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Subject: Re: New Beginnings

Posted by [Lillehafrue](#) on Mon, 30 Jul 2012 22:00:10 GMT

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Christchurch International Airport, about 4 pm . . .

Cassie stepped off the plane, still not completely awake from her too brief of a nap. She had boarded the plane at eight pm in Kabul the previous night having spent the better part of the day sightseeing. The fact that it was now Friday afternoon made her tired just thinking about it.

I hate time zones, Cassie thought as she walked with the rest of her fellow passengers toward the baggage claim area.

She was able to grab her bag from the carousel the first time around. Maneuvering out of the gathered crowd, Cassie scanned the area for the Crenshaws. Jeff had called her yesterday to tell her they would be picking her up.

"There she is!"

Cassie recognized the voice of Lea and looked in the direction the shout had come from. She spotted the little blonde perched on her father's shoulders. Smiling, Cassie headed in their direction. It didn't take her long to reach them.

"I'm so relieved you guys aren't late," Cassie remarked as she joined them.

"Yeah, well, that's only because I kept rushing these ladies in their shopping. Though I was happy for the excuse to hurry the expedition along. I can only look at so many curtains and bed sheets before I'm totally bored," Vince told her.

"Just be happy we weren't clothes shopping, dear," Lana replied.

Cassie smiled at the little exchange.

"Here let me take that bag for you," Vince said, reaching for Cassie's bag. The dark-haired woman gratefully handed the bag over.

"Mommy and Daddy let me pick how to paint my bedroom," Lea told the newcomer excitedly, as Vince started leading the small group out of the baggage claim area. "Guess what I picked."

"What did you pick?" Cassie asked, smiling at the little girl's enthusiasm. Lea reminded of her own nieces when they were her age.

"Sea creatures. Just like the ocean. Star fishes, and dolphins, and whales, and fishes."

"Sounds nice. Who's doing it? Your Dad?"

Lea nodded. "Mom too. And they're letting me help!"

"Sounds like fun!"

Not to mention those two must be awfully brave, Cassie thought to herself, wondering if she would be brave enough to let a five year old help decorate a bedroom. Though I wonder what Nathan would have chosen for his bedroom when he was old enough.

Cassie didn't have time to dwell on it as Lea continued to babble on about things they had bought for her room.