

Twilight in Quarantine: New Moon Chapter 12 - Intruder

Julia: Chapter twelve, Intruder. “My eyes flew wide open with fright, [*Intro music starts*] though I was so exhausted and muddled, that I was not yet positive whether I was asleep or awake. Something scratched against my window again, in the same, thin, high-pitched sound.”

Julia: I’m Julia Argy.

Vanessa: And I’m Vanessa Zoltan.

Julia: And this is Hot & Bothered, Twilight in Quarantine.

[*Music fades*]

Vanessa: Julia, I hated this chapter.

Jullia: I kinda thought you would like it ‘cause Jacob seemed nice again.

Vanessa: Sort of. He seemed so annoying. I think why I hated this chapter is that it felt like we were back to Edward. Again, a man is sneaking into Bella’s room and then, like, *yelling* at her, when she was just like, trying to sleep. He wakes her from the dead of night and is like, “Remember this random thing I told you a year and a half ago!” and she’s like, “I’m so tired.” It just drove me *nuts*! I was like, give her a break, get out of her room, why isn't this girl allowed to sleep through the night?

Julia: I mean, last episode I was telling Bella, “Just remember,” so I have a lot of sympathy [*Chuckles*] with Jacob’s perspective in this chapter.

Vanessa: Yeah, I did feel like Jacob was listening. Anyway. I will recap the like, one thing that happens in this chapter.

Julia: Great, please do.

Vanessa: Count me in?

Julia: Three...two...one...go [*Ticking noise begins*].

Vanessa: So Jacob, like, very awkwardly comes into the window, and Bella's like, falling asleep and he's like, "I'm sorry" and she's like, "I don't want your apologies" and he's like, "Well I'm sorry and I have a really good reason and you should remember. Guess!" and then he just like, stares at her and is like, "Guess!" and she's like, "I can't guess" and he leaves and then she has a dream and is like "[*Gasps*] he's a werewolf!" and then she's like, "I'm gonna go there and confront him at like, four in the morning and Charlie is leaving because somebody else has died in the woods and they're gonna to try to catch the wolves. [*Buzzer sound, ticking noise ends*].

Julia: That was very comprehensive.

Vanessa: Yeah! It was super easy to do because *nothing* happens. Kay, on your mark, get set, go! [*Ticking noise begins]*

Julia: [*Chuckles*] Soo, Bella thinks that Victoria's here to kill her, but...she's not! It's Jacob and he hops into the room and she...almost faints?...um, because she's so overwhelmed and she gets a big hug from him and he's super hot still, both...both ways as always, um. He's like, "Remember that time you flirted with me to get information out of me? What did you tell me?" and she's like, "I don't know, that Edward was a vampire?" and he's like, "Haven't you ever had a secret that you couldn't tell?" She's like, "Yeah...but...I'm not telling *you* about it." And then...yeah, the werewolves are gonna die. [*Buzzer sound, ticking noise end*]. That was it.

Vanessa: Yeah! I have a new Breaking News song.

Julia: Oh, share.

Vanessa: [*Sings*] Doo doo doo!

Julia: That...is the Jeopardy one?

Vanessa: No, it's like, that text sound called like...circle or something. [*Sings faster*] Doo doo

doo!

Julia: As long as it's not the one that sounds like a trumpet, then it's fine.

Vanessa: [*Vanessa, sounding like a trumpet*] Doo doodoo^{doooo}! Breaking news!

Julia: [*Chuckles*] I hate that one, Jesus Christ. So, Jacob is not part of a cult, he's part of a pack. Unclear how that's different. [*Vanessa laughs*]

Julia: And, Bella's figured it out, and somehow thinks that...he...is murdering people out in the woods. Even though that seems...super evident that that's not the case!

Vanessa: Yeah, like, Bella needs to assume good intentions in her friends. Like, they're not murderers. And it seems so obvious that there are vampires running amok murdering.

Julia: Well, that's the part that's so confusing. Last week, I was just begging Bella to put two and two together, and then here she's like, "Oh I finally figured out they're werewolves, that's great." But she had seen the werewolves chasing Laurent when Laurent tried to kill her, a person, and is like, "But probably the werewolves are out there killing people," even though she has witnessed a vampire in the woods trying to kill someone. Do you have any other breaking news?

