

Twilight in Quarantine: An Impasse

Chapter 24, An Impasse. My eyes open to a bright, white light. (*theme music playing throughout*) I was in an unfamiliar room. A white room. The wall beside me was covered in long vertical blinds, over my head the glaring lights blinded me. (*Julia giggling*)

Julia: I'm Julia Argy.

Vanessa: And I'm Vanessa Zoltan.

Julia: And this is Twilight in Quarantine.

Vanessa: (*in a sing-song voice*) The last chapter, before the epilogue!

Vanessa: So, we did it, we read the book!

Julia: I know. I'm so proud of us. Did you ever have doubts that we would get this far?

Vanessa: Yes, I did.

Julia: At what point? Were you like no more?

Vanessa: I think it was the 9th day in a row they had lunch. (*Julia and Vanessa giggling*) I was like, "Is this my life now?"

Julia: And now here we are, wishing that it was still lunch.

Vanessa: (*laughing*) It's true. I never thought I would miss lunch.

Julia: Vanessa, can I count you in for the 30 second recap?

Vanessa: Happily. Oh, what happens in this chapter?

Julia: They like, get in a fight. Whatever.

Vanessa: Yeah.

Julia: Okay 3, 2, 1, go.

Vanessa: (*ticking sound throughout*) So Bella's fine. She's in the hospital. She's in a lot of pain, so many injuries. Renee is there but sort of not there. And she's like, "Oh my God, Bella I think Edward likes you. Do you like him?" and is like, "Carlisle is young and hot. Are you sure he's a doctor?" And she's like, "I'm coming back to Florida, but you should come with me. My husband got a job." Good for you. Edward is like, "I love you. I didn't even kill you. I'm so proud of myself. I think I just love you."

And Bella's like, "Don't leave me, don't leave me," and he's like, "I'm not leaving you," and she's like, "Don't leave me." (*buzzer sound*) Foreshadowing.

Julia: (*giggling*) The last word of the chapter is just foreshadowing in italicize.

Vanessa: I feel like she said "don't leave me" so much I was like, "Do know what Edward? Leave her."

Julia: (*laughing*) Just to see what happens?

Vanessa: It's like when your dog begs at the table, right. You're like, "I would have given you some, but you were too thirsty." Like, no.

Julia: Like, it's just embarrassing at that point.

Vanessa: Yeah. You're like, "Do you know what? I am going to leave you." Okay. On your mark, get set, go.

Julia: (*ticking sound throughout*) So she's in the hospital room and she wakes up from drugs. She's been asleep for a long time. We find out that it's Friday, but I'm not sure when she got like, attempted murdered so unclear on that. Then Renee comes in and they talk about having a crush and Bella says, "I love Forks, I'm not leaving because of Edward and I like him so much and I also have friends." Question mark who she's referring to there. And then Bella's like, "Why didn't you let me change into a vampire?" He's like, "Alice told you that?! What?" and then he's like, "I won't because then you're damned to eternal night. No." (*buzzer sound*).

Vanessa: You mentioned my breaking news in your 30 second recap. Doo-doo-doo-doo, doo-doo-doo-doo: It's Friday.

Julia: Like the song?

Vanessa: (*laughing*) Yes.

Julia: (*laughing*) Do you remember that song from like, maybe 2012? (*both laughing*)

Vanessa: I do!

(*both laughing and singing*) "It's Friday, Friday! Gotta get down on Friday."

Vanessa: But, I don't know, I thought that was pretty relatable content. It's like, "I've been asleep forever. What day is it?" Like, me too Bella. Quarantine life.

Julia: Yeah, that's great breaking news.

Vanessa: Do you have any breaking news Julia?

Julia: My breaking news is that Charlie is nowhere to be found in the chapter. Where is he? I think there must be an emergency in Forks because he is absolutely absent for his hospitalized daughter.

Vanessa: Yeah, the parenting styles that become clear at the end of this book really explain a lot of my questions at the beginning of the book.

Julia: Can't wait to hear more.

Vanessa: Julia, do you think the nursing staff at the hospital is finally going to figure out that Edward's a vampire? Like, they're going to notice that he never eats.

