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Subject: Re: New Beginnings

Posted by [Lillehafrue](#) on Mon, 30 Jul 2012 02:18:10 GMT

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Lea was seated Indian-style in the middle of the apartment's living area. Her cries of "It's not fair" filled the air. Aaron looked from his crying sister to his father, looking for guidance. He had not expected that his simple goodnight to his sister after dinner would set off this tantrum.

Vince mouthed the word "Go" to his son, and nodded toward the door. Aaron did so, and then slipped out the nearest door onto the balcony. Ignoring his daughter's current tantrum, Vince turned to his wife. "Do you need help cleaning up?"

"No, I can manage."

The family had just finished eating dinner. Cassie had stopped by during the afternoon and dropped off a tuna casserole, which was greatly appreciated by Lana. Though the apartment had been stocked with some simple foodstuffs from a list she had provided, trying to get their first meal together after the excitement of the day wasn't exactly high on Lana's list of things she wanted to do. Nor did she really feel like making the trip up to the villa to join the Tracys for dinner on their first night here. The casserole had provided the perfect solution.

Vince nodded. While Lana set herself to the task of cleaning up the dinner dishes and storing the leftovers, Vince looked around the apartment. Some order had been restored to the living quarters but there was still a lot to accomplish. He tried to figure out what he should try to accomplish first. The corner of Lea's favorite blanket that she still slept with, reminded Vince of one task that needed to be completed tonight - putting together his daughter's bed.

Still tuning out Lea's tantrum, he walked over to the entertainment system and picked up the manila envelope which held all the instruction manuals. Taking them out, he started going through them, looking for the one to the canopy bed.

By the time Vince had located the set of instructions that he needed, Lea's tantrum had just about subsided. The little girl was quiet other than an occasional snuffle. Folding the instructions in half, he stuffed it in his pocket.

"Hey, Poppet, why don't you play with your blocks?" Vince said to his daughter, retrieving the container of blocks and heading over to where she was sitting.

Vince spent a few minutes with his daughter, helping her get started on her creation and then headed into the bedroom to begin work on the bed. He had put together the frame when he heard a knock on the door.

"I'll get it, honey," he called out to his wife, wanting a break from his project.

Walking out of the room, he spotted a dark hair man and a little boy standing outside the glass door of the living room. He was sure he had met the man before but couldn't place him. I need to get curtains up over the French doors soon, he thought as he opened the door. "Hello."

"Hi. I'm Dom. I live in the apartment at the other end of the building," the Irishman told him. "This is my son, Josh."

"Hello, Josh," Vince said, smiling down at the small boy.

"Hi!"

"Just thought I'd stop by and see if you needed any help getting settled in," Dom offered.

"Well, I'm attempting to put my daughter's bed together. An extra pair of hands would be welcomed, especially as there is a canopy."

"I'm your guy," Dom replied.

Vince stepped aside to let his guests to enter. Before anyone else had a chance to see anything, Josh spotted Lea and her blocks. Hurrying over to her, the little boy knocked over the castle she had been working on with a sound of glee. Vince closed his eyes, expecting another tantrum from his daughter.

"Daddy!" Lea called out, but didn't start crying for which Vince was grateful.

"Joshua! That was bold," Dom scolded, walking over to the two kids. "Now tell her you're sorry," he instructed his son.

Josh looked from the pile of blocks to his father. He then looked at Lea. "Sorry."

Lea smiled again, happy with the apology. "Want to help me rebuild it?" Lea asked holding out a block to Josh.

Josh looked from the block to his father. "Go ahead," Dom told his son. Josh smiled and took the block from Lea.

"Put it here," Lea instructed, pointing to a spot on top of some of the blocks that hadn't been knocked over.

"Wouldn't it be nice if all problems were solved that easily," Lana commented, having stopped her work in the kitchen.

After Dom and Lana exchanged greetings and making sure the two kids were happily playing, Vince led Dom into the bedroom and the two men got to work on finishing the bed.

The Crenshaws move to the island . . . the end