

life on the ROCK: Road Trip

Week 1 – Mankato, Wednesday, July 1st

IN THE BEGINNING

TY: (looks up as if to heaven) Okay, God. This is it. This is Your thing. 21 days to find out who we are...21 days to find out who You are...21 days traveling in this rusty but trusty van filled with sweaty teenagers and the pungent aroma of Taco Bell mixed with wonder. Yes, this is Your thing and it is good. Isaiah 30:19-21 “...away with you!”

REBECCA: Oh...I'm sorry...should I come back in a couple of minutes?

TY: Oh, no, no...I was just quoting a scripture verse and I was just a little...Becky, right?

REBECCA: Rebecca, actually. I'm so excited! We are going to have such a wonderful time with these beautiful young people! Thanks for letting me intern like this. It's perfect! 21 days of non-stop interaction with youth! There'll be *so* many memories – but I have a journal!

TY: That's sweet. I have gas.

REBECCA: Oh...way to be prepared! How far are we driving? Oh, that's right. It's a *mystery* trip. I can play along. When are they supposed to be here?

TY: In about 5 minutes...but only Alice will be here on time and you'll cough up blue monkeys if Isaac shows up. But that's pretty cool if we get 5 kids going. I mean, not everybody can commit to 21 days.

REBECCA: So how did you get them to say yes? Or their parents?

TY: Well, let's see...Saul is an adventurous kid – and he'd drive his parents crazy at home. Alice is super-glued to Saul, but she's pretty responsible and good for him. Jeff and Moose are getting their last trip of freedom in before they get thrown into the dark prison of higher education. Vegas is searching for answers...about herself and about life, I think. And Isaac won't show. That's a pretty good response for posting a notice in the church newsletter that said, **weird old guy with a big white van looking for kids to go on a secret trip with him.**

REBECCA: That's terrible! You did not!

TY: JK, Beckster...ahhh here's Alice right on time.

REBECCA: It's Rebecca!

TY: Hey Alice! Great to see you this morning! Are you ready?!!!

ALICE: Ughh...I'm a little bit tired...and curious...who's this?

REBECCA: Oh hi! I'm Rebecca Kessler. Ty was nice enough to let me intern on the mystery tour.

ALICE: Cool.

TY: I needed someone to push if we ran out of gas, right Reba?

REBECCA: It's Rebecca!

(SAUL sneaks up behind all and jumps to scare them)

SAUL: Boo!

REBECCA: Oh my...you scared me!

ALICE: Dude, what're you doing?

(TY falls to the ground, REBECCA steps back frightened)

SAUL: Don't worry about it. He does this all the time. It's only bad when he's driving.

REBECCA: You're kidding! (leans over) Ty, are you alright? Ty, can you hear me? (taps his arm)

(TY yells Boo! and leaps back to his feet)

SAUL: Ty, this is going to be ridiculous fun! (does some strange handshake with TY)

ALICE: Don't worry about them. I will protect you from their diabolical humor.

REBECCA: Thanks. I think I'm gonna need it.

TY: Alright you two. Go throw your gear in the back of the van and you get first dibs on seats. Avoid the very back left side. It smells like pickles.

REBECCA: Oh...well how do you want them to organize their things. They may need to get to stuff later and if you just pile it all in...

TY: Oh, they'll figure it out. Here comes my favorite kids ever because they brought me coffee!

JEFF: Well, yeah. We don't want you nodding off and going all Dukes of Hazzard on us. Here you go...ohhh...I didn't know there were two of you...

REBECCA: That's okay...I'm more of a green tea person. (JEFF makes a face)

MOOSE: Well I brought you a chocolate donut, T, but I forgot where I put it. (rubs his tummy and smiles)

TY: Ooh, that reminds me where are my keys?

REBECCA: Where's the last place you had them?

TY: In the ignition...c'mon I'll help you guys load this stuff up! Can you hold this? (gives coffee to REBECCA)

REBECCA: Sure...ooh that's hot!

TY: (dragging some of the gear) Moose...man! What have you got in here? This has got to weigh like 75 pounds!

MOOSE: What? I brought some snacks. I'll share!

(guys walk over to van, leaving REBECCA standing by herself. Vegas walks into scene)

VEGAS: Hi...ummm...is this where we meet for the mystery road trip?

REBECCA: Yeah, it is. I'm Rebecca – and you are...

VEGAS: Vegas. I have all my stuff...what should I do with it?

REBECCA: Well, Vegas – and that's a really sweet name - you can go ahead and load it up in that van over there. Look out for the guy with the long hair...he likes to surprise people.

VEGAS: Oh no Saul is going? He's so annoying. This is not going to be good.

REBECCA: Hey c'mon! It'll be great. Look, you can stick with me. It'll be fine, really. Here, let me help you with your things. I think that should be everybody.

VEGAS: Where are we going?

REBECCA: I have no clue. And I'm not sure he does either. (points to Ty who is involved in some bizarre actions with Saul and Jeff)

(REBECCA and VEGAS walk over to the van where all are gathered)

REBECCA: This is a mess! Hang on a second and I'll rearrange some of this stuff.

TY: Okay, but then you'll miss out on the details.

REBECCA: Alright.

(all gather in a semi-circle)

TY: Dearly beloved we are gathered here today to embark on a quest. I have prepared a 21 day journey to discover more about ourselves, more about life and hopefully more about God. We will laugh, work and play together. We will meet new people and do new things. We will eat nasty fast food. I am convinced that God will be at our side, keeping us safe and showing us in surprising ways, His grace and love. So now let's join our hearts together and pray before we begin...God, on this beautiful morning you created, I pray for safety in our travels and...

(REBECCA starts coughing hysterically, TY looks up, interrupted and concerned)

REBECCA: (opens her hands and looks into palms) Oh look – blue monkeys!

TY: What are you...(spins around to see ISAAC walking towards them with his dad)

REBECCA: I thought you said he wouldn't come?

TY: I'm shocked...but this will be good for him. Hey Isaac! I'm glad you made it!

ISAAC: (ignores TY, turns to dad) I told you this is a stupid idea. We'll be lucky if that thing doesn't explode on the road.

DAD: (ignoring ISAAC'S comment) Good morning Ty. Thanks for doing this. I hope it goes good for him – for all of you. You have my number...if he gives you any problems, don't hesitate to call me. Have a good time, son. Remember what I said, okay?

ISAAC: Yeah, whatever. So can I throw my stuff in here or will it max this thing out?

TY: Yeah, in just a second. First, we're gonna pray over the road trip we're taking.

ISAAC: I got a prayer for ya. God help us bunch of losers.

TY: I think that works. Amen.

(all kind of look around at each other)

TY: One more thing before we go. I want you to answer this question tonight. Think about it as we're riding and be ready. Who or what has the most impact on how you see yourself? No church answers. Just the first things you think of. Okay, partners...Let's ride! (as they begin climbing, song begins and plays while they stay in van)