Hot and Bothered - Twilight in Quarantine New Moon - Chapter 13: Killer

Vanessa: "Chapter 13 - Killer. if it was anyone but Jacob, I thought to myself (intro music starts), shaking my head as I drove down the forest lane highway to La Push, I still wasn't sure if I was doing the right thing, but I'd made a compromise with myself."

I'm Vanessa Zoltan.

Julia: And I'm Julia Argy.

Vanessa: And this is Hot and Bothered – Twilight and Quarantine.

Intro music plays and fades out

Vanessa: He's a killer!

Julia: Or is he? As we soon come to find out.

Vanessa: I mean I didn't wanna spoil your 30-second recap.

Julia: That was very considerate of you.

Vanessa: I'm trying to set you up to do you some big reveals.

Julia: OK, I will.

Vanessa: Are you ready?

Julia: Yes.

Vanessa: On your mark, get set, go!

Julia: (*timer ticking in the background*) Bella drives over to Jacob's house in the middle of the night, basically, it's not even dawn yet! And then Billy's like, "You can't talk to him." She's like, "Too bad, sucker!" And she walks in, he's asleep on a tiny bed and he's a large man. And then she goes to the beach to wait him out and he shows up like five minutes later after she stares at a piece of driftwood. And he's like, "You're mean", and she's like, "You're mean, and you kill people." And he's like, "Haha, no I don't." Here's a bear hug. And she's like, "What? You murder people." And he's like, "No, vampires murder people. I murder vampires." And she's like, "How? They're made of rock." And he's like, "I have sharp teeth." (*buzzer sound*)

Vanessa: I have sharp teeth!

Julia: Yeah, that's a direct quote.

Vanessa: The dialogue is riveting. OK. You did really well but I'm gonna try my best. I'm not gonna let you intimidate me.

Julia: I'm very intimidating, so best of luck.

Vanessa: Count me in?

Julia: 3, 2, 1, go!

Vanessa: (*timer ticking in the background*) So Jacob is in his like, sweat shorts which I think should be pants but he's just too big and they have this big confrontation scene and he's like, "I can't believe you thought I was a murderer." and she's like, "Well, all these people are dead." and he's like, "Yeah, because you literally saw Laurent threaten to kill people. You're so dumb!" And she's like, "I'm not dumb, I'm sorry." And then he turns into a wolf to tell Sam that Victoria is trying to kill Bella and they have to go after Victoria and they're about to go. And there'll be a confrontation. (*buzzer sound*)

I ended my 30-second recap by saying what I think is gonna happen in the next chapter.

Julia: Yeah. And what you think is gonna happen next chapter is Victoria is gonna fight the werewolves with Bella there?

Vanessa: Yes!

Julia: That's interesting. I thought it was gonna be like a planning meeting.

Vanessa: Oooh, interesting!

Julia: (laughs) Like, I didn't think they were going to fight them right now.

Vanessa: Fight, fight, fight!

Julia: You're just itching for some drama.

Vanessa: (laughs) So, Breaking News: *do-do-doooo* JACOB IS NOT A MURDERER! For all of those of you who followed the twists and turns and the red herrings and the confusing misnomers! Don't worry, Jacob is not a murderer!

Julia: I mean he did murder Laurent. Like, he-

Vanessa: Sure.

Julia: He still murdered, just not a human.

Vanessa: Yes, but he's only a murderer of bad people.

Julia: Mh-hm.

Vanessa: If you're a murderer of bad people, are you a murderer at all?

Julia: Well, that's my part of Breaking News: Because Bella is like, I can't be friends with a killer even though when Edward was like, Yeah, I murder people here and there, she was like, That's lit. It's all in your past now. Murdering might be OK as long as it's a rapist, who knows. And now she's gone totally gone 180 on that. She's like, killers no – no-go.

Vanessa: She's gone 90°. We think she goes 180 but then she turns back, half-way. She's like, I could never but then she sees Jacob peacefully sleeping and is like, I could be friends with that murderer.

