

Twilight in Quarantine: Confessions

Vanessa: Chapter 13, Confessions. “Edward in the sunlight was shocking. I couldn’t get used to it, though I’d been staring at him all afternoon. His skin, white despite the flush from yesterday’s hunting trip, literally sparkled.”

Vanessa: I’m Vanessa Zoltan.

Julia: And I’m Julia Argy.

Vanessa: And this is Hot and Bothered: Twilight in Quarantine. The sparkle edition.

Vanessa: This chapter was very upsetting.

Julia: Sooo bad. As though as... someone save us, please! [*Julia is laughing*]

Vanessa: In like, they literally tried to hide it behind sparkles. There was like... he’s been stalking you the whole time, he wanted to straight up murder you, he thought you were a demon, but look how pretty and sparkly he is. It’s like when your parents snuck your medicine in like, pudding. But the medicine is cyanide and you’re like [*Julia laughs*] there’s no pudding good enough, mom.

Julia: Yeah, it’s exactly like that metaphor.

Vanessa: I’ll go first for the 30 second recap, can you count me in? And can you do it, like, with sparkle?

Julia: [*in a very high pitched, magical fairy voice*] Three! Two! One! Go!

Vanessa: So he can sparkle and then she like touches his hand and he shows her that he can throw things and break them, to make the point that he could murder her at any moment. He puts her on his back, like a baby monkey, and they like run around the forest together, and she hates it? Which I do not understand but bless her. And then forces her to let him drive home, and basically says [*time buzzer goes off*] I’m a better driver than you. Always. That’s everything that happened. Oh and they kissed. [*Julia bursts out laughing*] Which makes her faint. Also and then he calls her kiss tolerable. Anyway. Julia.

Julia: You went way over.

Vanessa: [*laughs*] True. Um, okay, are you ready?

Julia: Okay.

Vanessa: On your mark, get set, go!

Julia: Sooo... they are in the meadow and he's sparkling, and he looks super dead but sparkly. And he looks like a statue, and then they kinda like car... [*Julia giggles*] caresses each other endlessly, while he talks about... how much he wants to murder her, and when he's like "oh but I won't murder you, because I want to have sex with you so bad and I've never wanted to have sex before because maybe I'm still a human inside", and she's like "yeah I've never wanted to have sex before but here we are", and then they go down the mountain, [*buzzer goes off*] and then they drive home. And they kiss!

Vanessa: I mean, so we keep joking, but what was bleak about it was how much he talks about how much he wants to kill her.

Julia: And with so many metaphors.

Vanessa: Yeah. And with some pretty offensive metaphors too.

Julia: Yeah.

Vanessa: He's like, "being a vampire is like, being an alcoholic, and I have resisted murdering women for the last hundred years because they were like still beer, but you are like a fine brandy, and an alcoholic would have a harder time resisting a fine brandy." And I'm like... no, that's not how that works.

Julia: Okay, but we have to talk about what we like first before we talk about all the things that we have... complaints about.

Vanessa: Okay. Yeah. Go. What did you like?

Julia: So... in this chapter, Bella brings up MY point, which is that Edward could turn into a bat.

Vanessa: Yeah. That part when I read it, I like screamed with delight. I was like OH MY GOD! IS HE A BAT?! But he's not.

Julia: But the only disappointing part, I wish it was like, Bella would say "are you gonna turn into a bat?", and he would say "no, I'm gonna turn into a flock of bats". [*Vanessa laughs*] So I enjoyed that part.

Vanessa: I can't wait to read your fanfiction.

Julia: [*laughs*] It's gonna be like Edward turns into a flock of bats and stays in Alaska.

Vanessa: [*laughing*] Is it gonna follow the life of one of the bugs that lives on the bat? Like a tick that lives on the bat, [*Julia is laughing in the background*] and it is ironic because the tick is drinking his blood.

Julia: Wow. That's next level.

Vanessa: Mhm. Million dollar idea, right here.

