

Twilight in Quarantine: Season 1  
Episode: The Whole Dang Thing  
Date: June 3, 2020

### *Intro Music*

Julia, reading: "Yes, it is enough, he answered, smiling. Enough for forever. And he leaned down to press his cold lips once more to my throat"

Julia: I'm Julia Argy.

Vanessa: And I'm Vanessa Zoltan.

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

### *Music*

Vanessa: We did it! We read all of the Twilight Book!

Julia: And there's more in our future. We're only a quarter of the way done!

Vanessa: No, one-fifth, don't forget about Midnight Sun

Julia: I absolutely forgot about Midnight Sun.

Vanessa: Ugh. That's so sad. Men are so marginalized. Men's voices really need to be lifted up. Anything that surprised you as we went through this process?

Julia: I mean like, I can't believe that this turned into a thing that we are going to continue to do. I'm thrilled by that. But I think that is the thing that I am most surprised by, is that we get to keep doing it for a second season.

Vanessa: I mean, Julia, it was *actually* a good idea.

Julia: Thank you, well I finally had one, everyone.

Vanessa: It was bound to happen by accident at some point. Like Bella, you tripped over a good idea. I will say that's one more thing that I learned is, like, how similar you and Bella are, that you're like basically the same person.

Julia: It's our red brown hair. Only in the sunlight though. What about you?

Vanessa: Yeah! It was much more of an emotional rollercoaster for me than I anticipated. I got angry a lot.

Julia: That was the only emotion.

Vanessa: Yeah, and then I calmed down, and then I got angry again. The other thing that I found, is that I am not like a big fan fiction person, or I don't think of myself as a big fan fiction person, but I got really emotionally invested in the queer relationships that you made up. Like the Bella and Angela relationship, I was like YES. And like the waitress and her relationship with her girlfriend that picks her up, that Meredith came up with, I was like YES. And Charlisle? I'm like, so into. And those things are now head canon for me. I love it! I love all of it!

Julia: You're going to have to write your head canons onto the page.

Vanessa: Stay tuned: Season One Million of Hot and Bothered.

Vanessa: Okay. I am about to do a great feat. Difficulty level: TEN. The East German judge has her eye on me. We'll see how I do. I'm going to recap the entire Twilight book.

Julia: I mean, luckily for us, not much happens plot-wise. So, I think we'll be able to do it.

Vanessa: I don't know. I hope.

Julia: We'll see in 3, 2, 1...GO!

Vanessa: Bella Swan moves to Forks from Phoenix. She really misses Phoenix, she really hates the rain. There's someone in her new high school who HATES her - his name is Edward. And then it turns out that he doesn't hate her, he just wants to murder her, and he's a vampire. And then they fall in love, and she really likes his family and she meets his family and then he, she meets a bad vampire who also wants to murder her. Chase, chase, chase... almost gets turned into a vampire, I love you, I love you, Bella safe. *BUZZER*

Julia: That was good!

Vanessa: Thank you!

Julia: I think you got a gold medal

Vanessa: Well, we don't know yet! My competition hasn't gone!

Julia: It's, like, kind of a competition of one. Like, it's like a relay. You're passing it off to me.

Vanessa: Oh, got it. So you feel like I've set us up to get the gold.

Julia: Exactly.

Vanessa: Oof! Well, not to put any pressure on you, but don't fuck it up. The world is watching, Julia, sponsorships are on the line. Wheaties is going to call or not call, based on your performance.

Julia: Well, I really want that Wheaties money. I'm sure it's more than vampire money.

Vanessa: Okay! Are you ready?

Julia: I'm so ready.

Vanessa: I'm handing it off in 3, 2, 1!

Julia: Charlie has a daughter, her name is Bella, she comes and she moves in with him. Her, She gets hit by a car and he gets to go see his favorite hot doctor Carlisle. And, Carlisle makes her daughter feel better and that's when he starts to fall in love with her. HIM. Um, and then, Charlie goes to fishing multiple times, he gets made lasagna, he gets his daughter - his daughter goes to Phoenix almost dies and then Carlisle saves her again and then they fall in love and get married. *BUZZER*.

