

CHAPTER 1 SHANNON'S STORY

We've been on the island for a few weeks now. We have a camp on the beach and another at the caves. All the survivors are starting to get to know each other. It's interesting to watch as some people make friends and others become enemies.



Right now I'm watching Shannon and Sayid at the beach camp. They are becoming very friendly. But Shannon's brother, Boone, doesn't like it at all. Maybe because Sayid was an Iraqi soldier?

This morning, Boone walked up to Sayid and shouted, 'Stay away from my sister!' I don't really understand why Boone cares so much. He doesn't seem to like his sister. They disagree all the time.



A little later, the older man, Locke, told Boone not to make an enemy of Sayid. 'We need Sayid on our side,' he said.

Locke understands people better than anyone. He knows that Sayid is strong and brave. He will be useful for our survival.

Boone is spending a lot of time with Locke at the moment. Every day they go into the forest to hunt boar. But each evening they return to camp with no boar. The others are starting to ask questions. Are they really hunting out there?

Locke and Boone have a secret. They have found a strange hatch in the forest. They want to know what is inside this hatch. But they can't open it. Every day, they go back into the forest to work out how to get inside. They haven't told anyone about this. Locke thinks the other survivors won't understand and might upset his plans.



Shannon is the most interested in Locke and Boone's journeys into the forest.

'She doesn't believe we're hunting,' Boone told Locke as they sat by the hatch.

Locke was mixing something up in a bowl. It looked like thick cream. He told Boone that getting inside the hatch was more important than what Shannon or anyone else believed. 'Anyway, why do you care about Shannon so much?' he asked.

'She's my sister. She's ... special,' Boone replied.

Boone's thoughts returned to the day he arrived in Sydney from Los Angeles. Shannon had phoned and asked him to rescue her.

She had left to go and live with a man called Brian in Sydney, Australia. Now she had finished with him and she needed money to make him go away. It wasn't the first time she had phoned Boone like this. She was always disappearing with new boyfriends, then asking Boone to come and get her when things went wrong.

But this time Shannon and Brian tricked Boone. Boone met Brian and gave him a cheque for \$50,000. Later, he went to get Shannon from Brian's house. Brian told him that Shannon was staying with him – and they were keeping the money. Brian knew that Shannon wasn't Boone's real sister. She was his stepsister. When Shannon's father died, Boone's mother didn't want to know her. His mother was very rich and she only gave money to Boone. Now it was time for Shannon to have some of that money.

Boone was very angry and he fought with Brian. Brian was a lot stronger and won easily. Shannon was upset about the fight. But it didn't change anything. There was nothing Boone could do. In the end, he left and went back to his hotel.

That evening, there was a knock on the door of his room. It was Shannon. She was very upset. Brian had left her and taken the money. She said she was sorry, but she knew Boone would help her because he was in love with her. Boone tried to say this wasn't true, but Shannon moved closer. They started to kiss ...

Locke told Boone he could tell Shannon about the hatch if he wanted. They stood up and Boone turned to go back to camp. Suddenly, Locke hit Boone hard on the back of the head. Boone fell to the ground unconscious.



Boone woke up tied to a tree. Locke was sitting with the strange cream in the bowl. He put some of the cream on Boone's injury. 'This will stop it turning bad,' he said.

Boone felt sleepy. 'Why are you doing this to me?' he asked. Locke told him that it was time to let go.

'Let go of what?' Boone wondered. He jumped as Locke's knife flew past him. It stuck into the ground about a metre from his feet. Locke turned to go.

'You can't leave me here!' Boone cried.

'When you want to escape badly enough, you will,' said Locke. Then he left.

Boone tried hard to reach the knife but the ropes cut into his body. The pain was too much.

Suddenly, he heard a scream for help. It was Shannon. Seconds later, he heard something that sounded like a dangerous creature. It was the huge thing that lived in the forest. It had killed before and Shannon was in terrible danger.

In great pain, Boone finally managed to reach the knife. He cut through the ropes and ran to Shannon. She was tied to a tree. There was no time for questions. The thing was coming. He cut Shannon free and they ran off through the forest.

It was getting closer. They hid quickly in the middle of a circle of trees. They were really frightened and held onto each other tightly. They couldn't see the thing, but they knew it wasn't far away.

When they felt sure that it had gone, they left their hiding place. As they hurried through the forest, Shannon shouted angrily at Boone, 'What did you do to Locke? What made him do this?'

Boone told Shannon about the hatch in the ground. But she had no time to be surprised. The thing suddenly appeared from nowhere, picked Shannon up and disappeared through the trees. 'Shannon!' Boone screamed and tried to follow them.

A few minutes later, he found her. She was lying covered in blood by the side of a small river. Boone ran over to her. He was too late. She was dead. He held Shannon in his arms and cried.



Meanwhile, Kate and the Korean woman, Sun, were having a much more peaceful time. They were working together in the garden Sun had made. Kate liked working there. It was quiet and no one could ask her about her past. While they were digging Kate often talked to herself, thinking that Sun didn't understand English.

Sun's eyes were on the ground when Kate said something. Suddenly, Sun looked up and laughed.

Kate looked at Sun in surprise. 'You understood me!' she said. 'You speak English!'

Sun told her it was true. The only other person on the island that knew she understood English was Michael. Her

husband, Jin, didn't know. She didn't want Jin to find out. 'Please don't tell him,' she said. 'Don't worry,' Kate replied. 'I can keep a secret.'



It's the end of the day and we're sitting around the camp fire. Suddenly, Boone races into the camp and tries to attack Locke. 'You killed Shannon!' he screams.

Locke protects himself easily from Boone. 'So where's the blood?' he asks calmly.

Boone looks down at his arms where they held Shannon. He was sure that there was blood on them before. But they are completely clean. Locke then tells him to look over at the camp fire. When he looks, he sees Shannon talking to Sayid. Her death wasn't real! He can't believe it.

Locke explains, 'That cream I put on your head. It was a kind of drug. It makes you see things. How did you feel when you found Shannon dead?'

'I felt like a great weight had been taken from me.'

'Yes!' says Locke with a smile. 'It's time to let go, Boone. Follow me ...'

The two men get up and disappear into the forest.