Vanessa: Another piece of breaking news is that she calls Jacob an *intruder*, even though Edward was there, like, every fucking night, and she never called *him* an intruder. And so, I was like, wondering if this said something about implicit consent...that I wasn't comfortable with. That like, Jacob *is* an intruder because she doesn't like him romantically so she doesn't *like* that he breaks into her room at night. But Edward, on some level, she wanted him to, so it's okay. But that doesn't mean that Edward's actions were actually okay, because it wasn't explicit consent.

Julia: And it's so scary! That's a bad way to wake up.

Vanessa: Yeah, I had a stalker in college who...he would use the excuse that my *boyfriend* was allowed to come over unannounced, to come over unannounced himself, and once just crawled into bed with me, so this is a hill that I am willing to die on.

Julia: I can only imagine.

Vanessa: Don't break into women's bedrooms while they're asleep.

Julia: So true!

Vanessa: Yeah. Did you have a moment of genuine enjoyment? 'Cause I literally didn't.

Julia: That is so unfair Vanessa! Things *happened* in this chapter.

Vanessa: What *enjoyable* thing happened in this chapter?

Julia: Okay, listen to this, let me tell you, 'cause *I* had one 'cause *I'm* a good sport. "Put some honest effort into it, Bella." [*Vanessa chuckles*] He sounded like a little high school gym teacher, like trying to get me to play flag football or something?

Vanessa: Knees up! Knees up!

Julia: [*Laughs*] Like just try! [*Laughs again*] So I really enjoyed that.

Vanessa: Ugh. I even hate that, it's so patronizing. And he's like trying to find a *loophole*. He's just being such a *snake* [*Julia laughs*] in this whole chapter!

Julia: [*Still laughing*] Snake! Oh my gosh, fighting words!

Vanessa: He is! He's lying to everyone!

Julia: I would like to remind you that two weeks ago you were Team Jacob.

Vanessa: Two weeks ago, [*Julia laughs*] he was behaving like an upstanding young person! He has FLIPPED to the Edward side.

Julia: I don't know, I was kinda into it.

Vanessa: He's basically Edward now. And he's not wearing a shirt. Why is this man running around topless? It makes me uncomfortable.

Julia: Vanessa, if you're a true believer in hot person rights, [*Jullia laughs while speaking*] you should believe that they should be able to walk around shirtless.

Vanessa: Men should only be allowed to walk around shirtless if women can.

Julia. So true. Tits out, everyone.

Vanessa: Tits out.

[*Music plays, then fades*]

Vanessa: I don't have any genuine enjoyment, but I do have advice.

Julia: Oh! Please start us off.

Vanessa: Okay, so as much as I *hate* Jacob in this chapter, I will say that Bella should be gracious when he apologizes to her. It's like, really weird that she like yells at him, "I don't want an explanation!" and it's like well like, literal hours ago you were sobbing in the woods like, *begging* for one? And sometimes people can't do things on your exact time table? So while I understand being upset that he like, committed a crime by coming into your house, I think that once you're like clearly not mad about that, it's like, weird that she doesn't want to accept his apology, and I think graciously accepting apologies is important. And I think that it's because Bella is so horrible at apologizing.

Jula: That she doesn't even understand how to receive one?

Vanessa: Yeah!

Julia: I mean, Edward never did.

Vanessa: Edward never did it, she's never apologized to Jessica...right, like...she's not good at productive forms of confrontation, and therefore she's not good at productive forms of catharsis. But I really felt bad for Jacob. He's like, trying. He's doing a really bad job, but he's trying.

Julia: [*Chuckles*] It was a good effort.

Vanessa: I guess. What about you, Julia? What advice do you have?

Julia: Well, I have advice that I think is really helpful in movie and book situations, but has never happened to me not once in my life. So, my understanding of the last chapter, when Jacob is mean to Bella, is that he was mean to her because his werewolf pack was listening and he can't be nice to Bella because of werewolf rules. And so, I think that people in situations like this need to have a code word that they can slip in where it's like, "I'm being fake mean to you," so that they don't get into a *real* fight. So like, the code word is "banana," and it's like, "I wanna see you again, like, I wanna slip on a banana peel." And then they won't have to get into this long fight.

Because it happens all the time in movies and books where someone has to be fake mean, and people should have strategies in place [*Chuckles*] for circumstances like that.

Vanessa: I agree with you [*Laughs*] that that's something that happens a lot in books and movies and like, never happens in real life. Sometimes with the kids, I have to like pretend to be mad when I'm not actually mad, I just know that they've done something that they shouldn't do.

Julia: Yeah, that's a more normal circumstance to be in [*Chuckles*] than to have to fake yell at someone.