Julia: There's just like a bit of blurriness for what happens for him in the middle, but I think it's just more fishing.

Vanessa: I think we won. I think we nailed the gold. I think Gatorade is about to call. If you and I were in the same place I would pour champagne on you.

Julia: No, you would pour Gatorade on me! That's how the Gatorade sponsorship works.

Vanessa: I think Dom Pérignon will sponsor us.

Julia: I can only hope.

Vanessa: Wouldn't it be sad if some sort of hot coffee brand sponsored us? And we had to like, pour hot coffee on each other?

Julia laughs "I do drink more coffee than I do Dom Pérignon, a brand who I'm not even sure how to pronounce.

Julia: Would you like to share a piece of breaking news?

Vanessa: Are you going to do a sound effect?

Julia: beep beep beep beep beep

Vanessa: So, I actually got this lead from our conspiracy theory correspondent, and the conspiracy theorist believes that Forks is not full of vampires because of the appropriate climate for their survival, but Forks actually compels people into becoming vampires. Take as evidence Bella Swan, who when she moves to Forks, Washington, says that she hates the cold and somehow starts like drinking the Forks water and then wants to spend her whole life being cold and snuggled up to cold stone. I think Forks, Washington has some sort of like mystical power over people, it's probably like in the rain that they get covered in. I think there is something about Forks that like, magically makes people want to be turned into vampires.

Julia: Our sample size is just one though, Bella, 'cause everyone else didn't get turned into a vampire in Forks.

Vanessa: Well, first of all, that we know of. We know that there's a lot of secrecy.

Julia: mm-hmm.

Vanessa: Maybe Mike is turning Jessica into a vampire.

Julia: Mike gets stabbed with that needle!

Vanessa: Maybe that turns him into a vampire.

Julia: The science teacher is out there turning everyone into a vampire.

Vanessa: Yes.

Julia: That's why he does that creepy blood testing.

Vanessa: Yes! Here's the thing. I don't think there's a vast conspiracy. I just want to give voice to the voiceless. The voiceless being, the conspiracy theorists.

Julia: Yep.

Vanessa: Yeah, so that's my breaking news report. What about yours?

Julia: This isn't coming from the conspiracy theory desk. This is coming from my own, hard-earned, investigative journalism. I have been secretly undercover trying to figure out if Edward does turn into a flock of bats, or not. I've been looking, I've stalked the stalker, one could say.

Vanessa: The stalker has become the prey.

Julia: Wow! That's going to become the title of my Twilight Investigative Journalism Memoir, my expose. However, unfortunately, there is no evidence for this theory, however, I will also say there is no evidence against. We hear no mention of bats in the book, except for that one time where he plays it off slyly, but, I'm thinking in New Moon, I'm gonna get some answers, and I'm still on the case, that is my update.

Vanessa: So you're like the Ronan Farrow of this podcast.

Julia: I am.

Vanessa: I love that. And I also love that you are separating yourself from the conspiracy theorist, even though the argument for this is that there is no evidence for and no evidence against.

Julia: I think something will come up soon. Like, if you have a tip, like hit our tip line up. I'm ready to hear it.

Vanessa: Tip! Proof that Edward is a bat! Tip! Proof that Forks turns people into vampires! We are looking for more and more evidence for this hard-hitting news. Please call in to iTunes and write us a review.

### *Music*

Julia: What was your genuine piece of enjoyment that you found in this whole book?

Vanessa: I sort of have a formal apology to issue which is that we made a lot of fun of like the sex appeal of Volvos. And, I think I doth protested too much, because the truth is, I love safety. And I think safety is very sexy. So, I actually think that it's super hot that Edward knows he is a slightly reckless driver and tries to compensate for that with the Volvo.

Julia: I mean, that's true. But also, what's actually hot, is hot Rosalie in her hot red convertible. Like Volvo, okay. But in terms of actual sex appeal, it's elsewhere.

