

---

Subject: Re: New Beginnings

Posted by [Lillehafrue](#) on Mon, 30 Jul 2012 02:50:38 GMT

[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

---

Friday, January 11th, early morning

Gordon watched as his new student cut swiftly through the water. There isn't much to correct on his backstroke, Gordon thought as Aaron reached the far end of the pool and performed the flip to turn around. The turns need some work, however, and he's surfacing too quickly after the turn, Gordon made a mental note to spend some time just working on that the next morning.

As Aaron reached the end of the pool, Gordon hit the button on the stop watch he was holding. The aquanaut looked down at the time; 1:58:63. It was the first time Gordon had actually timed laps. The kid really does have a decent shot of making the World Team, Gordon thought as he made his way over to where Aaron was pulling himself out of the pool.

"So, what was the time, Coach?" Aaron asked, as he grabbed his towel off a near-by lounge chair.

Gordon told him the time. The copper-haired Tracy didn't miss the smile that came to the teenager's face, although he simply nodded at the news. "You're losing time on the turn though. I'll give you some pointers tomorrow morning and we'll try to improve them. I also want you to work on staying underwater longer after the turn. You've got 15 meters until you need to surface and I'm sure you've been told that underwater speed is faster than the surface time due to resistance." Gordon noticed Aaron nod in confirmation. "You use the 15 meters well at the start but following the turn you're on the surface before you reach 10 meters. That's something else we'll work on tomorrow."

Aaron nodded again as he finished towel drying his hair and then wrapped the towel around his shoulders.

"So, how do you like the island so far?"

Aaron shrugged. "It's okay, I guess. Having my own apartment is nice. I'm enjoying not having Lea getting into everything. I miss my friends back home, though. I love Lea, but hanging out with a five year old just isn't the same as hanging with kids my age."

"I know what you mean," Gordon commented with a laugh.

"I also can't surf as much as I did at home, though my mom is probably happy about that as I've caught up in my school work. I got behind in while we were getting ready to move."

"You're doing an internet program then?"

"Yeah," the teenager replied, nodding. "I started it during what would have been my freshman year. Mom keeps tabs on how I'm doing and makes sure I stay on track though she leaves me alone unless I ask for help."

"That shows a lot of discipline," Gordon commented, as he placed the stop watch on the table. "What's the problem with the surfing time? I know we might not get the great surf Hawaii does, but

it's still decent."

"One of Dad's rules. He doesn't want me in the ocean unless I'm with an adult. He's been busy this week, though he did spend some time on the beach with Lea yesterday evening, so I got a chance to surf."

"It's a good idea not to go surfing alone," Gordon said, feeling the need to back Vince up a little. "I usually surf with one of my brothers. I'll let you know whenever I plan on surfing and you can tag along."

"Thanks!"

"Not a problem. You should also look into getting involved with something on the mainland. It'll give you a chance to hang out with some kids your own age."

"Now you sound like my parents."

"Hey, just trying to help," Gordon said, putting up his hands in surrender. An idea was starting to form, but he knew he had to talk to Vince before mentioning anything to Aaron. There was no point in getting the teenager's hopes up and then his father vetoing the idea.

"I know," Aaron commented. "Guess I'll head back to my apartment and get breakfast before doing some school work. See ya tomorrow, Coach."

Gordon gave a half-wave as the teenager headed toward the Cliff House. He then stripped off the t-shirt and shorts he had put on over his swimsuit and dove into the pool. He wanted to get his own workout in before breakfast.