

## Twilight in Quarantine: Stitches

Vanessa: Chapter 2: Stitches. “Carlise was the only one who stayed calm. Centuries of experience in the emergency room were evident in his quiet, authoritative voice.”  
“Emmett, Rose, get Jasper outside.”

I'm Vanessa Zoltan.

Julia: And I'm Julia Argy

Vanessa: and this is Hot and Bothered: Twilight in Quarantine.

\*Intro music plays and fades\*

Vanessa: Julia, I have news that I'm pretty sure is gonna piss you off.

Julia: Oh, what is it?

Vanessa: I really liked this chapter. Like I REALLY liked this chapter.

Julia: Oh no, I did too!

Vanessa: But you hate these books.

Julia: I mean, don't you?

Vanessa: I don't know! First time reading them through, and if it's more like this, I'm all in. I loved it!

Julia: I think it's gonna get less like this, but it's nice to hold out hope.

Vanessa: Okay, well let's remind everybody what happens in this chapter. It is your turn to go first.

Julia:(takes a deep breath) Okay. Count me in.

Vanessa: On your mark, get set, go!

\*Ticking timer begins\*

Julia: So, Bella's bleeding everywhere and everyone gets sent out of the room except for Alice and Edward and Carlisle and then they both leave the room and it's just Carlisle and Bella and they talk about God and they talk about heaven and talk about who's going and who's not and

then Edward comes back and they drive home and he's like super moody about the whole situation and they get into a fight and Bella says she would rather die than date Mike Newton and then they snuggle in bed and fall asleep and she can tell that he is about to break up with her cause she has the sight as well as Alice.

\*Buzzer sounds\*

Vanessa: (*chuckles*) Oh my god, I have so many questions about Alice's lack of sight in this chapter.

(*Julia giggles*)

Vanessa: Like, she planned a party, Why didn't she see that it was going to be a disaster.

(*They both laugh.*)

Alice, questions, I'm holding you to account. After my thirty-second recap.

Julia: Okay, Three, two, one, go!

\*Ticking timer starts\*

Vanessa: Carlisle says that it seemed as though Edward's mom knew he was a vampire and she actually begged him to save Edward and he says that he, impart, only saved Edward because Edward was handsome which is really weird and gross. Carlisle talks about how he is a doctor and how it's not that hard for him. Bella has to change her clothes because she is covered in so much blood. She borrows some of Esme's clothes. She seems to dress herself which is real progress. She goes home and Charlie is like Ugh, Bella you're so klutzy. And then Edward snuggles with her in bed.

\*Buzzer goes off\*

Julia: Beautiful work.

Vanessa: Thank you. It was a real dynamic duo.

Julia: There was so much in that chapter that we really didn't have much overlap in what we said. That's how you know that it was dense.

Vanessa: It was so good! So much happens! Okay, Breaking news? Do you have any?  
Doo-Do-Do!

Julia: So, I learned on Wikipedia that emergency rooms weren't founded until 1961, but the first line of the chapter, Bella says that Carlisle has centuries of experience in emergency rooms. So, he must have founded the first emergency room in the 1800s and it just wasn't on record. Add it to the history books folks. What was your breaking news?

Vanessa: My breaking news is that Bella does not believe in God which really surprised me and like, I always thought that this was a piece of Mormon propaganda written by a woman who was paid sorta tons of millions of dollars to pay lip service to the LDS community and like, try to convert us all through sexy, sexy time, but now I'm like, oh no! This was written by a woman who happens to be Mormon, but is actually sort of cool!

Julia: I think this is like a conversion story.

Vanessa: That's too bad. That's gonna disappoint me.

*(Julia laughs.)*

Julia: You like this one chapter all for it to go downhill.

Vanessa: I was like, Ooh, an interior exploration of a good atheist, but I guess not.

\*Transition music\*

Vanessa: Julia, I know that you had moments of genuine enjoyment. What were they?

Julia: So, this is kind of like one of my mix bag enjoyment because it's such a strong sentiment that's hard for me to totally wrap my emotions around but when Bella genuinely asks Edward at the end of the chapter, like which are you more tempted by, my body or my blood? I was like, shocked by the dirty talk, and I was like, what is happening? I'm so confused. But it really like, ratchet it up the physical stakes and I was kinda just thrown but in a great way.