Vanessa: No, I think the sexiest would be hot Rosalie in the Volvo. Like, I don't think sexy sports cars are sexy. Capitalism and the patriarchy had a meeting together and they were like guess what we can do, we can convince the world that they have to spend a lot of money on like little red sports cars in order to like get sex appeal. And I agree with you that like again, this same patriarchy-capitalism meeting, they said do you know what's not sexy? Women who say no. We can't control them. And I'm like, also not true. Rosalie is a woman who says no and she's super hot. So, Rosalie in a Volvo is top hotness.

Julia: I feel like men usually drive sports cars. Are women and sports cars like a thing? I have no idea. It isn't like reclaiming sports cars for women?

Vanessa: Yeah, I do think that there's something sexier about a woman driving a sports car than a man driving a sports car.

Julia: Least sexy is Edward in the red convertible! Full agreement on that.

Vanessa: Yeah, I love safety. Safety is hot. So, yeah, there's a lot of things to love in this book, but I don't know about you, but there were also some pretty horrifying things. So, I'm wondering, if there are any moments that will haunt you for the rest of your life? And like sort of once you see something, you're like, ohhh, I can't unsee that! Like, you can't unread it. And you're a little bit mad about it.

Julia: I mean...I don't think that anyone will be shocked by the fact that it's the force feeding Bella mushroom ravioli in a white cashmere turtleneck and beige leather jacket. Nothing in the book hit me with such an emotional impact as that did when I was thinking about my highs and lows in the book, I almost didn't know where to place it, because I was so emotionally struck by it, I was like, did it make me happy? Did it make me sad? But it definitely haunts me. So, that's absolutely mine.

Vanessa: I'm like, really impressed with your ability to like just pick one. Cause I have like a lot of moments that I'm pretty sure will haunt me to my grave. Or, until Carlisle turns me into a vampire.

Julia: Well, start sharing them!

Vanessa: If I had to pick one, it would have to be 17 year old full grown Bella being rocked like she is a baby in the chair that she was nursed and rocked as a baby.

Julia: Mmm-hmm.

Vanessa: That is definitely the moment where I was like, I like weird, but that is weird in a way that I'm not totally comfortable with.

Julia: Mmm-hmm.

Vanessa: Other moments that will definitely haunt me are like the awkwardness of Tyler showing up to take her to the Prom. It's not like that it will haunt me, but like I'm sure that will haunt him for the rest of his life.

Julia: Yeah you have like a sympathy haunting. Yeah

Vanessa: Yeah, yeah! I'm just so empathetic!

Julia: We've really gotten in touch with these characters while we read this book.

Vanessa: I'm also haunted by fashion. I'm haunted by floor length khaki skirts, I'm really haunted by the matching outfits that turn out to not be matching because Edward's is a sleeveless collared white shirt. The fashion choices are really gonna stick with me for a long, long time.

Julia: I'm shocked you didn't say the dazzle moment.

Vanessa: Ohhhh ohhhh do you know what? I blocked it. Why did you just remind me? I totally forgot about the word dazzle. Blech. (Julia giggles)

\*Music\*

Vanessa: Julia, we would be remiss, we wouldn't be ourselves, if we didn't offer some advice to some characters in this book. And now that we have the context of the whole novel, what are your final pieces of wisdom?

Julia: The first thing I was thinking about was how, if Edward and Bella are going to be together, which seems like it's going to happen, despite our earlier pieces of advice, they should really engage in the life of Forks High School. The lack of knowing when prom was, the fact that they only hang out with themselves, I want Edward and Bella to be showing up to every school dance, I want them to do car washes, bake sale fundraisers, soccer games, woodshop, whatever goes on in high school these days. I think this would make Bella understand what a high school relationship is like, which is what they are in, and Edward simultaneously would be getting that feeling that Bella is experiencing her human life as much as she can, so I think it's a win-win situation.

Vanessa: Edward is trying, right? Like, he takes her to prom.