Julia: I felt so bad for them in this chapter. Bella and Edward are absolute menaces (*both start laughing*) in a hospital ward. It was so bad. (*Vanessa laughing loudly*) They keep making out just to see if it will kill her. And, like, the medical staff have to come in and be like, "these horny teens are making your charts go absolutely wonky. Like, please stop making out with this dying woman." She has injuries head-to-toe. (*Vanessa laughing*) Literally head-to-toe.

Vanessa: I think maybe the waitress who served them earlier like moonlights as a waitress but is actually a nursing student and also sees them here and is like, "Jesus, you two!"

Julia: She came from Forks? Or Port Angeles?

Vanessa: (*laughing loudly*) Oh, right. This is in Scottsdale. Nevermind.

(*transition music plays*)

Vanessa: Julia what did you love in this chapter?

Julia: I am so glad Phil got a job in a minor league baseball team. Even though he's 37 and hasn't made it yet, he finally gets a position in the Suns. Whatever that team is, the minor league team in Jacksonville, Florida, he is now a member. So pleased.

Vanessa: Yeah. I'm also really happy for Phil. I think that 37 is not too late to do anything. I was already an example to the world that you can do anything at 37 because I started a Twilight podcast when I was 37. So Phil, I'm glad that you're like, also an inspiration for people our age. Phil and Vanessa, making 37 look awesome.

Julia: So true. I'm so happy for both of you.

Vanessa: What I loved in this chapter is when Edward says, "You have to admit, you falling down stairs and through a window could happen." And that is a sick burn! And so I would like to thank Edward for listening to this podcast and ask him to please support us on Patreon.

Julia: (*skeptical tone of voice*) Do you think it's a sick burn? I think he was serious.

Vanessa: Yeah it's a sick burn! Bella is a clutz but she has never put herself into the hospital before, that we know of. And isn't that with a sick burn is? Something that could be true but like, way harsher.

Julia: (*snorts with laughter*) I was actually kind of worried about that lie because those are the kinds of things people say in domestic abuse situations. It's like I quote-unquote fell down the stairs and there were like, no red flags raised from anyone about all of her grievous injuries from like a tripping accident.

Vanessa: I think that Alice does just a really good job of like, making it look real. And so, red flags up, Alice flags down.

Julia: She's like one of those people in a marching band. Isn't that one of their responsibilities?

Vanessa: Yeah, Alice was like, full color guard. Or like that person who's like waving the flag that it's the last lap. She's like, it's legit, don't worry.

Julia: Is that part of car racing?

Vanessa: Yep.

Julia: You know I know nothing about cars and sports which just negates the entire existence of car racing in my mind.

Vanessa: Except I said it and you knew what it was.

Julia: Barely.

Vanessa: So you've been out it is a liar. (*Julia giggles*)

Julia: I love Nascar. (*Vanessa laughing*) I have seen every Indy500.

Vanessa: Mmhmm.

Julia: Vanessa, do you have any advice for someone in this chapter?

Vanessa: My advice is on a theme this week. It's for Renee. All my advice. Renee you say "Bella, you can come to Florida now, cuz we're going to be based in Florida. Because Phil got a job on the Triple-A team, and we're so happy for him, blah, blah, blah. Jacksonville's great." And then she says "And because I love you and I'm such a good mom," and then she pats herself on the back, "I will only travel with Phil for his away games half the time." And I would say no Renee. Your child is a child for like, another year. Your husband will be around forever. You will see him during home games and offseason and he can travel for away games by himself. Be A Mom! That's my advice

Julia: I mean, no wonder Bella moved to Forks at this point. The parenting was zero regardless of where she was.

Vanessa: Yeah It was so disturbing that she said this to her child, who's like, in a hospital bed, has like, almost died from basically lack of care. Like, I'm sure Phil is like so good in bed and she doesn't like to be away from him for that many nights in a row. But like, stuck it up dude. Your kid is graduating from high school soon. Just don't be a bad parent. My advice is don't be a bad parent. What about you Julia?

