

DEE Is it real? Am I really here?

UT TOM Welcome to the Ice.

DEE We were boomeranged three times. To see the Ice out the window and hear them say “We are being diverted back to Christchurch.”

UT TOM Hurry up and wait. That’s how we do things.

DEE How do I know it’s real?

UT TOM . . . Set your alarm for 2am. Then walk outside.

DEE It’ll look like this.

UT TOM It’ll look like this.

(DEE with her goggles on – UT TOM with his sunglasses on – look at the

blindingly bright sunlight all around them) The sun won’t set for another four months. That’s how you know you ain’t in Kansas anymore.

DEE Outstanding.

(He waits. He waits. Another person walks out and stares at the Sound. UT TOM walks up to her. He looks at her nametag)

The Royal Society of Antarctica 7 October 1, 2015

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UT TOM You don’t need your ECW gear anymore. It’s just a

precaution for the flight.

(DEE doesn't take off her gear. Her face still cannot be seen) Ten degrees. No wind. This is a heat wave.

(They continue to look out)

DEE (pointing) Those are the Dry Valleys?

UT TOM Yep. And those are the Royal Societies: Mt. Lister. Mt. Dromedary. Mt. Rucker. Mt. Roper. Mt. Huggins. Mt. Hooker.

DEE Those are the most beautiful mountains I have ever seen.

(DEE takes off her goggles and balaclava. We see her face for the first time. She breathes in. She breathes out. She pulls off her hairband and lets down her hair. She lets out a long, loud, joyous yell.

She breathes in deeply. She breathes out. She breathes in.

UT TOM watches DEE) I love how the cold feels in my lungs.

(DEE breathes in and out) In my heart.

(DEE breathes in and out) Look at this place.

Look. Look.

(DEE notices UT TOM staring at her) What?

UT TOM . . . I'm UT Tom.

DEE I'm Dee.

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UT TOM I'm UT Tom.

DEE . . . Okay.

UT TOM Tommy.

DEE You're Tommy?

UT TOM Yep.

DEE Oh my god.

(DEE hugs UT TOM)

UT TOM Your father emailed me. Told me to look out for you.

DEE It is. . . an honor to meet you.

UT TOM (bowing) The honor is mine. But this is the second time. You just don't remember the first one.

DEE Why do you have a mohawk?

UT TOM The *Mad Max* party was on Saturday night. It's a shame you missed it. But you'll be around for MAAG, the Dolly Parton party, the Royal Society Ball. There's still some good theme parties to be had.

DEE Crap, I almost forgot.

(DEE takes a small, glass bottle out of her pocket. She kneels down and puts some snow in it)

UT TOM What are you doing?

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DEE I wanted to keep some snow from when I first arrived.

UT TOM You can't do that.

DEE I can't take a little snow?

UT TOM It's not me. It's the Antarctic Treaty.

DEE I know what the Antarctic Treaty is, but scientists in the field use snow to melt for water. For cooking. For –

UT TOM That's in support of science. Not for a souvenir. This is one of the only places on Earth that countries have agreed not to mess with. Nobody owns it. Nobody can mine it. Nobody can take anything or leave anything. Can't so much as pee outside. This is. . . holy land.

(They look out over the Sound. They look at the mountains. Beat.  
DEE dumps the snow out of the bottle and back onto the ground)

DEE Can I at least take a picture?

UT TOM Yes.

DEE Okay, cool – just checking.

(DEE takes out her camera and gives it to UT TOM)

UT TOM Smile.

DEE No smiling. I want it to look like an old photograph of an Antarctic explorer.