Julia: He starts trying but he also says to Tyler that her nights are going to be forever occupied with him and there's no reason that he would ever need to contact Bella again.

Vanessa: He said that, if I remember correctly, in that murderous old-timey voice. Right?

Julia: Absolutely.

Vanessa: (with twang) There's no need for you to ever reach out to her again! I'll be taking her out.

Yeah, I love the idea of them getting like super involved and Bella would be a great treasurer in the student government.

Julia: She would be! She's so responsible.

Vanessa: And I also think that would also help her get into a really good college. And get the fuck away from Edward, which would be really nice. I actually was thinking last night while I was washing the dishes, about how Bella could get into any college by writing like her personal essay about his experience.

Julia: And then the college admissions officers are like uh, this chick thinks she dated a vampire, let's bring her here?!

Vanessa: Or what if she just held back the vampire part? And she was like I was stalked by a dude named James who lured me to Phoenix, no Scottsdale, and like he pretended to kidnap my mom but then attacked me and I broke my femur and several ribs and then there was like a fire. Like, that kid's getting into every college!

Julia: Aren't you supposed to say something about how that qualifies you for college? Like it's not just like this bad shit happened to me, let me in.

Vanessa: I don't think it qualifies you for college. I think that Bella is one of those straight A, 1600 on the SATs student, they're sort of a dime a dozen at elite colleges, and so you look for kids with quote/unquote interesting stories. And Bella has like a really interesting personal essay ready!

Julia: I guess I just feel personally attacked because I wrote about scooping ice cream as a job. Why didn't I almost get murdered by vampires?

Vanessa: Well, Julia, I know that you know this, but maybe our listeners don't. We met because I was like the house mom in the dorm that you were a freshman in and so part of my job was to read your admissions files. And you will be really happy to know that I remember your essay and I was very charmed by it.

Julia: Do you really? That's so embarrassing.

Vanessa: I remember thinking oh, I have one normal. One normie.

Julia: And everyone else was like "my werewolf boyfriend once pished me into the ocean."

Vanessa: One guy your year wrote about how he's like pro-torture even though he knows it doesn't work.

Julia: Was it Edward Cullen?

Vanessa: (Laughs) No! He was a pale white kid, that's all I'll say about him. Then I read your ice cream scooping one and I was like okay. We have someone with good priorities.

Julia: Dairy.

Vanessa: So anyway, do you think this could help Bella get in? I think like "hot takes" and like "weird stories" are like how people at like, the upper echelon, whatever, distinguish themselves from one another.

Julia: Okay, but if I can do it with ice cream scooping, Bella can do it with her furious cooking for bake sales to raise money for a new gymnasium for Forks High School.

Vanessa: But wouldn't it be like, a great one liner of like "And of course I couldn't be involved in the bake sale this one year because I was almost baked in a fire after I was almost murdered in a dance studio." Like, just like, a one-liner throwaway.

Julia: Yeah, just slip it in. Yeah, I agree with that.

Vanessa: I just think that might get some like scholarship money her way, you know?

Julia: Mmm-hmm.

Vanessa: Like a little something extra.

Julia: Vanessa, what is your piece of advice.

Vanessa: I don't know! I thought that the advice could give could be like retroactive, like I could do back and give advice to Bella at the beginning of the novel, but my advice to Bella is don't move to Forks, it's a really bad idea, and instead practice your confrontation skills, confront

Rene, say the following: "What are you doing? Stay here with me, I have two more years of school, your marriage is for a lifetime. You can make it work." Like, stay in Scottsdale, it sounds like you're really happy there, it is really hard to be happy teenage girl, it sounds like she was really happy there, why is Rene interrupting her education then I don't want to victim blame, because Bella's definitely the victim of Rene, but like, confront your mom. Be like: Stop this nonsense.

Julia: But then we would have never read the beautiful book, Twilight.

Vanessa: Yeah, that like, made my life better, but it didn't make Bella's life better. I'm willing to fall on that sword. I'm willing to give up this beautiful text.

