

# SERGEANT ROLLE 1/2 <sup>17.</sup>

WOODSIDE

(singsong)

Hey, friend.

GABBY

(squealing)

Woodside!

Woodside and Gabby hug tightly.

GABBY (CONT'D)

I feel like ine see you in forever.

JOHNNEISHA

I mussy name Nassau Glass. You ain' see me here?

Woodside smiles, hugging Johnneisha.

WOODSIDE

Hi, Johnneisha. Don't do me like that.

JOHNNEISHA

I don't want that dry hug. Gabby get hug and I gatta beg for mine.

RONIQUE

(laughing)

Good morning, Woodside.

WOODSIDE

Morning, Ms. Knowles.

RONIQUE

School only been out a month. How you get so tall already?

(looking around)

And where's your mummy? I been tryin' to get a hold of her for a few weeks now be--

JOHNNEISHA

Auntie Ronny, the man talking.

Sgt. Rolle is dramatically staring at Ms. Knowles. She tries to look away, but everyone is looking at them.

Beat of awkward silence. Ronique waves a hand in apology.

## START

SERGEANT ROLLE

Like I was saying, good morning, everyone. My name is Sergeant Rolle.

(MORE)

# SERGEANT ROLLE

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SERGEANT ROLLE (CONT'D)

I'm with the Bahamas Defense Force. And while we protect the country from external threats--that means outside the country--there are some threats that we cannot deal with. Now, one threat we can't do nothin' about is a hurricane. And they are destroying our coastal areas. That's why we are working with the ACE Bahamas to do some good work, learn as much as we can about our natural environments, and get these ecosystem back to where they spose to be.

There's a ROUND OF APPLAUSE. Sgt. Rolle bows unnecessarily.

SERGEANT ROLLE (CONT'D)

Our camp leader, Miss Khrystal Pratt is a marine conversationalist who's going to be helping us spearhead this project.

Sgt. Rolle doesn't notice the misstep. He gestures to MS. KHRYSAL PRATT (32)--a natural comedian; about her business; intuitive--who's just a few feet in front of Woodside.

She's fit and lean, wearing a colorful headwrap that only lets a cascade of curls escape at the top. She waves as the group CLAPS. She doesn't enjoy all the attention.

SERGEANT ROLLE (CONT'D)

Ms. Pratt and Dr. Albury, the founder of ACE, are going to give a brief presentation and get a better understanding of how important this project is. If not, we may never see a beach again.

Woodside nudges Gabby rolling his eyes at Sergeant Rolle.

SERGEANT ROLLE (CONT'D)

And you know if we ain get no beach, the white people ain coming to spend no money. Not you, Dr. Albury. Yous a conchy joe. You one of us. Now--we can't be ignant and negli-flippin-gible about the environment. This is our home...

END

WOODSIDE

We just need one of them big hooks to yank him off the stage.