Julia: I actually had another thing I liked. There was a moment where... okay, let me read. This was honestly spectacular. Okay. I have an idea about what this means and I'm thrilled by it. Bella narrates: "His angel's face was only a few inches from mine." His angel's face? It's an apostrophe S. [*Vanessa starts laughing*] I believe that on one of Edward's shoulders, there is a tiny angel [*Vanessa is laughing even harder and Julia is giggling between words*] telling him to not eat Bella, and on the other shoulder, there is a tiny devil... [*both of them are laughing hysterically*] telling him to eat Bella, and that when they're about to nuzzle each other in that moment, she approaches the tiny angel's face on his shoulder.

Vanessa: I don't know why you think that's funny, because that is the only possible conclusion one can come to. I didn't notice it, but otherwise it would say his *angelic* face.

Julia: Yup. It's his angel's face. [*Vanessa giggles*] What did you love?

Vanessa: I love a training montage, like in any movie. I think it's because... Karate Kid's a foundational text in my life, and so... I loved the moment where Edward is like "you have no idea how strong I am", and like... "I can run fast!" And then he does a lap. And then he goes "look at me lift things!", and then he lifts a log. And then he goes "look at me break things!", and then he breaks the log. [*Vanessa is giggling*] And I know it's supposed to be like, scary, because he is showing her that he can't outrun him and that he can just break her. But oh my god, I was like, he's a three year old showing off how... macho he is, and it cracked me up.

Julia: This transitions seamlessly into my advice, which is... he doesn't pick up a log, he *rips off* a branch from a tree and then throws it violently against another tree trunk. And so I want his training montage to not involve shredding up the natural world around him.

Vanessa: I agree with that. He's already causing so much environmental damage, he like kills animals to drink their blood.

Julia: Yeah. And he's speeding all the time!

Vanessa: Yeah. He's burning up fuel. He drives to Alaska for no reason.

Julia: And he could've run. He's fast. There's no excuses.

Vanessa. Yeah. He has a huge carbon footprint. And he's living forever!

Julia: So the cherry on top of that climate change cake, is him ripping off tree trunks for no reason.

Vanessa: And there's like little animals that live on the branches. Like he's just disrupted a totally happy squirrel family. And their acorn stash has just been brutally moved across a forest, next to a family they don't even like.

Julia: As we mentioned, troubling things happened in this chapter. So what is a piece of advice that you have? I assume it's for Edward, because...

Vanessa: Yeah! All my advice in this chapter is for Edward.

Julia: Same.

Vanessa: So, it's... don't talk shit about Jessica.

Julia: Yeah, it was so mean.

Vanessa: He says about Jessica, "It was unquestionably a complication that I simply couldn't read your thoughts to know your reaction. I wasn't used to having to go through such measures, listening to your words through Jessica's mind. Her mind isn't very original, and it was annoying to have to stoop to that." And I'm just like... dude, your mind isn't original or interesting. Who are you to criticize this like, teenage kid's mind? And so I just think with great power comes great responsibility, and you have this power of reading minds, and like... don't be a dick about it.

Julia: Yeah, he was so rude.

Vanessa: Also don't talk shit about your girlfriend's friends!

Julia: I mean, part of the... conclusion I'm drawing is that... maybe Edward and Bella are getting along so well is because they're both such unbearable snobs.

Vanessa: Yeah. I feel like if Edward read my thoughts, like I am almost always thinking about what I get to eat next. And so I guess I just like, reading this... I'm like you would think that I'm boring. And I'm not. You jerk.

Julia: Edward wouldn't be pleased with me either.

Vanessa: So, my advice to Edward is what we do for YOU, Edward, when we're finding you annoying, we sing what you said. If you're finding Jessica's inner thoughts annoying, just set them to music in your head. Doowapp'em. That's my advice.

Julia: Yeah, or just don't listen in.

Vanessa: Yeah, I... you could also do that. Julia, what is your second piece of advice?

Julia: So, at one point Edward calls Bella a little girl, and at another point he refers to the classmates in science class as children.