Julia: Edward's going to be so disappointed.

Vanessa: Do you have any other advice that you want to give now that you've read the whole novel?

Julia: Yeah, so I decided to give one piece of advice for Bella and one piece of advice for Edward because they both need so much help. So, my advice for Edward: we told Bella she needed to watch a film, any film basically, ideally that had love but we could have coped with anything. I don't know why we never gave Edward the same advice. He is the instigator of all of the strangest relationship activities that happened in this book. I don't think he's watched a single movie or TV show. I think I'm going to tell him to watch like the office, imagine if it was like Jim and Pam, and he just courted her in school like a regular person. Like did pranks on Mike. Wouldn't that have been nice?

Vanessa: I love the idea of Mike being the Dwight that Edward plays pranks on, especially since Edward is a vampire, so he could really mess with him. He could wait in the tree outside of his window and like, knock on the window at 4 in the morning and disappear. And as soon as Mike gets back into bed he would do it again. Like, he could seriously pull some Puck-level awesome pranks. God, Edward, you have so much time! Invest in pranking Mike. That wasn't your advice, sorry.

Julia: I could revise, because that would also entertain me just as much. It's probably not as much for both of them, necessarily, but he does seem to have some pent up energy so maybe that would be a good use for it. Vanessa, what is your final piece of advice for this whole season?

Vanessa: My last piece of advice is to Bella. I think that what she really needs to do is follow in Alice's footsteps. We've given a lot of advice to her in the course of this season, about using better communication skills, and Alice seems to have found a really conducive way to communicate to people through her art. Obviously Bella isn't going to start saying things to Edward like look, I'm on my period, I'm worried I'm going to attract you more right now, we really shouldn't hang out. Like I can never imagine her just like saying something so upfront and direct and clear, to Edward. But what she could do is like, sculpt something in a modern cubist way, that expresses that to Edward, and I think that since they are not great at communicating, they need to start finding other outlets for it. Modern dance! Like, maybe that would help her work on her coordination, also, she could like, choreograph a weekly dance for him.

Julia: I just can't believe you suggested sculpture when what clearly is her best option for communicating your period through Diva cup splatter art

Vanessa: Yeah, I just think that like, then Edward would want to like, lick the painting.

Julia: But he would know what was going on with her, and we are talking about like, communication, not appropriate behavior.

Vanessa: I think maybe, like, cooking! She loves to cook. Maybe she could start baking and like doing art with her cakes. Like she could cake a red velvet cake for "I'm on my period" and then like a really dry coconut cake for when she's like "I don't want to have sex right now."

Julia: I think she should make a cake with no eggs when she needs groceries. Do you see there's something missing? What could it mean?

Vanessa: She could make like a dark chocolate cake when they are supposed to meet up at midnight.

Julia: How is that better than saying "Meet me at sunset"? It's like, meet me at the time the night looks like this piece of cake I've given you that you can't eat.

Vanessa: Because at least there's some visual aid!

Julia: Okay, sure.

Vanessa: And then, to your previous piece of advice, she could bring it to school for the bake sale.

Julia: There we go. No food waste. We're really coming full circle.

Vanessa: Yeah, Bella, we are solving your problems!

### *Music*

Vanessa: Julia, we have one last care package to send to Bella for a little while. What would you like to send to her?

Julia: So, as I understand it, Bella's entering summer. I, too, am entering summer, but I'm dealing with a global pandemic, and she's not, so I'm sending her what I want. Which is a nice vacation. I want her to go on a tropical vacation, she can invite whoever she wants, except for Edward, because he will sparkle in the sun. And I want her to just go and live it up. She couldn't have that Phoenix vacation she wanted. The vampire money can fund it. I mean, also, we can fund it, but I think they should pitch in at least half.

Vanessa: I disagree with you that the Cullens should help fund it. Given that you said the Cullens should fund it thirty seconds after you said Edward couldn't come. Like, I don't think you can say "you can't come but give me your money."

