

Tracy Island Wednesday, February 29, 2028

Kat followed Callie and Christopher as they hurried along after Virgil and Brains. She was very excited. Although she had had a basic tour with John, this was going to be a more in depth tour.

They headed for the pod bay.

Virgil explained the various pods and what each pod contained. Stopping at pod 5, he looked at Kat. "I think that you will be interested to see the auxiliary vehicles."

"Oh, yes, please!" Kat said in an awestruck voice.

"Here we have the Mole."

Kat walked around the vehicle.

"It travels on its own trolley, and on arrival at danger zones, tips upward to near vertical position. A rocket fires at the rear to activate the mole, which begins to turn its massive screw and burrow underground."

"How does it reappear from underground?" Kat asked.

"The heavy duty caterpillar tracks enable it to grip the sides of the tunnel it is boring and to return to the surface safely," Virgil replied

"How is it powered?" Kat asked.

"It's powered by a nuclear fusion reactor," Brains explained.

"I suppose the nose is made from a special metal?" Kat asked again.

"Yes, it is made from cahelium, a super-strong metal that Brains invented," replied Virgil. "The nose is made of Formula C 30/1, a cahelium-derived alloy." He grinned at Kat, "Any more questions?"

"Yes, just one more," Kat said.

Callie groaned. "Come on, Kat, there is still a lot for us to see."

"It looks pretty big; how heavy is it?"

"It weighs about 30 tonnes." Virgil replied. "Now shall we proceed to the other pods?"

Kat blushed. "Sorry, Virgil, but I find it so interesting."

Next they came to the pod that contained Firefly. Again, Kat looked round it with ever-deepening interest.

"This is International Rescue's principal fire-extinguisher," Virgil started to say. "Ahem, Kat, can you stay with us?"

Kat had wandered off to the other side of the Firefly. "Sorry," she called, "I was just looking at something."

Virgil went on. "The Firefly's main skill is to enter the very heat of the blaze and let loose nitro-glycerine shells which cause a blow-out. The plough blade is made of that Formula C30/1 that I mentioned. It can stand the most blistering temperatures. The blade can be raised to position the cannon bore to a more flexible angle. It can work like a giant bulldozer." He smiled at Kat. "What, no questions?"

"No, not at the moment, and anyway there is still a lot to see, isn't there?"

"Yes," Virgil replied. "Shall we continue with the tour?"

Post by Tawnyangel22 on 19/07/2004

---