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Subject: Re: Cold Front

Posted by [artisticrainey](#) on Wed, 25 Jul 2012 21:15:20 GMT

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Sunday, November 11, 5:30 pm TI, (11:30 pm, previous day NYC)

Cassie was in her apartment playing her guitar. She had a new music book she had received in the last mail delivery open on the music stand in front of her. The book had some of the latest country songs in it.

Over the notes coming from the guitar, the dark-haired woman heard her satellite phone ring. Stopping in mid chorus, she placed her guitar up against the wall and stood up. Crossing the living area, she picked the phone up off of the table and glanced at the screen.

"Hey, Mark! What's up?" she said, answering the call.

"Not much. Just wanted to check in on my favorite sister! I was hoping you'd still be awake."

"Yeah, I'm wide awake. I guess I worked the evening shift too long to be able to turn in early."

"I know what you mean. So how's everything with you? The job working out okay?"

"I'm doing good. Making some new friends here. As for the job, its keeping me busy but that's okay. I've got a business trip planned actually."

"Yeah, where are they sending you?"

"The Tracy Industries facilities in Christchurch, NZ. Hoping to see the city a little bit while I'm there," Cassie told him as she settled herself on the couch.

"So, you're finally getting a chance to travel. That's great! Hey, speaking of traveling, were you able to get some time off to make the trip to Japan with the rest of us?"

"Yes, I was able to get a few days off though it is part business trip for me. I'll be making a visit to the Tokyo facilities on Thursday while I'm there. That will leave me all day Friday and Saturday with the family though before I fly out on Sunday."

"Great! Can't wait to see you. Seems like you've been gone longer than a month and a half."

"Then that means you're coming too, I take it," Cassie said. It was something she had been wondering about. Given the strained relationship between Mark and their parents she had been wondering if they would even extend the invitation to him and if they did if Mark would want to go.

"Yeah. I kind of want to see Grandma, Grandpa, Saicho and the others. Figured I can endure the coolness from the folks for their sakes."

"Do they know?"

"Yeah. I told Saicho and he told his parents as well as Grandma and Grandpa. They're a little bit more open-minded than Mom and Dad on the whole subject. It was actually Grandpa who called to invite me for the holiday. From talking with Jordan, seems like our folks called everyone except me."

"Don't let them get to you. It's not worth it. With any luck they'll come around eventually."

"For the first time, I actually think you may be right. Jordan did after all, with a little nudge from you I hear."

Cassie smiled as she replied. "Yeah, well someone has to be the peacemaker in the family. How are the two of you getting along?"

"Pretty well actually. We're flying over to Japan together. We should get there on Thursday evening."

"Good. I should be done with work by that time," Cassie told him.

The two siblings continued to talk for awhile more. Finally, Mark said good-bye so that he could climb into bed. After disconnecting the call, Cassie returned to her abandoned guitar and the song she was practicing.