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Subject: Re: New Beginnings

Posted by [Lillehafrue](#) on Mon, 30 Jul 2012 22:04:20 GMT

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Friday, January 18, 2069, 7 p.m., Dallas-Fort Worth Airport, USA (2 p.m. Saturday, January 19, Tracy Island)

"Bad news, honey."

Jeff sauntered over to where Dianne stood, sipping a cup of coffee. She turned to him as he came up beside her.

"What is it?"

"Boston and points north are being hammered by a big snowstorm. Logan Airport is closed. We're going to either have to change our destination, or stick here until Logan's opened up again."

Dianne sighed, and her shoulders slumped. "How is New York?"

"The city airports report light snow and are open," Jeff told her, consulting the pad in his hand. "You want to head for the penthouse and spend the night there?"

"Sounds like as good a plan as any," Dianne said, sighing again. "We could take a helijet out of La Guardia instead of Boston... and a pilot, too."

Jeff's face softened, and he put an arm around his wife. "You're still worried about me piloting to New Hampshire, aren't you?"

There was a moment's hesitation, and she nodded slightly. Jeff smiled. "If you remember, I wasn't piloting on my first visit. And I promise we'll wait until the weather clears before heading up there."

Dianne looked up at him, and stroked her fingers along his cheekbone, then reached up for a kiss. "I'll hold you to that, Jeff Tracy." She leaned her head against his shoulder, sighing deeply again.

"Why so melancholy, love?" he asked, a slight frown of concern wrinkling his brow.

"I don't know." He felt her shrug a little. "Part of me wishes I were home to watch the kids with their new classes. Part of me wishes they were with us for this vacation."

"And here I thought you wanted for us to be alone for my birthday," Jeff gently quipped.

"I do. But... well, I hope Drew can handle things, that's all. Especially with what Dom's going through right now..." She shook her head.

"If Drew needs help, he's got both of our mothers there," he reminded her. "And I wouldn't be surprised if Maggie manages to pull herself away from the grandkids and goes with him."

"I'd feel better if she did," Dianne said. "It's going to be such a busy week at home."

"Well, give them a call and nudge her into going while I change our flight plan and make sure the plane is ready."

Dianne smiled. "All right. I'll do that. And don't forget to call Aline and let her know when we're going to get there. It's short notice, but..."

"She can handle it," Jeff said, completing her sentence with a grin. "I'm on it."

As he went off to make arrangements, Dianne pulled out her satellite phone and pressed a quick dial number. Settling her earphone and mike connection, she waited until the phone on the other end was answered.

"Dianne!" Maggie's face appeared in the tiny screen Dianne held before her. "Where are you?"

"Dallas-Fort Worth and on our way to New York. Boston's airport is closed." Dianne paused, then asked, "Aunt Maggie, could I persuade you to go to the island with Uncle Drew?"

Maggie gave her niece a coquettish look. "Hm. Depends. How much are you willing to do to persuade me?"

Dianne laughed and shook her head. "Maybe I should leave the persuasion up to Uncle Drew."