Vanessa: Yeah, but I don't yell. I go, "Come on, you should wait for your dad--who cooked the meal--to be at the table before you eat."

Julia: And then you pull at your ear?

Vanessa: [*Chuckles*] But I'm like, not *mad*, I just feel like they shouldn't do that, but I also understand that they're hungry.

Julia: Well, if we get into a circumstance like this, I'm gonna slip in "key lime pie, so...

Vanessa: Okay.

Julia: Don't worry, we've solved this problem in our relationship.

Vanessa: Should I use the same-

Julia: Yeah.

Vanessa: -code word? Or can I-

Julia: Otherwise, it's too hard to remember.

Vanessa: I agree. So "key lime pie."

Julia: Great.

[*Music plays, then fades*]

Julia: What's your second piece of advice?

Vanessa: My second piece of advice is to Jacob, and that is like, a little bit of self-awareness. He's like, "I'm not in a cult! I just can't tell you what we do, I can't quit, I have a leader who I love, and I can't explain to you why I love him so much, and I'm not really allowed to talk to you anymore. But it's not a cult!" and I just think there's like a real lack of self-awareness there. So, Peter would never do this, but if he were to say to me, "You're not mad at me, you're just hormonal." If I knew that wasn't true, I would like, definitely stop doing my Diva Cup art and put down my big piece of chocolate cake while I told him to shove it. Not because I think that the two things are related, but because I think we have to be our own PR agents. And then I have to give alternative reasoning, I'm like, "No, the reason I'm mad is because you cut my hair while I was asleep, and like, that is not okay." But I just think it's important to like, put down the evidence to the contrary while having a databased fight.

Julia: [*Laughs while speaking*] You sound like a really fun person to fight with. [*Mimics Vanessa*] "You need to have a databased fight." [*Vanessa and Julia laugh*]

Vanessa: What's wrong with requiring data?! Like if someone says to me, "You *always* do this," I'm like, "Give me three examples."

Julia: 83% of fights need data. [*Vanessa laughs*] A part of what confused me about that whole interaction is that Bella then says that packs are worse than cults. [*Vanessa and Julia laugh*] Like, does she not know what happens in cults? [*Julia laughs while speaking*] Like packs don't seem that bad!

Vanessa: Yeah, like the worst thing a pack does is, like, gather around a piece of prey and kill it together so they have food. I guess maybe a pack could gather around a piece of prey and kill it, and like, not eat it?

Julia: Leave it for a different animal?

Vanessa: Yeah but even that seems nice. That's like, charity.

Julia: Yeah, gift giving. [*Laughs*]

Vanessa: [*Laughs*] Like, I'm not sure that packs really do that much bad stuff.

Julia: I mean, they're hierarchical, which I'm innately opposed to. But, beyond that...like, we could get rid of the monarchy before we get rid of packs.

Vanessa: Yeah, I think that before we judge them, we should really do some dethroning of our own.

Julia: So true! Wow.

Vanessa: Julia, what's your last piece of advice?

Julia: So, my last piece of advice is also for Jacob, and I would like to advise him to be a normal teen, and just throw pebbles at someone's window, as opposed to climbing quote-unquote "to the top of a tree," and having it, like, arc down enough where he's kicking at her window. Just be a regular teen and throw the pebbles. That's what happens. That's what you're supposed to do.

Vanessa: Or, like, get a branch, and like, knock knock! He's so tall, he's 6'5", your arm gives you another what, foot and a half, two feet?

Julia: Sure.

Vanessa: So that's like, eight and a half feet, he like barely needs a *stick* and he can hit the window.

Julia: I know, I know! Bring a broom with him...tap tap! That's all [*Julia scoffs*] so easy!

Vanessa: Pack a broom!

Julia: As someone who notoriously can't aim, I understand the hesitancy around throwing pebbles at glass, but [*Chuckles*] broom is solved.

Vanessa: I also...my concern with pebbles would be that like Jacob is someone who doesn't yet totally understand his own strength. So I can imagine him accidentally breaking the window.

Julia: Mhm, yeah. But, better than breaking the front lawn tree.

Vanessa: Yeah. Further evidence that he's turning into Edward! He's also *breaking trees* now!

Julia: Mhm. Mhm. I know.

Vanessa: I am like, so not into it. We already *have* an Edward. We don't need another one!

Julia: I agree.

Vanessa: Geez. Or, Edward don't come back, now we have Jacob.

[*Music plays and fades*]

Julia: Vanessa, what's in your Twilight diary?

