fired up! He recalled having to pull rank on her to calm her down and keep her in check on one occasion!

"Well, son?" inquired Jeff as Scott walked into the study.

"She'll be here in 30 minutes." Jeff smiled. Scott didn't.

Post by FrankieCTB2 on 10/10/2004

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