Vanessa: Yeah.

Julia: So it's clear that he knows that they're children, yet he still wants to date Bella. He has all the facts in place. I want him to have a meditative moment, maybe go back on a retreat to Alaska and think about why he's trying to date someone who is a CHILD.

Vanessa: I also think that like this is the kind of justification that people who take advantage of children make, right? Of like, "but we're soulmates!"

Julia: Yeah. So, my advice to Edward is... put the puzzle pieces of the situation together, and make the right choice to not be with Bella.

Vanessa: Oooh. Take a step back, creepiness level, and like, put together like, a map, like on conspiracy theorists' walls. Like, newspapers clippings...

Julia: Like, "she's a child", tie to "I wanna date her", and then cut the rope.

Vanessa: That strain! Exactly. Okay, great.

Julia: What's your second piece of advice?

Vanessa: My second piece of advice is around this really weird scene when Bella's getting ready to drive home, which is a fight that they've already had. He's already agreed to let her drive, she has already said that his driving makes her uncomfortable, and he keeps *insisting* that he drive her home. She says, *three times*, that she does not want him to drive, that it makes her uncomfortable, that she's worried about her car, she's worried about her safety. And he absolutely controls her. He says "no, you're emotional, you can't drive, it's like you're drunk because you're near me and that's the same as being intoxicated because you can't drive."

He's constantly comparing himself and her to alcohol... and she's not drunk on him. Like, I have emotions and drive ALL THE TIME! [*Julia giggles a little*] Women are not too hysterical to control big machines, women presidents are not gonna get their period and nuke Russia. These are like not things you have to worry about. Do not tell women that they can't do things because of their emotions. Because it makes us mad.

Julia: It reminded me of your dazzling point, because he goes "you're intoxicated by my very presence" and she says she can't argue with that. Yes she can! That's not true!

Julia: So I took some other notes, I take notes every chapter and I just wanna – this chapter was so rich that I just wanna share my little... one liners with you. Okay. This was a quote. "The smell of his breath makes my mouth water." [*Both Vanessa and Julia laughs*] So gross!

Vanessa: Well maybe my theory was right and he smells like cotton candy!

Julia: Yeah.

Vanessa: She hasn't eaten all day!

Julia: Yeah! Yeah... oh.

Vanessa: Which is another, like, Edwaaard! Just because YOU don't eat doesn't mean she doesn't eat! [*Vanessa groans*]

Julia: Yup. Yup. Oh! A serious thing that I noticed! Did you notice this when... Edward is talking about how they were in that little office with the iconic Ms. Cope who we've discussed as the administrator and we finally learned her name?

Vanessa: And Bella blames herself for him almost killing her?

Julia: Yeah!

Vanessa: I know.

Julia: "I was so scared to think that I could be responsible for Ms. Cope's death." I was like wow, you don't understand what responsibility means.

Vanessa: I didn't even notice that as well. But I don't wanna give Bella advice. He sucks.

Julia: Yeah, that didn't make the cut for me.

Vanessa: Totally. I'm with you. I'm just... I'm agreeing with you.

Julia: Okay. [*Julia laughs*] When have you ever heard of a sexy piggyback ride?

Vanessa: [*laughs*] Oh, see, I straight up disagree with you on that.

Julia: Well, did you feel disappointed that you were talking about your motion sickness and then it turns out that even Edward's piggyback rides still make you motion sick?

Vanessa: Well, do not steal my care package idea.

Julia: Oh, sorry, would you like to share?

Vanessa: Yes. So, I think she needs some motion sickness medicine. I have a couple of recommendations – the sea bands really work! I sent them to my sister-in-law when she was pregnant with my nephew and they really helped her. And then the other thing I recommend is traveling with saltines. A saltine or two can really help with nausea. It is disappointing for me to learn that being carried around still comes with motion sickness, but can you imagine, like... you and I both *love* to walk, and like you and I will walk a whole city, like, in a day, right? 15 miles, no problem. But at the end you get so tired. Can you imagine just saying “carry me!” I'd wear heels!