Julia: A cute murderer

Vanessa: Exactly! So, she seems to have exceptions for like, men who she wants to touch. Which I feel like, tracks.

Julia: Yeah- yeah, it does. She has a lot of exceptions for Edward and Jacob...

next segment

Vanessa: Did you have a moment of genuine enjoyment that you wanna share? *do-do-do* Julia: Well, I've kind of taken up your mantle and- I like Jacob. I'm not team Jacob in that I don't want Bella and Jacob to be together, but I like Jacob a lot and as a character and enjoy when he's there and yells at Bella for reasons that I also wanna yell at Bella like, when he said, "I'm not the right kind of monster for you". I was like, that's true! She's being hypocritical.

Vanessa: Yes, absolutely! He calls her out and holds her accountable to like, some semblance of not being a total asshole. I feel like because he and Jessica are the same person, I would love it if the two of them got together and just like, complained about Bella and they could just be like, "Yeah, and she has a double standard! She wanted me to be really supportive of her when she was going through a break-up, but she never asked once about how my break-up with Mike was going!" and he could be like, "Yeah, and she has a double standard with me! Like, she was totally fine with Edward being a vampire, but she acted all weird when she found out that I was half wolf!"

Julia: Yeah, that's a power team right there.

Vanessa: And then they could do vigilante justice.

Julia: These books are really all about vigilante justice. Do you have a piece of genuine enjoyment?

Vanessa: Yes, when Jacob straight up asks her: "Wait, you don't have a problem with me turning into a giant dog?" and Bella says and I quote: "No, I don't have a problem with that, I'm a dog person! I love dogs!" Direct quote.

Julia: And then she says: "These strange people sent me a cat and I had to return it, why would someone think I want a cat?"

Vanessa: "I am so clearly a dog person!"

Julia: You know, I can't believe we didn't include that part in our thirty second recap. That's critical to the chapter.

Vanessa: Super critical. So yeah, she's like, "No, I don't have a problem with the fact that you're a giant dog, why would I?" Thank you Bella for advocating for dogs and modeling how to accept people for who they are. Um, should we move on to advice?

Julia: We should.

Vanessa: *do-do-do* I'm just doing that sound effect for every segment today. (laughs) Bella, I understand that you think it is OK to walk right into Jacob's room because he walked right into your room and Edward used to break into your room while you were sleeping, too, but I just would like to say that two or three wrongs do not make a right. Busting in on people's bedrooms when they're asleep like, unless you're in a committed relationship with them or they

ask you to wake them from there nap or you like, somehow been given explicit permission you should not walk in on people while they are asleep. So, my advice is: Knock.

Julia: Then she wouldn't have to worry about waking him up, he would have already been awoken. I think that's great advice!

Vanessa: Thank you! What advice do you have today?

Julia: So, my advice is a little bit similar. And- it's about revenge and my advice is to Victoria. And I think that she should just stop trying to do revenge killings. I don't think it's like, really serving her in her personal life. So, as I'm prone to do, I WikiHowed how to stop trying to get revenge and I have a little list of tips that she can use when she decides she wants to kill Bella, she can do these things instead. Number one: Repeat self-affirmations in the mirror. So, that's like, "I have control over my actions. I don't have control over other people's actions." Or it could be like: "I couldn't control when Edward killed James, but I can control whether or not I can kill Bella.", implying that she shouldn't, not that she should. Another one, really good, I think she'd love it: "Go for a coffee and a movie." That was on the website. I think instead for coffee she could drink some blood, human or animal, and go watch a film. That's very healing.

Vanessa: Not human? Do you mean like stolen from a blood bank?

Julia: Sure, yeah. Or like, just take a sip, you know.

Vanessa: I just think that if you're telling her to drink human blood it goes against your previous piece of advice, unless your advice is just "Don't kill Bella but it's fine to kill other humans."

