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Subject: Re: New Beginnings

Posted by [Lillehafrue](#) on Mon, 30 Jul 2012 02:05:21 GMT

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Saturday, January 6th, 2069, 6 pm Tracy Island (7 pm, Previous day, Oahu, HW)

Vince pulled his car into a parking spot in front of Blue Waters Dive Shop. He hadn't been to the dive shop all week as he had been busy with preparations for their trip tomorrow. He couldn't remember when the last time was that he had been away from the store for that long. And who knows when I'll see it again after today, Vince thought, as he got from the car and headed toward the building.

As was typical for a Friday, the shop was busy. Over the last couple of months Vince had helped Jim get kayak tours up and running. The program had been an instant hit, and Adam was enjoying having an increased role at the shop. They had also been working on the transition of the ownership of Blue Waters. Jim had officially become his partner right before Christmas, and had taken over day-to-day operations. The plan was that he would buy part of Vince's share each year, and eventually become sole owner.

Vince stood aside as a family came out of the store, then headed inside. Adam waved to him from near the wet suit displays where he was helping a customer. Vince waved back at him.

"Hey, Vince. Come to make one last inspection before you leave?" Eddie Crammer joked.

"More like I just wanted to say good-bye," Vince told him. "I know the shop is in good hands."

After getting the job with Tracy Industries, Vince had contacted Eddie and offered him a position; there would need to be another full-time employee on board when he left for New Zealand. Eddie had expressed interest and once his tour of duty at Ingleside was up, he had come out to Oahu for an interview. Like himself, Eddie had both a Master SCUBA diver and Instructor Trainer Certifications and a pilot's license, which meant that he could take over most of Vince's duties with the shop. By mid-December he had settled his family on Oahu and was learning the ropes.

"Jim's out back prepping tanks," Eddie told him, pointing toward the back door.

"Thanks," Vince replied.

As a customer stepped up to the counter, Vince made his way to the back door. He was sure Jim wouldn't mind an extra hand prepping the tanks, then he hoped the two of them could go out for one last meal together. Jim and his family had planned on coming and seeing the Crenshaws off in the morning. However, a last minute dive trip had come up, changing those plans. Vince knew this would be the last time he and his friend would see each other for the foreseeable future.

"Hey Vince," Jim called, seeing his friend come out. He put the tank he had just finished filling onto the truck and reached for an empty one. "Come to check up on us one last time?" he commented with a smile.

"No. Just stopping in to say good-bye. Any plans for tonight?"

"Not really. Why?"

"Was wondering if you wanted to go grab a bite to eat tonight."

"Would love to."

"Want a hand with the tanks?"

"You know I never pass up free help."

Without another word, Vince grabbed one of the empty tanks and the two friends got back to filling them.

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