*(Vanessa Laughs)*

Vanessa: Did you have a feeling that you weren't used to having?

*(Julia laughs)*

Julia: I felt like they were closer than ever to actually saying the word sex. *(Vanessa giggles)* So that brought me a lot of joy.

Vanessa: Yeah, totally.

Julia: Do you have a piece of genuine enjoyment from the chapter?

Vanessa: I had a couple. First of all, I love, and this is sort of in the same scene. There's like flirtatious banter happening and it makes me sad the reason why is because Bella's trying to pull Edward out of his mopey mood and I'm like, ugh. You shouldn't always have to take care of your partner so attentively it's kind of your birthday, you're the one who got hurt, whatever. But, she makes this really funny joke where he hands her a present to open and she's like, 'Are you sure I can handle lifting the lid?' Because he insisted on carrying her presents upstairs and like, whatever. And I love it. It's like flirty rousing of like, I am an independent person. I can do things myself. Love it, Bella!

Julia: And then shortly thereafter, he tucks her into bed. (*Vanessa Laughs.*) So it's like, the roller coaster ride of independence is really as steep as ever.

Vanessa: I think it's important to not judge people for what consensually goes on in their bedroom. She consensually wants to be tucked in.

Julia: She consensually wants to be rocked in her baby rocking chair.

Vanessa: I don't count that as the bedroom.

Julia: It's in her bedroom.

Vanessa: But it was originally from the nursery and there can be no consent in a nursery. It's like the Vatican, it's a country within the country and the rocking chair's the nursery within the, you know, adultish Bella bedroom.

Julia: Sure.

Vanessa: I had something else I really liked.

Julia: Oh please share!

Vanessa: This is so genuine. Are you ready for the least ironic thing that maybe I've ever said on this podcast?

Julia: Yeah.

Vanessa: I really liked the setup for why Edward is going to leave her. Like, it genuinely felt high stakes. He IS bad for her and he IS dangerous for her. And I think that what's going to happen in this book is that I'm going to be disappointed later that he comes back, but I really felt how torn he is. And so it made me compassionate for Edward and I would like to think that if I was bad for someone and I knew that they loved me so much that they would never break up with me that I would find the strength to break up with them.

Julia: But I also find it annoying when people are like, you know, I wanna be with you and they're like, no, you don't I'm not listening to you. I'm out. Like, it should be up to the person. So if Edward leaves on the grounds of you know I don't want to be with Bella anymore I think that's fine, but for mean as like I don't want to be with you because you subconsciously like shouldn't be with me.

Vanessa: I agree with you. I find that really patronizing when people are like, 'I'm breaking up with you for your sake.' like screw you. I'm a grown up. I can buckle myself up. I can dress myself, I can choose who I wanna date. But, he's saying that he can't handle it. He can't handle how risky he is for her. He keeps saying it's bad for me. I feel horrible about myself everytime i put you in danger.

Julia: Growth Edward. Proud of you

Vanessa: Yeah. Is there anything else that you were like, oh my god, this chapter!?

Julia: Well, I just am continuing to love Virgo season. Bella as I mentioned, can like predict the future. She is so attuned. She's like, Edward seems like he's gonna break up with me. And we know that it's probably going to happen. Like, she is out there getting vibes, sensing things, processing. It's great to see. She's thriving. She's not thriving but developing skills.

Vanessa: She really is, I know. I was like (Gasp) oh my god he is going to break up with you. That's true Bella. I've never read these books before, but I've seen montages of Kristen Stewart being sad in a chair.

Julia: I can't believe the preface/climax wasn't Kristen Stewart being sad in a chair.

*(Vanessa laughs)*

Julia: Instead, it's some scene in Italy but the real center of this book is that moment.

\*Transition music\*

Vanessa: Okay, should we move on to advice?

Julia: Yeah, you can start.

Vanessa: Great. All of my advice today is for Carlisle.

Julia: Oh, one of my pieces today is for Carlisle.