Julia: No, it's about revenge killing.

Vanessa: Oh, she can kill!

Julia: Needless killing, senseless killing are all fine, just revenge killing! (laughs) I haven't touched on that yet. I'm focusing right now on the revenge killing.

Vanessa: Got it, got it, got it! I'm sooo sorry, I misunderstood your advice! Continue!

Julia: (laughing) Um- and the last one is a journal prompt where she gets to understand "the avenger" inside of her.

Vanessa: Mhhh!

Julia: So, she can write about what that avenger inside of her looks like.

Vanessa: Interesting!

Julia: In order to process her rage.

Vanessa: I love how specific it is. Like, you're not asking her to stop all of her killing, you're asking her to pair it back. And I think incrementalising big changes is a really effective strategy for how to actually accomplish a big goal. Right, like, you should break it up into tiny to-dos. So, you're not saying: "Stop all killing." You're just saying: "Stop this one kind of killing." So doable.

next segment

Julia: What's your second piece of advice?

Vanessa: My next piece of advice is for Billy: Billy, call the cops on Bella. She broke into your house. Charlie just said to him, I think last night: "If one of those kid steps one toe out of line I'm gonna come and get them." Well, do you know who's just stepped a toe out of line? This like, skinny white bitch who just showed up at the door and like, busted her way into the house.

Julia: That's really an interesting idea.

Vanessa: I specifically mean: Call Charlie.

Julia: Yeah. That makes more sense. Like, "Hey, your daughter just broke into my house."

Vanessa: I don't think he should call 911, I don't think he should call the police. I really do believe that the police should be defunded. But I think he should call Charlie and be like: "Hey hypocrite, do you know where my kid is? Asleep in bed, safely and behaving. Do you know where your kid is? Yeah, you watched her walk out of the house and do this really inappropriate thing. How dare you?"

Julia: Yeah.

Vanessa: She's out of line.

Julia: Billy should give Charlie a good talking-to.

Vanessa: Yeah! I'm fired up today! Don't mess with me, Charlie!

Do you have a second piece of advice?

Julia: I'm kind of changing tack on my previous advice. It's also for Victoria but it's about how to effectively revenge-kill Bella. (laughs)

Vanessa: So now it's like, if you didn't take my first piece of advice, here's how to do it well.

Julia: Yeah. So, Bella says: It's "just luck" that Victoria hadn't found her yet. So, my advice is to Victoria: You know where Bella lives. Where else would she be? She's super depressed. Just go to her house. That's where she's at! Why hasn't she found her? Like, is she not looking? She's staying in the woods, murdering people? Bella hates the woods.

Vanessa: So, what is your advice?

Julia: Go to her house to kill her, you know where it is!

Vanessa: OK.

Julia: I just think if she's a good revenge killer she should be able to follow the scent. I'm pretty sure James did it last year. Go do it. I know she can.

next segment

Vanessa: OK, did you write anything down in your twilight diary?

Julia: Yeah. Well, at one point- This is like, a little like, just tidbit of advice. It's for Jacob who calls women females. It's so weird and no one should do that and also Jacob shouldn't do it. Since he such a young teenager I'm letting him like, a little bit off the hook. Maybe he hasn't learned that yet and I do think sometimes people still call women females but that is something that he should correct.

Vanessa: Yeah, and it's similar to the like, two wrongs don't make a right. Just because some people do it doesn't mean that you should do it, Jacob. Like, be better.

Julia: Yeah. Do you have any twilight diaries?

Vanessa: I have a question: Is Bella only attracted to murderers? Is that why she doesn't like Mike or Tyler. She's like, "Who have you killed?"

Julia: So, the piece of evidence against that theory is that she thought James was ugly. And he is super murder-y. So...