Julia: Okay. Listen to this absolute *heinous* comment to his girlfriend who almost died, in the hospital bed. Basically because he did something bad, she almost died. And then this is what he said, about her recovery. "They gave you a few transfusions. I didn't like it. It made you smell all wrong for a while." This is not about you Edward! No one asked if you cared how she smelled after the blood transfusion! Imagine you being absolutely flattened in a hospital bed and someone being like, "I actually don't like the way you smell right now. Can you like, freshen up? Get some different blood?" It's so rude. So my advice to him is don't make everything about you. Or to sum it up: one of my favorite phrases 1-800-bitch-did-I-ask?

Vanessa: That's like a phone number he can call whenever he's confused as to whether or not he should share his opinion. And it goes ring-ring and then he goes, "I'm curious..." and it's just your voice going "NO!"

Julia: The answer is like, always no.

Vanessa: That's really good advice.

Julia: What's your second piece of advice?

Vanessa: My second piece of advice it's also for Renee. My advice is Renee stop being so close-minded. She says that she doesn't think Carlisle's really a doctor cuz he's too hot to be a doctor. And I just think that that's really bigoted against hot people and like, hot people are just like everybody and they can be anything that they set their minds to. And you are being a really bad model for Bella, and that's probably why she's so judgmental and snobby up in Forks and probably why she thinks all people from Phoenix play volleyball. Like, you're just being a really bad teacher of stereotyping. Hot people can be doctors, bad people like you can be moms, anybody can be anything.

Julia: (*laughing*) Hasn't Renee seen the documentary film *Grey's Anatomy*? In which every single doctor is extremely hot? (*Vanessa laughing*)

Vanessa: I know! Not only have I seen that documentary but I've watched so much of it that I am like, semi-qualified to be a doctor. And so like, I'm a hot person who's a doctor.

Julia: I have a great idea. Edward and Renee should watch *Grey's Anatomy* together. Renee can learn that hot people can be doctors and Edward can finally learn some first aid, so next time Bella almost dies, he can step in and have an intervention. (*Vanessa laughing*)

Vanessa: What about you Julia?

Julia: I have advice for Bella, who clearly does not understand how competent Carlisle is. I'm part of the Carlisle appreciation team, if this is not evident. So, Bella and Edward are having a fight about Bella being turned into a vampire. I think she wanted to be turned into a vampire instead of being revived as a human. And then she says, "Someone else can change me into a vampire" and then she says it would be Alice as opposed to Carlisle who is an actual doctor, who can change people into vampires. Alice has no tracker for this and can't be around Bella's blood, so I don't know why she picked Alice over Carlisle, who is clearly the better option here.

Vanessa: I would probably go with Jasper. He'd make me feel like it was a great idea the whole time. (*Julia giggles*)

Julia: You wouldn't have that last second where you're like, "Oh fuck, I messed up." You'd be like, "It's lit! I love vampires!" (*both laughing*)

Vanessa: Yeah.

Julia: Jasper is the king of good vibes only. (*Vanessa laughing*) However, as brothers, they both have a compulsion to drug Bella against her will. Did you notice that Edward drugs her against her will in this chapter?

Vanessa: No.

Julia: And she just rides the wave! Both the morphine wave and the wave of Edward's controlling behavior. (*laughing*)

Vanessa: She resists him! She's like, "No morphine yet!"

Julia: Yeah, and then he does it anyway and then the nurse comes in she's like, guess this is happening. Like the nurse would listen to her. The nurse wouldn't just turn to Edward and be like "Are we sure?" (*Vanessa laughing*)

Vanessa: Oh, I totally missed that.

(*transition music plays*)

Vanessa: Julia, before we talk about our care package, what did you write about in your Twilight diary? Dear Twilight... (*Julia giggling*)

Julia: Yes, every entry is addressed to Twilight itself. Dear Twilight, is having a predisposition to be a realtor a genetic trait, that is inheritable from mother to daughter? Because Renee has it as well, when she tries to sell Bella on Jacksonville.

Vanessa: I noticed that! She was like, "Half hour from the beach, great light."