Vanessa: So I love Carlisle. I think he is doing a lot of great work in this chapter. He is talking to his patient, he's being really vulnerable with her, he is sharing about himself, but there are a couple of places where I think he can really work on himself and I think that it is important for us to hold each other accountable. My first piece of advice is based on this moment in the text, "Bella says to Carlisle, he's not the only one who's able to do it." She's talking about how Edward is not the only person who could turn her into a vampire and she's hinting, wink wink, that Carlisle could turn her into a vampire. And Carlisle says, "Oh no. You're going to have to work this out with him." I would just like to say to Carlisle that no stance is a stance. If you're saying, it's between the two of you, what you're actually saying is that you're siding with Edward and that it's up to Edward whether or not Bella becomes a vampire. And so just admit it. Be like, he's my son and I have to side with him but don't pretend this middle road stuff of like, I see good arguments on both sides. No. Own it. You're choosing Edward.

Julia: I feel like he's saying my choice is to not get involved in your intimate relationship business, which is a choice I fully appreciate.

Vanessa: But if she directly asks him, she's an eighteen year old and can completely consent. If she asks him, please turn me into a vampire and he says no, Edward doesn't want me to. He is taking Edward's side.

Julia: I think on legal grounds, he doesn't necessarily have a place to stand. Like yeah, he would have to legally listen to the wishes of his patients but on interpersonal grounds, as like the parent to Edward and as someone who is caring for Bella and also like kind of his daughter-in-law at this point since they're super committed after a six months of dating, he can say I'm not getting involved even if that means that you can't get what you want from me.

Vanessa: So I do not think he is obligated to do it. I think he should do it.

Julia: Mhmm.

Vanessa: If she really wants to I think he should do it. So maybe this isn't advice, maybe like Carlisle. I'm mad at you (*They giggle*) and my advice is don't make me mad.

Julia: That's good advice, you shouldn't have to be angry at a book series.

Vanessa: Thank you.

Julia: You should be able to be relaxed.

Vanessa: Totally.

(*They Laugh*)

Vanessa: What about you Julia, what advice do you have?

Julia: So my advice is also for Carlisle and I hope that we will be in agreement on this because this is totally, listen to this. Okay. he is talking about why he changes Edward into a vampire and he says, "I looked at Edward, sick as he was, he was still beautiful. There was something pure and good about his face. The kind of face I would have wanted my son to have." And that's why he changes him into a vampire. Like if Edward was ugly, he'd be like nope, you can die.

Vanessa: Yup. (*They laugh*) it's so messed up. Again, Carlisle making weird medical decisions

Julia: Hot vampires only. Well, that led to my theory where Bella's always like all vampires are hot, but what we're really seeing is that all vampires that Carlisle turns are hot because he has a prejudice against ugly people and that's why James in the last book is mediocre looking because he wasn't changed by Carlisle.

Vanessa: Oh my god, and the reason Carlisle won't actually change Bella is because he's like, 'You're not hot enough.'

(*Julia Laughs*)

Vanessa: Like Edward is super into you and that's great and I love him but you're not hot enough for me.

(*Julia Laughing harder*)

Julia: No, that adds up.

Vanessa: (*Laughing*) Cracked! Code cracked Carlisle.

\*Transition music\*

Vanessa: One other piece of advice that I have for Carlisle, cuz I'm really picking on him today. To be clear, I pick because I love, but there's a line here. It's on page thirty-nine in your hymnals.

(*Julia laughs*)

Vanessa: So, this is the scene in which Carlisle is explaining to Bella about being a doctor during the Spanish Flu and how hard it was, whatever. And he says, "That was a hard time to pretend. There was so much work to be done and I had no need of rest. How I hated to go back to my house. To hide in the dark and pretend to sleep while so many were dying." Carlisle, work at two hospitals.

Julia: That's genius.

Vanessa: I don't get it. He can walk as fast as the speed of light. He can swim across the channel. Go work in another hospital across the country. NO one will know. It's 1918. They don't have hashtags. They're not going to be like, is this guy working at two hospitals? Or like say that you're twins and make an ID. (*Julia laughs*) People died because you didn't come up with a creative solution to this problem. I hope you're proud of yourself. It's so weird.

Julia: I'm just imagining the hashtag that today would get him found out like #mydoctorishot. (*They laugh*) How would they piece it together?

Vanessa: Yeah, then be like, oh my god that looks like my doctor but I'm all the way in Spain. How?

Julia: #HotDoctor.

Vanessa: (*laughing*) What last piece of advice do you have for us Julia?