Julia: You would walk 15 miles in heels to get carried home?

Vanessa: No, I would wear heels if I wanted to because I'd be like I don't wanna walk anymore, I'll make him carry me home.

Julia: Edward, always there. Always stalking you. Ready to carry you at a moment's notice.

Vanessa: I just think it's the one upside of Edward. So yeah. The other thing I would get her is goggles, because it sounds like he goes so fast that it like burns her eyes. And so I feel like some ski goggles... so she could still enjoy the view without burning her eyes.

Julia: This is only getting less sexy.

Vanessa: [*bursts out laughing*] I don't need it to be sexy! It's *functional*! And what is sexier than goggles and heels?

Julia: [*giggles*] I was thinking, maybe, do you know, um... in ancient times, when people just to carry around other people on these little trays? [*Julia is giggling again*] I don't know what they're called.

Vanessa: Like Cleopatra.

Julia: Like... yeah. Yeah.

Vanessa: Mhm.

Julia: Edward could put her into one of those little chairs and then he could carry her around and it would be way sexier.

Vanessa: You're talking about those backpacks that people put toddlers in, right?

Julia: It's like that, but it's... it's like a velvet chair.

Vanessa: [*is laughing a lot*] It's a velvet backpack that people hike with toddlers in...

Julia: Strap in, Bells!

Vanessa: What do you wanna put in her care package?

Julia: So I have a theory about Edward sparkling, where... like, when... sunlight hits the ocean and makes the UV impact more powerful, so I'm worried about her UV-exposure when she's near him, when he's sparkling in the sun. So I wanted to get her a really good SPF sunscreen to apply before he sparkles, to negate that... that sun damage that's happening to her skin.

Vanessa: Yeah! I hadn't thought about that. Like, he's snow.

Julia: Mhm. Mhm.

Vanessa: Like you can get more sunburnt –

Julia: Exactly, yeah!

Vanessa: – while skiing. Mm. Again, my ski goggles would help.

Julia: [*gasps*] Genius. Ski goggles, a little bit of white zinc across her nose, and she is ready for a hot date with Edward, saltines in one hand, her heels in her other. [*Both Vanessa and Julia is laughing*]

Vanessa: No, heels on her feet!

Julia: I'm gonna dress up like that on Halloween. Everyone's gonna be like who are you and I'm gonna be like I'm Bella Swan from the Twilight Series.

Vanessa: Great! And I'll dress up as a flock of bats with a toddler backpack on my back, and when people are like what are you, a creepy bat? I'll be like no I'm Edward Cullen. Obviously. And when the party's over you can keep your heels on and get on the toddler backpack and I'll fly us home!

Julia: Woah. I can't wait.

Vanessa: Don't forget to put saltines in your backpack.

Julia: Things to look forward to after corona virus starts to end.

Julia: So what do you think is gonna happen next chapter?

Vanessa: Okay I know I have predicted this before, but I think THIS is the time, when Charlie finds out about Edward and he's caught so many trout that he has a trout to spare and he pulls the trout out of his like fish basket and he challenges Edward to a duel by bitch slapping him with one of the trouts. Pew pew! En garde!

Julia: What's Edward gonna fight him with?

Vanessa: That branch. [*Julia laughs*] But... but, the squirrel family are gonna come out of the branch and fight on Charlie's side. And so it's gonna be a team of squirrels and a dead fish and Charlie on one side and only one flock of bats on the other. Squirrel and fish wins every time.

Vanessa: This has been Twilight in Quarantine, a costume contest victory from Hot and Bothered. This episode and all episodes are executively produced by Ariana Nedelman and produced by Ariana Martinez. This show was conceived of as a vampire baby by the angel Julia Argy, and I'm Vanessa Zoltan and I'm the devil on your shoulder. Don't kiss me. We're a production of Not Sorry Productions and distributed by ACAST.