

## CAST AWAY LETTER

Dear Family,

I have been on this island for many months. I have decided to write this account of my best and worst moments.

I remember my first morning ever so clearly. I searched all day to find water. I thought I had searched every inch but it took me one whole week just searching for water. During that time I had managed to build a rudimentary shelter which I have improved over time. It took ages for me to build and at times I just screamed in frustration. I had managed to build a fire but it was mostly for warmth and keeping animals away at that time because I couldn't fish for a while. I survived on fruit for at least two weeks but then I decided that I must learn to fish. I spent weeks and weeks perfecting my strike. The first fish that I caught was small but tasted so good! At that time I was fishing in the shallows when I waded into slightly deeper water, aimed and struck. I was so ecstatic that I raced back to my camp, started my fire and cooked it. When it came to eating it I almost didn't want to, but told myself I had to survive.

I had found water only shortly before and fish, water and fruit became the best food ever. I looked forward to this meal every day.

Near my camp there is a small plantation of banana trees. Every day I went foraging for bananas. There were some absolutely delicious fruits on the floor.

I kept myself busy so as to not let myself miss you but every night I missed you. I try to keep my spirits high but sometimes I just cry before I go to sleep.

I remember the night that a great storm hit the island as though it were yesterday. It must have started in the night because when I awoke the rain was so bad that I could not go out for two days. It was only on the last day that I could go out to get more food, having relied on emergency supplies. My fire was soaked and it remained so for a number of days. The taste of fresh fruit and fish hadn't tasted so good since I had first arrived.

It must have been some weeks after the storm that I saw the plane. It flew right over head but didn't see me or my fire. My disappointment was immense but once again I told myself that I must let things pass and not keep them on my mind.

I believe there may be some jellyfish on the eastern side so I only venture over there when I have to. Every day I wake up to the morning call of the orang-utans who I kept away from at first but now have befriended, although there are still some that are hostile towards me. They have been extremely good friends to me through the bad times and I am very grateful to them for that.

Lots of love

Will xx

P.S. Really hope to see you soon