



"Fuck the system." These words on Emily VanCamp's lips sound like something her retribution-minded character on ABC's *Revenge* might say, if F-bombs were allowed on network television. But she isn't railing against or agitating for anything today as we leisurely wind our way up a trail in Beachwood Canyon not far from her Los Angeles home. She's merely reading aloud the graffiti sprayed in white paint across the dusty pavement at our feet. "Someone got a little angry on this hike," she notes, bemused. "What system?"

Here, in the hills, where the loudest sound is the wind and the city stretches below us toward the vast Pacific in the distance—although we can't actually see it on this overcast morning—references to "the system" seem absurd. This is one of the few places in the city devoid of traffic, paparazzi, or provocation. It's a favorite of VanCamp's, and makes her think twice about moving to New York, which she's considering after seven years in L.A.

Still, the letters of the Hollywood sign loom above us. We would be clambering toward them on a more challenging hike if not for my bum knee. VanCamp can sympathize—she's dislocated hers three times. We opt for a more modest stroll, and she points out the dome of the Griffith Observatory across the canyon.

VanCamp has been a part of the entertainment industry for more than half of her life, though it was only recently that the 27-year-old actress was properly initiated. For years, she enjoyed know-her-from-somewhere status—the WB's *Everwood*, possibly, or later, ABC's *Brothers & Sisters*.

previous page: sweater by emporio armani, shirt by sandis, shorts by denim & supply, ralph lauren, shoes by jeremy scott for adidas, sunglasses by wildfox, bracelet by organic peroxide

When she popped up in movies, like the underrated apocalyptic horror film *Carriers* (2009) or the offbeat indie *Norman* (2010), she brought with her a pleasant familiarity rather than a celebrity's burden. Now, with *Revenge* heading into its third season, she's a household name, or at least a billboard face, and her visibility is only going to increase next year with a pivotal role in *Captain America: The Winter Soldier*.

On *Revenge*, VanCamp stars as Emily Thorne—well, technically, Amanda Clarke, but she traded identities with a pal in juvie so she could return to her childhood home in New York's tony Hamptons enclave and stealthily avenge her father by destroying the lives of her wealthy neighbors, the Graysons, who framed him for a crime he didn't commit before having him murdered in prison. (It only gets more convoluted from there, but we'll come back to that.)

VanCamp, however, talks about things like "not living in a place of anger." Her Zen tweets put Emily Thorne to shame: "Hatred does not cease by hatred, but only by love; this is the eternal rule."—Buddha. A lovely thought as I head to bed tonight. That said, she is pissed off that she can't go to the local Gelson's supermarket anymore to buy bananas and chocolate chips for muffins—a favorite of her *Revenge* castmates—

without being photographed. And if she steps out with boyfriend and co-star Josh Bowman, a former rugby player who briefly dated the late Amy Winehouse, forget it. The two have been captured holding hands all over nearby Silver Lake.

"It should be illegal for people to stalk you with cameras," she says as we descend the trail. "It's really invasive. How do you enjoy a moment? I see how people spiral out of control." VanCamp is very private. She refuses to talk about Bowman—he plays Grayson scion Daniel, whom her character wants to marry and make a coven in her plan to topple his parents—other than to say he does a great job disguising his British accent. After a pause, she repeats: "It should just be illegal."

We pass the graffiti again. "Fuck the system" has new meaning now.

Escaping paparazzi is a problem VanCamp didn't have back in 2004, even when she dated her *Everwood* co-star, and current *Parks and Recreation* funnyman, Chris Pratt. For most of her career, VanCamp has been safely ensconced in an ensemble, often cast as, who else, and almost every profile of her calls "the girl next door" (a phrase that carries with it the implication that nobody lives next to wild, adventurous women). "I wouldn't have labeled myself that way," says VanCamp earlier over breakfast. "I just think I had the look to play those characters. I was a good kid, but I definitely had my moments of rebellion."

VanCamp was raised in the teeny town of Port Perry, Ontario, the third of four girls. (They're still extremely close—when the youngest wanted a belly-button ring a few years ago, VanCamp, her mom, and her two older sisters ganged up to dissuade her.) At age 11, VanCamp left home to study ballet at a prestigious program in Quebec. "People were



Styled by morgan. Jawbreaker shirt by emporio armani, leggings, printed shirt by helmut lang, jeans by chadwick o'connor, silver chain bracelet by organic peroxide. Small bangles by michel audino. Ring by jessie beth

DSREPS

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New York

(917) 407-4292

Nicki Silverman: nicki@dsreps.com

Los Angeles

(626) 441-2224

Deborah Schwartz: deb@dsreps.com

Crystal Roberts: crystal@dsreps.com