Vanessa: So, it's like, sort of advice-y, but let me process out loud 'cause I'm not sure who the advice is for. I think it's really strange that they're getting the *police* involved with trying to catch wolves. And that like, they're like calling for a reward for a bunch of people to go out with guns. This seems like really bad strategy, like, humans are definitely gonna get shot. And Charlie says that, Charlie is like, "You send out a bunch of people with guns and a reward, someone's gonna get shot." And I'm like, "Well don't do that." Like, if you know that potentially an innocent person is gonna get shot, and the reason that you're going out in the first place is because an innocent person died, it seems like the solution is just contributing to the problem and isn't an actual solution.

Julia: And someone's gonna kill a small wolf. Someone's gonna kill a regular wolf and be like, "Where's my money at?"

Vanessa: Yeah! So I guess my advice is like, for the NRA? You know that shit like this happens all the time, so like, stop abusing your power and punking us all with fake statistics about how guns save lives. They don't, they're going to kill all of these unnecessary wolves. Julia, what do you want to put in Bella's care package?

Julia: So, I've decided this chapter is something that we discussed earlier, that Bella is a cat person. I tried to send her that puppy once, and I think it was the wrong choice. I just think that any dog person who hears that their friend is a werewolf won't be upset, but instead will be thrilled. And so, the fact that she thinks that Jacob is a monster who murders humans makes me think that she's in fact a cat person, and that I need to take back the two dogs that we have sent her in care packages so far and in its place, send her a kitten.

Vanessa: But, don't you think that the wrong thing to do with a cat person is reward them by giving them a cat? [*Julia laughs*] Like they need to learn the error of their ways and be given dogs to like, be proven once and for all that dogs are the superior creature.

Julia: [*Laughs*] Someone in our review gave us a demerit for anti-cat sentiments.

Vanessa: [*Giggles*] Well, to that person, I say, "I can't change who I am-"

Julia: "But here's a dog."

Vanessa: [*Chuckles*] "-but, I'm pretty sure if you hung out with this awesome golden retriever that I'll send you, you'll change your mind." So yeah, Julia, I think that that's a really dumb care package item. She's just gonna become more and more of a sociopath...if she gets a cat.

Julia: I can't believe you called me dumb. You're the rudest person I know.

Vanessa: Well let's just eat some key lime pie [*Julia chuckles*], and call it a day.

Julia: That's a bad plan [*Laughs*] but I'll do it anyways. [*Vanessa laughs*] Is there something that you want to put in Bella's care package?

Vanessa: Yes. So you and I have really found a lot of joy, and meaning, and reflection in our Twilight diaries. And so, I would like to send *Bella* a Twilight diary, because if she took better notes...first of all, I think it would be good for like, her reflection and for routine and it would help her have her feelings in a productive way. But like, she could go back to the day they went to La Push and look at her notes, rather than be reminded of what happened in a nightmare that is so bad she has to borderline suffocate herself from screaming. And so I think that it would be a less traumatizing way to deal with a lot of the problems she's having if she just journaled. So I'm gonna send her a Twilight diary.

Julia: Okay Vanessa, riddle me this: Is Twilight not Bella's Twilight diary?

Vanessa: If it is, it's a diary that she's writing retroactively. It's like a Jane Eyre Diary, where it's like, she's writing it ten years in the future. And so I'm saying I want her to have one now as she's going through it.

Julia: It'll make her future all the more realistic.

Vanessa: I think *next* Stephenie Meyer should produce the diaries that Twilight is based on. Just the notes.

Julia: After Midnight Sun, we know what to do next. What do you think is gonna happen next chapter?

Vanessa: I think it's gonna be a *massacre* and it's gonna go down in history as the Forks Massacre, where just like, innocent people who were out playing in the woods get shot, a bunch of wolves get shot, some like, deer get shot because somebody's like, "Oh I thought that was a wolf." A bear gets shot. I think it's gonna go down as the Forks Massacre of 2005...and it's just horrible and I hate it.

Julia: Wow. That sounds even worse than this chapter, so we have a lot to look forward to.

[*Outro music plays*]

Vanessa: This has been Twilight in Quarantine, a slice of key lime pie from Hot & Bothered. This episode and all episodes are executive produced by Ariana Nettleman and produced by Ariana Martinez. This show was conceived of as a vampire baby by Julia Argy and I'm Vanessa Zoltan, and I am not a cult leader. We are a production of Not Sorry Productions and are distributed by ACAST. I really hope the books get better.

[*Music fades*]