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Subject: Re: Learning The Ropes

Posted by [Tikatu](#) on Sun, 22 Jul 2012 03:58:06 GMT

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Tracy Island, Wednesday Feb 29th 2068

Since being deposited in the guest room of the Villa, Elise had managed to unpack some of her things, albeit slowly, and was now sitting down in a comfy chair looking out of the vast expanse of ocean. She didn't like the ocean anymore; not since the day it took her parents away and left her stranded and clinging to a capsized boat. She had been nine years old. She pushed the memories away and started to wonder how long she was going to be here. Can't be more than three weeks, I would think. She shuffled around to get comfortable and had just found her spot when there was a knock at the door.

"Come in," she called. The door opened slowly and a young woman entered carrying a tray of food and what appeared to be some medical items.

"Hello," she said, smiling warmly at Elise. She closed the door behind her and set the tray down, her brown ponytail swinging around as she did so. Elise figured her to be around 25 or so and realised she must be one of the new recruits that had waved at Virgil and Gordon when they'd arrived earlier.

"Hi," Elise replied. The woman walked over to her and, extending her hand, introduced herself.

"I'm Nicole, Nikki for short. I'm one of the nurses here on the island." Nikki wasn't sure how much Elise knew about International Rescue so didn't offer any more information.

Elise shook her hand and smiled. "Nice to meet you, Nikki."

"I've brought you something to eat and wanted to just check on how you were feeling. Dianne, our chief doctor, is still in New York with Mr. Tracy, so she had asked me to take a look at you and let her know how you are." Elise merely nodded. She was still feeling apprehensive and Nikki picked up on that right away. "Do you have questions? You look a little unsure of something."

Elise smiled and answered, "Well, I suppose I'm a little overwhelmed with everything that's happened, and then being whisked away to here!" She waved her hands, indicating the room.

"I can imagine, I've only been here a short while myself, so I have an idea of what you must be feeling."

Elise detected her British accent and asked, "How did you end up here?"

Now it was Nikki's turn to feel awkward. "Err, I was approached by Dr. Tracy while I was still working at a hospital in London. She thought I'd be qualified for this job."

Elise looked at the young woman and knew she wasn't telling her everything. "You're part of International Rescue, aren't you?"

The question shocked Nikki and she took a moment before she answered. Elise had been very forthright and obviously knew more than Nikki thought she did. "Well... yes... actually I am."

Elise sensed Nikki's unease and quickly added, "It's okay. I know about IR. I, err, stumbled across them recently! My old Air Force buddy Scott is part of them it seems!"

Nikki had to laugh at Elise's humorous take on it and immediately the tension in the room lessened. "Well, let's get your check-up done then, shall we?" Nikki took all the routine vitals information, making careful notes as she did so. "How's the numbness on your cheek?" Nikki was closely examining the bruised, swollen area with gentle fingers.

"Not too bad. The pain has eased up, but I still can't feel anything."

"It may just need time. Your ribs seem to be healing nicely and I don't think there'll be any problems, but I'll let Dr. Tracy be the judge on that."

They smiled at each other and then Nikki left so Elise could eat and rest. It wasn't 10 minutes later that another knock was heard. Thinking it was Nikki coming back again, Elise called out "Come in, Nikki." Only it wasn't Nikki, but Lisa Parkhurst, Dr. Tracy's mother, who had settled Elise in earlier.

"Hi there! Hope you don't mind me dropping in, dear, I wanted to see how you were and if there's anything you needed?" Elise liked this woman, she was genuinely kind, and had a way of looking over her glasses that reminded Elise of her aunt.

"I'm fine, thank you."

"Are you sure?" came the direct reply.

Elise noticed that this lady wasn't one to miss a beat and obviously wouldn't be satisfied until she heard what she wanted. "It's okay, honey, you can tell me whatever's on your mind. I won't tell a soul." Lisa sat down and waited.

Elise sat down across from her and asked, "Maybe you can tell me what's really going on around here? I mean, this looks like a hotel/spa luxury hideaway, and yet isn't this the base for International Rescue?"

Lisa answered immediately, "Well, it is, but we operate undercover. My son-in-law, Jeff, runs this operation very seriously and keeps it close at hand. We can't afford mistakes when saving lives. But, we are still a family above all that. It's imperative that IR remains a closely guarded secret. I understand your confusion, but right now all you need to worry about is getting better. You did a fine job, Elise, saving Jeff's life. We are all eternally grateful."

"Thank you, but I just did what I'd been trained to do. I'm sorry that the accident happened."

"From what I understand, it could have been much worse for both of you."

Elise asked after Jeff, and Lisa told her what she knew. After reassuring Lisa again that she was fine, Elise sat back down to rest, taking her dose of painkillers and closing her eyes. Her last

thoughts before drifting off were about returning home to New York and back to her job. Three weeks, I'll be home in three weeks.

Post by FrankieCTB2 on 23/07/2004

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