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Subject: Re: New Beginnings

Posted by [Lillehafrue](#) on Tue, 31 Jul 2012 02:55:21 GMT

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Picking up the coffee pot, Cassie poured the coffee into a thermos. Putting the empty pot in the sink, she twisted the lid on the thermos while walking to the table. Placing it in the box with other items she was taking over to Luke's, the dark-haired woman looked over the items.

After saying a brief hello to Luke when he had arrived back, and telling him she would bring breakfast over in the morning, Cassie had returned to her own apartment. Besides breakfast, she wanted to cook up a few easy to re-heat meals for her friend. His surprise return meant that no one had time to stock his apartment with any food.

Satisfied she had everything, Cassie picked up the box and headed for her door. Moments later she was outside Luke's apartment waiting for him to answer the door.

Rommel trotted over and woofed at her through the screen. "Yeah, yeah, I'm coming. Hold your horses, mutt." Luke walked into the living room. Spying Cassie he called out, "Hey, Cass, c'mon in."

She walked through the door and Luke moved to take the box from her. "Please tell me you have coffee in there."

"I've got the box," Cassie told him, refusing to let him take it from her. "And yes, there is coffee. Do you really think I'd show up with breakfast and not bring coffee?" she told him as she walked toward the table with her burden.

"I'm not crippled, you know," he grumbled as he sat down at the table. He yawned hugely and rubbed his hands over his face. "What time is it anyway? I'm still all screwed up. I hate crossing the IDL."

"A little after ten," Cassie told him, as she took the thermos and coffee cup out of the box and place both in front of Luke. "I've got less than an hour before I'm supposed to meet with Scott," she told him as she continued to take things out of the box.

Luke dumped two teaspoons of sugar into the mug and took a sip. His eyes closed and he sighed in contentment. Cassie chuckled and he looked up. "What else do you have in there? I'm starving." He glanced over at Rom. "I only brought food for the mutt here. Guess I'll have to make a grocery list." He shrugged and took another sip of coffee.

"One thing's for sure. I'm not hopping on a plane again anytime soon. That flight wasn't as easy as I thought it would be." He finished his drink and poured another. "Meeting with Scott, huh? Flying lesson?"

Cassie shook her head. "We're ready to field test the Dicetyline cannon and getting that set up is on the agenda. He also mentioned there was Tracy Industries business to discuss. Not sure what that's about."

Luke nodded. "How are the flying lessons going anyway? And what else have I missed around here?"

"Believe it or not, I'm actually doing well with the flying bit now," Cassie told him, taking out the containers filled with the eggs, toast, bacon, and hash browns she had made for their breakfast. "Scott thinks I should be ready to try for my license by the end of next month. I'm mostly just trying to log the necessary flight hours right now."

Having taken out everything needed for their breakfast, Cassie took out the last four containers. "I prepared a few reheat-able meals for you. Wasn't sure what your plans were for food for the next couple of days but I figured this way if don't want to go begging for food from your neighbors you don't have to," she told him as she headed to the refrigerator with them.

Luke got up and grabbed a couple of plates and some silverware from his kitchen. He carried them back out and filled them with food. He handed one to Cassie. "Here, sit." He took a bite and grinned. "These are great, thanks! Elise brought some soup by last night too. And Will promised me some cookies from the latest batch his mom sent. I'm going to owe all of you."

"Mr. Tracy has hired someone to take Brandon's place," she told him, going back to answering his previous question. Getting her own breakfast, she continued. "His name is Vince Crenshaw. He's a former Navy SEAL. Vince and his family have the apartments below us."

His mind registered what she had just told him. "There's a family downstairs? Like with kids? No kidding. Dom had mentioned that Josh had a new playmate, but it never clicked. Tell me about them."

"Josh's new playmate is Lea. She's five and a bundle of energy. The two of them wore me out when I had them down on the beach Sunday," she told him, smiling at the thought of how much fun they had. "She's a bit shy when she first meets someone but once she gets past that she's very talkative and loves to ask questions. She even wanted to know how Dom and I were related because Josh was calling me Auntie Cass."

Luke laughed. "Gotta love kids. One thing about being back, I'll miss my nieces and nephew. They spent a lot of time with my while I healed up." He grew quiet as his thoughts turned. "I'm hoping to spend some time with Dom later. We have lots of catching up to do. Emails and phone calls just aren't the same." He sighed. "He's still shook up over what happened."

"I know," Cassie replied, her smile fading. "Unfortunately, I was away when things happened and he hasn't really been too talkative on the subject around me. Reminds me of someone else I know," she added, giving Luke a sidelong look.

"Ha, ha." He looked around his apartment. "The place looks neater that I expected it to be. Have you all been taking turns keeping the dust bunnies away?"

Cassie sighed. Men, she thought before answering his question. "Yeah, between Elise, Jenny and myself we've tried to keep things clean in here." She decided to go back to the abandoned subject of their neighbors downstairs. "Anyway, the Crenshaws also have another kid. Their son Aaron has the one-bedroom apartment down there. Gordon has taken on coaching him in swimming as

he has his eyes set on the competing at Worlds. I've done some workouts while they were training. The kid is really good."

As they continued their breakfast, Cassie continued to fill Luke in on things that had been happening.

"Shoot! I didn't realize so much time had passed," Cassie said suddenly catching a glance at the clock. She stood up and started to clean up.

"Just go," Luke told her. "You don't want to face an angry Scott. I can clean up."

"Thanks, Luke," Cassie said. She picked up her coffee cup and downed the last of her coffee. "It's great to have you back," she added as she headed for the door.

Breakfast . . . written by lillehafrue and starynebula