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Subject: Re: New Beginnings

Posted by [Lillehafrue](#) on Tue, 31 Jul 2012 03:33:59 GMT

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After retrieving a cup of coffee from the kitchen, Scott headed out to the balcony. He figured the combination of caffeine and fresh air would help wake him up while Kyrano finished cooking breakfast.

Scott leaned one arm on the balcony railing and took a sip of the hot beverage. Looking down, he saw Gordon and Aaron conversing by the pool. They're probably finishing up a lesson, he thought, even as he noticed the pool was occupied by someone else. Cassie was reaching one end of the pool as she swam some early morning workout laps. He remembered the dark-haired firefighter mentioning at Penelope's party that she had been on the swim team in junior high. As he watched her swim he could see that training in her technique.

Cassie had been on his mind a lot since the other evening. Though they had spent time together the day before, the topic of Tuesday evening had not come up.

Not that I haven't thought about it since then, Scott admitted to himself, leaning on the railing, the cup grasped in both hands. I just wasn't sure how to bring her son up or even if I should. She needs to work through this at her own pace.

Scott shifted his position, taking another sip of his coffee. The eldest Tracy son kept watching the scene by the pool. Eventually, Aaron left. Probably heading back to his apartment, he mused.

Cassie had reached the end of the pool where Gordon was. The black-haired woman grasped the side of the pool as Gordon squatted down to talk with her. From his vantage point, Scott couldn't make out what the two of them were saying but whatever it was, it made Cassie laugh.

Standing up straighter, he told himself. Cassie is just a friend, just like the other recruits are.

Scott turned away from the railing, taking a gulp of the the cooling liquid. Anything more wouldn't work. Given the situation, the two of us can only be just friends. Anything else wouldn't be appropriate given my position as IR's field commander, he told himself. He crossed the balcony to the door he had exited earlier. Even a friendship is questionable but--given the circumstances--cutting myself off from interacting with the all the recruits on a day-to-day basis just wouldn't work. It's one thing for Virgil or Alan to pursue closer relationships, but given my position, it's not right to be closer to one recruit over the other. It would be unprofessional as well as possibly detrimental to IR and the work we do.

Falling back on what had been drilled into him during his years in the Air Force, the rational part of him could easily convince himself that Cassie could only be a friend, just as all the other recruits had become.

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