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Subject: Re: New Beginnings

Posted by [Lillehafrue](#) on Mon, 30 Jul 2012 02:10:14 GMT

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Sunday, January 6th, around noon, Christchurch, NZ

As the last of the other passengers left the first-class section of the plane, Vince stood up and stepped out into the aisle. Aaron, who was sitting by the window, maneuvered past a sleeping Lea to join him in the aisle. The two of them retrieved their onboard baggage from the overhead compartment while they waited for the flight attendant to bring Lana's chair to them.

"Should I wake her up?" Aaron asked, indicating his sister as he put both his and her duffel bags over one shoulder.

Vince shook his head. "Let her sleep. I'll get her once we get your mother settled."

The five year old had not taken well to her first plane trip in over three years, and had spent the first half of the trip crying. Vince was sure he wasn't the only one who had been grateful when the girl had fallen asleep.

The flight attendant showed up with the wheelchair that had been stored back in Oahu. She placed it in the aisle next to Lana's seat.

"Anything else I can do to assist you?" the flight attendant asked.

"No, we're fine thank-you," Vince replied.

After Lana had transferred from her seat in the middle row to the wheelchair, she took the carry-on she and Vince had brought onboard. Vince unbuckled his sleeping daughter and picked her up. Lea stirred slightly, but stayed asleep, her head resting on her father's shoulder. Vince led the way down the aisle to the exit.

The Crenshaw family made their way into the airport. There were still a few passengers hanging around the gate area, talking amongst one another and trying to figure out which direction to head. It didn't take Vince long to spot Gordon Tracy though. Spotting Vince and Lana, Gordon headed in their direction.

"Welcome back," Gordon said, with a smile. He shook hands with Vince as he continued. "Hope your flight here was okay."

"Except for a screaming five year old, it was fine, thank-you," Lana replied, pointing a finger at her still sleeping daughter.

"Here let me take one of those for you," Gordon said, reaching out for one of the two bags, Aaron was carrying. Aaron gratefully handed Lea's bag over to him. "Are you hungry? I know a restaurant here that has good food. We can grab something to eat while they're transferring the rest of your luggage."

Vince glanced at Lana, who nodded. "Lunch sounds like a good idea. Lead the way."

As Gordon led them toward the restaurant he addressed his new swimming student. "Hope you're a morning person, Aaron. The early mornings are usually the best time to avoid the others using the pool, though there are a few on the island that seem to enjoy an early morning swim from time to time."

"Whatever time you think is best, sir."

"Well for starters, let's drop the sir," Gordon said, with a grin. "You make me feel old. You can call me Gordon. I figured we can start Tuesday morning. Give you a chance to settle in. How's six o'clock sound?"

"That's fine, s . . . Gordon," Aaron replied, catching himself. I still can't believe that Gordon Tracy is going to be my coach! Guess it will sink in Tuesday.

The group reached the restaurant and were shown to a table. Vince finally woke up Lea. Never one to take to strangers quickly, she eyed Gordon warily as Vince settled her in the chair between Lana and himself. It wasn't long before Gordon had her laughing.

"I've never seen her warm up to someone so quickly," Lana commented, as she glanced through the menu.

"What can I say? I have a way with kids," Gordon replied.

The waitress appeared and took their drink orders. As she left to get their drinks, the group opened their menus and began to look over the selections.

The Crenshaws Move to Tracy Island part 1