Julia: I think that's exactly what you can say. Why not?

Vanessa: You know what, this is why I love you. You teach me to dream bigger.

Julia: Like they seem to give Bella whatever she wants, except turning her into an immortal vampire, so she'll be like, if you're not going to do that, at least send me on a nice trip. Bring me to Fiji.

Vanessa: I'm gonna just expand on something for my care package item that was actually your idea, but I'm making it more specific. So I really think we need to get Bella a Golden Retriever puppy. And there are two reasons why I think she needs this in her life. One, is that she can feel what real and healthy love is. She obviously likes to be loved in sort of an oppressive way, and that is the way Golden Retrievers love. Like, Golden Retrievers are like always in your face, they love love, they want you to be petting them all the time. Bella obviously likes that, great. And also, she can feel a healthy version of that, and most importantly and she can apologize to Mike



for constantly calling him a Golden Retriever like it's an insult. Justice for Mike. And then, by giving justice for Mike and realizing Mike is awesome, it's also justice for Jessica. She'll be like, do you know what, Jessica ended up with the better guy. Golden Retriever love is better than vampire love, and then she can reach out to Jessica and she can make friends. And I think having a puppy is a great way to make new friends because then everyone wants to come over and hang out with the puppy. I really like if we give her a Golden Retriever puppy she will dump Edward and become friends with Jessica and Mike.

Julia: I love the idea about getting puppies, because I love puppies, but don't you think that Bella is a cat person? Like what about little Hemoglobin?

Vanessa: I think Bella has a dog person inside of her. Doesn't she feel torn sort of between her cat person self and her dog person self? Isn't that what like the Edward/Jacob thing is later, like basically her choosing between dogs and cats?

Julia: And she chooses cats! She chooses Edward!

Vanessa: Okay, well I'm trying to do an intervention now. It's because she has this negative idea of what a Golden Retriever is, and keeps saying it as an insult.

Julia: Anti-dog prejudice.

Vanessa: Yeah! I think we gotta bring a really good one into her life and she's gonna be like oh my god, I saw the light.

Julia: Okay, that makes sense. That makes sense. So what do you think is going to happen in New Moon?

Vanessa: So, I think that Rosalie is going to inadvertently come to like Bella, and that she is gonna convince Bella to dump Edward. And this is gonna crush Edward, but he's gonna get over it. And seeing that Edward like got over being dumped and this awful blow, Carlisle is going to realize that Esme would be able to get over her being dumped, and so he's going to dump her and move in with Charlie. And then I think that Carlisle is going to teach Charlie how to be a good dad. And Bella is gonna now live with two parents who really love her and who are really good at caring for her and she's gonna make a bunch of healthy choices. She's going to become friends with Jessica. She's going to study really hard and apply to like a marine biology program in Seattle, because she's not gonna want to be too far away from her two loving fathers. And the book is going to end on a cliffhanger because Charlie is going to find out finally that Carlisle is actually a vampire, which is a secret that Carlisle has been keeping from Charlie, because he really loves Charlie, and he doesn't know if Charlie is going to accept that part of him. And the cliffhanger at the end of New Moon is whether or not Charlie is going to accept Carlisle, now that he knows he's a vampire. And I think that it's going to be a dance battle.

Julia: Who's dancing?

Vanessa: I think that Charlie is gonna, like, dance out his feelings in order to figure out his feelings. It's like an inner dance battle.

Julia: Written on the page, wow. I can't wait to read those moves.

### *Music*

Vanessa: This has been Twilight in Quarantine, a college admissions counseling session from Hot and Bothered. This episode and all episodes are executive-produced by Ariana Nedelman

and Ariana Martinez. This show was conceived of as a vampire baby by Julia Argy, and I'm Vanessa Zoltan, and I already went to college so it's too late for me. We are a production of Not Sorry Productions and are distributed by ACast. FYI - not to get political - but we here at Not Sorry Productions are anti-torture. Talk to you in a few days where we are going to review the movie Twilight.