Julia: And maybe Charlie has like, the weatherman aspect and she's battling the two parents career paths.

Vanessa: Yeah! This is why kids need to be raised by like, a village right? Like, you need a lot of different examples of things that you could be. Right now she's like, "Weatherman like dad or real estate agent like mom?"

Julia: I think soon Bella's going to become a hot doctor.

Vanessa: Oooh, yeah! Carlisle is such a good influence on her!

Julia: Mmhmm.

Vanessa: Anything else in your Dear Twilight?

Julia: I just had the passing note that the nurse should beat Edward up. (*Julia laughing loudly*) I'm not sure what I read to make me write that down, but I did write that down. (*Vanessa laughing*)

Vanessa: You know, even though I don't know what you were responding to I don't disagree with you.

(*transition music*)

Julia: I have a question for you. Would you rather have 300 million dollars or a vampire boyfriend? In this chapter Bella says that having Edward is better than winning the lottery. I was like, "Do you have an understanding about how much money you can win in the lottery?" (*Vanessa laughing loudly*)

Vanessa: Would you give up Jonah for 300 million dollars?

Julia: I could like, buy a clone of Jonah with 300 million dollars.

Vanessa: So, just wait, your only two options are yes or no. Julia, here is 300 million dollars, but you can never see Jonah again.

Julia: I would give him half. I would say yes and give him half. I don't know if he would even be bad about that.

Vanessa: Julia, would you give up Lentil for 300 million dollars?

Julia: Yes, with reparations. (*Vanessa laughing*)

Vanessa: Oh, you'd give Lentil half the money?

Julia: I'd give Lentil like, a dog island with anything he's ever wanted. (*Vanessa laughing throughout*) I'd be like, "You're better off without me here." Like it's, it's not selfish. It is selfish, but he's fine with it.

Vanessa: I think that even if I gave Rory a dog island she'd be so sad to be parted from me.

Julia: I think you would be sad and you're projecting. (*both laughing*) I think Rory'd be like, "I'm living it up."

(*transition music*)

Vanessa: Julia what are you going to put in Bella's care package?

Julia: I wanna add to our gifts from last week. I think she should get some slipper socks. I have never been hospitalized, thankfully, but the closest level of confinement that I can imagine is airplanes and my feet always get really cold. So I would send her a nice, warm pair of socks but the kind that has the tacky bottom so that she doesn't slip and fall. Get well soon Bella!

Vanessa: I like that you think that flying is similar to being in the hospital.

Julia: Like, you're trapped and you're uncomfortable.

Vanessa: (*giggling*) True.

Julia: What do you want to put in Bella's care package?

Vanessa: A better mom.

Julia: Who?

Vanessa: Like, most moms. I actually think that we could like, pre-record 10 things onto a tape and like put them in a Teddy Ruxpin and it would be a better mom than Renee.

Julia: That is so harsh. Way harsh time.

Vanessa: Like, "I love you and will make sacrifices for your well-being."

Julia: So out of character, she would never.

Vanessa: "I'm expecting a call from your stepfather but I will stay here with you in the hospital instead." Just you know *normal* stuff.

Julia: Okay! Oh, what do you think is going to happen in the epilogue?

Vanessa: I think the epilogue is a baseball game. And it's Phil and his Triple-A team versus the Cullens. And it's like, everyone's happy, baseball, All-American...

Julia: Who's going to win?

Vanessa: The Cullens! Cuz they are vampires.

Julia: I think it's going to be a cliffhanger hanger. (*Vanessa laughing*) It's gonna be a cliffhanger and then like, in *New Moon* find out who wins the game, in *Twilight 2: New Moon*.

(*outro music playing throughout*)

Vanessa: This has been Twilight in Quarantine, a message from 1-800-bitch-did-I-ask, from Hot and Bothered. This episode and all episodes are executive-produced by Ariana Nedelman and produced by Ariana Martinez. This show was conceived of as a vampire baby by Julia Argy. And I'm Vanessa Zoltan and no, Edward we didn't ask. We are a production of Not Sorry Productions and are distributed by Acast. Talk to you in a few days when we're going to talk about the epilogue.