Vanessa: No. I didn't say "Is she attracted to every murderer?" I said, "Is she only attracted to murderers?" Evidence in my corner is: she's attracted to Jacob who's definitely killed Laurent, probably other vampires; attracted to Edward who has killed a lot of like, thought criminals/almost rapists; and attracted to Romeo who killed Mercutio.

Julia: (laughing) The idea of a thought criminal is so funny. I'm a thought criminal!

Vanessa: (chuckling) Everyone's a thought criminal! So, is she only attracted to murderers?

Julia: I mean, so far it seems like that's true.

Vanessa: 'Cause like, she wasn't attracted to Jacob before, when he wasn't a murderer. Now it seems like the attraction is up, right?

Julia: Yeah, I mean, maybe it's just like the people murder as they go through puberty. It's like that's what's the changing factor — not the murdering itself.

Vanessa: So, do you think if Tyler murdered someone, that would flip her on Tyler? And maybe he would have a chance?

Julia: Yeah, that's an interesting idea. I think, perhaps. She like, gets more interested in him after he tries to murder her with his car.

Vanessa: That's true!

Julia: So- if only he had executed. She would love him from beyond the grave.

Vanessa: I'm really learning a lot about Bella. This is great.

Julia: Yeah. I think Bella always thinks she's quite different and you know, most people don't murder. And so, when she finds someone who is different through murdering, she's like, "Yeah, that's like me. And reading, you know, gothic novels and wanting to stay home. I'm super different. I could even kill someone."

Vanessa: ...if I wanted to.

next segment

Vanessa: What do you want to put in a care package for our darling Bella?

Julia: So, I'm putting in an alarm clock for children so that she understands when it's an appropriate time to leave the house to go to someone else's house. These alarm clocks are digital clocks that adults can read but they turn green when the kid is allowed to leave the room and red when the kid has to stay in the room. So, Bella will wake up, you know, pre-dawn, as she does. She'll be like, "Oh I really wanna tell Jacob this thing." She'll look at the alarm clock, it's red and she'll know she can't go over and break into a stranger's house when the light is red, only when it's green.

Vanessa: And when it's green she can break into the stranger's house or should she employ knocking?

Julia: Um, yeah, that's not the hill I'm gonna die on but...

Vanessa: Knocking is a hill I'm willing to die on. I love privacy.

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

Vanessa: So, I again am inspired by you. You inspire me in so many ways.

I want to get Bella a present to give to Jacob. Jacob does not fit on his bed and I understand that it's a small bedroom, you know, and so like, he can't get like, a queen size bed. So, he has a double bed and I think he's not that wide, but he is long, so he should switch to an extra-long twin rather than a double. I think what he needs is length or I'll send like a princess Jasmine bed situation which- Do you remember, it was just like a million pillows that she could lie down on with Raja, her pet tiger? And so, I think I would get him that! I would get him just like, a lot of pillows and he could like, form them in any way he wants. But I just think he should be able to stretch out as much as possible given the limitations of the structure of his room. And Bella as a realtor should really know a lot about how to stage a room to make it look as big as possible while still being comfortable.

Julia: Mirrors on every side.

Vanessa: (chuckles)

Julia: What do you think is gonna happen next chapter?

Vanessa: I mean now I'm so confused. I thought it was gonna be a fight, but you talked me out of that. Now I'm sort of hoping that it switches to Victoria's point of view and we understand why it is that she can't find Bella.

Julia: Well, after she hears my advice, she'll be able to execute.

Vanessa: Yeah.

Julia: Just go to the house.

Vanessa: Or we'll find her in a motel bathroom, looking in the mirror and being like, "Just go for a cup of coffee. You don't have to do this."

Julia: (laughing) Exactly! Aw! A fork in the road for her, I can't wait to see what happens.

Vanessa: A fork in the road in Forks?

Julia: Eeeeh. (chuckles)

outro music starts to play

This has been Twilight In Quarantine, a self-help affirmation for Victoria by 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 I now have Bella's old cat that she sent back. It's real cute. I named it Bella.

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