Julia: Well, I just really think there needs to be a Cullen desentization program

Vanessa: (*laughing*) Totally.

Julia: One drop of blood from a paper cut causes this huge piece of chaos. Why aren't they carrying around little vials of human blood every day and sniffing them like smelling salts. Why aren't they constantly working on this? Every single person but Carlisle has to leave the room and they're all over 100 years old. Day in, day out, they should be trying to smell human blood and not eat someone. I don't understand why this is such a problem. The other part that is totally confounding about this is that they don't need to breathe. Bella talks about how Edward doesn't take a breath like this is some heroic act. I was like, he doesn't need to breathe, why do we care? Just hold your breath (*They laugh*)

Vanessa: Literally just plug your nose.

Julia: I know.

Vanessa: Like a little kid jumping off a dock. Doop.

Julia: I know.

\*Transition music\*

Vanessa: Julia, before we talk about our care package, what did you write about in your Twilight diary?



Julia: So, I wanted to point out that not only does Bella think she is not going to hell but also Edward never considers the fact that Bella can go to hell. So Carlisle says that Carlisle doesn't believe in hell but Edward believes in heaven/hell and that vampires go to neither and that's why he won't change her because he's sure that otherwise, she would go to heaven but since we all know all white ladies don't go to heaven, she could be going to hell and by transforming her into a vampire, at least she would avoid that.

Vanessa: Yeah, no. I'm not saying that he leaves Bella for only good reasons. I'm saying that some of his reasons become good.

Julia: Mhmm.

Vanessa: We're all complex. He has multiple reasons. Julia, what do you want to put in Bella's care package?

Julia: So, I think I'm going to give things to Bella to help the Cullens get started on their journey. Clearly it's going to benefit her if they don't want to eat her all the time. So a bunch of clothespins so that they can plug their nose around blood, just like whip it out. Little vials to- she can even donate some of her blood to the cause. Cause she seems the one most at risk to be murdered. So she can really set up an initiative where Edward doesn't have to break up with her cause all of the family behaves in a normal way like someone gets a papercut. She would be so much happier if Edward wasn't moody all the time about wanting to murder her and his whole family wanting to murder her.

Vanessa: Yeah I think that's a great gift. And I love kits. Right? We could send them to everybody and send them a little fanny pack for them to wear. And Rosalie will wear hers across her shoulder because she is really cool.

Julia: I love that idea.

Vanessa: I'm so excited. We should get them all matching fanny packs with their big, ugly family crest on them.

*(Julia snorts)*

Julia: Leather fanny packs.

Vanessa: Yeah.

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

Vanessa: So I would like to buy Bella a complete set of clothing that matches her clothing, and then everyday when she leaves the house, she should put the matching set of clothes in her backpack. Cause she seems to spill a lot and hurt herself a lot and she always wants to hide that from Charlie and here she has to borrow clothes from Esme which gets her out of this situation but she should just always carry an extra set of clothes and so I think the easiest way to do that is just that every clothing item has a doppelganger and that's in a backpack that she carries.

Julia: What do you think is going to happen next chapter?

Vanessa: Edward makes this really compelling speech about all the reasons that Bella should run off with Mike Newton and I think she sleeps on it and wakes up and runs off with Mike Newton. She's like now you sorta look like Edward, I love the new lettuce, you have great legs, you have my back in badminton, and you're not going to murder me maybe. So I think she's like ' You know what? You're right Edward, Bye.

Julia: Poor Jessica

Vanessa: I would like to think that Bella's gonna reciprocate the nice offer that Jessica made of like, are you sure you're comfortable with this? And I think Jessica will say yes because I think Jessica dumped his ass.

*(They laugh)*

Vanessa: She's gonna be like, yeah and good luck.

Julia: *(laughs)* He was a disaster!

\*Ending music\*

Vanessa: This has been Twilight in Quarantine. A meditation on the Hippocratic Oath by Hot and bothered This episode and all episodes are executive produced by the amazing Ariana Nedelman. Produced by the incredible Ariana Martinez. This show was conceived of as a vampire baby by the more than okay Juila Argy and I'm Vanessa Zoltan and I don't want a leather fanny pack. I like nylon fanny packs. We are a production of Not Sorry Productions and are distributed by ACAST. Thank you so much everyone.