Subject: Re: Cold Front

Posted by artisticrainey on Wed, 25 Jul 2012 21:19:25 GMT

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Tuesday, November 13, Christchurch, NZ, a little after 3 p.m.

"If there is anything else I can help you with in the future, feel free to get in touch with me," Aidan Lester, the head of security for Tracy Industries Marine and Research Facility of Christchurch, told Cassie as the two walked from his office to the elevator.

"I will. I appreciate your time and cooperation today," Cassie told him.

Aidan Lester had given her a complete tour of the facility, which included the docking facilities where the craft currently being worked on were located, pointing out where fire extinguishers, maps showing the nearest exit, and other safety features were located. A surprise evacuation drill had also been conducted and had given Cassie the chance to time the process herself as well as observe the emergency plan in use. With the exception of a few minor deficiencies, the drill had gone smoothly. The former NY firefighter had written down some of her observations as well as making note of several things that could possibly work in other facilities.

"Glad to be of service, Ms. Kishi," the security man replied as the two of them stepped onto the elevator.

The two continued the conversation as the elevator made its way to the ground floor. It wasn't long before the car came to a stop and, with a ding, the doors slid open. Both Cassie and Aidan stepped off the elevator into the lobby of the building. Cassie spotted Alan waiting for her in one of the chairs near the entrance.

With a final good-bye, Aidan retreated back to the elevator while Cassie made her way across the lobby to where Alan was seated. Having seen her approach, Alan got to his feet.

"Well, you're still smiling so I guess that means you didn't work too hard," Alan said, as she reached him.

"No. This part of the job is a lot less stressful than what I'm used to doing."

The two of them made their way out of Tracy Industries and into the parking lot. Once outside, Alan headed in the direction he had parked the car.

"So, what did you decide to do today while you were waiting?" Cassie asked. On their flight from the island this morning Alan had been debating about a few possibilities of how to spend his time.

"I decided to go mountain biking in Bottle Lake Forest. It was nice to get out and be able to feel the wind on my face and stuff. Not to mention the scenery is enjoyable."

"I'll have to take your word for it. The only time I've been to Christchurch before this was with your mother when we got the things I needed for my apartment. Sightseeing was limited."

"Well, we can change that. I'll show you some of the sights of the city before we head over to the mall. I was thinking we could find a place to eat over in New Brighton. Thought you might like seeing the pier over there. We can do our shopping afterwards. Those shoes going to be comfortable to walk in the rest of the day?" he asked, looking down at the black pumps Cassie wore with the slacks, blouse, and blazer she had worn.

"No, but I've got loafers to change into in the car."

The two continued idle chat as they walked across the parking lot. It didn't take them long before they had reached the car. The talk continued as Alan pulled the car onto the Christchurch streets. Driving toward the center of the city, Alan found a place to park the car so they could walk around for awhile, Cassie taking some pictures. They visited the Botanical Gardens for a little while before heading back to the car. Cassie now had a mental list of things she wanted to come back and do in some spare time.

Visit to Christchurch pt. 1