

Book 1 Chapter 14

VERITY

I could hear clattering going on, which made me open my eyes. I moved and looked around, trying to nd where I was.

“Sorry,” someone called out, which made me look toward the person.

Sandy stood by the kitchen counter and stared at me with a smile. “I didn’t mean to wake you,” she said as she stepped toward me.

I watched her for a few moments until I noticed something in her hand.

Sandy came toward me with a plate and placed it on the arm of the chair. “Carlton made you some food,” she said with a smile.

I nodded and grabbed the plate.

I took a bite of the sandwich and moaned. The food was delicious.

“This is so good,” I murmured, still chewing on the sandwich.

Sandy giggled.

Sandy walked around and sat next to me on the couch. “That’s good to hear,” she said. “I will let Carlton know.”Sandy walked around and sat next to me on the couch.

I kept eating, and after a few minutes of silence, I ate the whole sandwich.

I looked at Sandy, who was smiling.

“How was work?” I asked.

“It was okay,” she said. “We had a bit of a rush when I returned to the cafe, but nothing I couldn’t handle.”

Sandy looked at me and smiled. “How was your sleep?” she asked. “You slept for ve hours. I did come in earlier to check on you, but I had to go back down.”

My eyes widen.

I slept for ve hours.

I must have needed it.

“It’s okay,” she said, pulling me from my thoughts. “You must have needed it.”

I nodded.

“I guess I did,” I said.

We stayed quiet for a few moments, but Sandy cleared her throat. “Well, I spoke to the people who looked after me in that town and explained to them that you were looking for a new adventure, a job, and a place to live.”

I stared at Sandy, feeling slightly nervous.

Sandy looked at me and placed her hand on my shoulder. “It’s okay,” she said. “I never mentioned anything that you left because of a guy. They didn’t ask; they might ask you when you arrive.”

My eyes widened more.

“They got something for me,” I asked.

Sandy nodded.

“They do,” she said. “Their names are Bow and Peggy, lovely people.”

I smiled.

“When do they expect me to be there?” I asked.

“I told them you were resting, but once you are ready to leave,” she said. “You can leave. Carlton is making some food for the road for you. Well, mainly cookies and sandwiches. I will give you my number so you can tell me you arrived safely.”

I stared at her.

“I don’t have a phone,” I said. “I broke my phone before I left.”

Sandy looked at me but gave me a knowing look.

“I guess you broke it,” she said. “Did the guy text you or something?”

I nodded.

Sandy looked around the small room and spotted something. She got up, walked over to the side of her bed, and pulled something out of the bedside cabinet. “You can use this,” she said, looking back at me.

I stared at her, stunned.

“I can’t accept this,” I said, trying to hand back the phone.

Sandy shook her head. “It’s a burner phone,” she said. “I used it when I got here until I got a new one. You need it more than I do.”

I stared at the phone and then looked back at Sandy.

“Thank you,” I said as I placed the phone in my bag.

Sandy smiled.

“When do you want to leave?” she asked.

“Soon,” I said. “Could I use your bathroom? I need to freshen up.”

Sandy nodded.

“Through that door,” she said, pointing to the door behind me.

“I will check to see if Carlton has nished your food,” she said.

I said nothing but nodded.

We both got up from the couch. I headed to the bathroom as Sandy walked over to the front door.

I walked into the bathroom and closed the door behind me. I did what I needed to do and once I nished, I couldn’t help but stare back at myself in the mirror. I looked pale but slightly better than earlier.

Once I was done, I walked out of the bathroom as Sandy returned to the room.

“All done?” she asked.

I nodded and walked to the couch to grab my things.

I turned around and looked at Sandy.

“Carlton made you these,” she said, holding a bag. “I put my number on a piece of paper and slipped it into a card too.”

I nodded.

I took the bag from her.

“Come on,” she said. “You should leave now; you may get there before it gets dark.”

Sandy turned and walked to the front door.

I followed her out and headed down the stairs.

“I will close the door,” she said. “I need to go back up there.”

I nodded as we got to the bottom of the stairs.

Carlton was standing in the doorway to the kitchen, leaning on the door frame. He smiled. “I hear you like my sandwiches,” he said.

I smiled.

“I do,” I said. “They are the best I have ever tasted.”

Carlton smiled.

“That’s good to know,” he said. “I made a few extra ones for you to take on the journey.”

I nodded and thanked him.

Sandy opened the back door, and we both walked out.

I looked over my shoulder to see if Carlton was following, but he wasn’t. I guess he had customers.

We walked toward my car, and I unlocked it. I went to the passenger side and opened the door.

I placed my bag and the food bag on the passenger seat and closed the door after me. I saw Sandy by the driver’s side, with my door open and walked over to her with a smile.

“Thank you for this,” I said. “I don’t know how to thank you.”

Sandy smiled.

“Just text or ring me that you arrived safely,” she said.

Her hand went to her pocket, and she pulled a piece of paper out.

Sandy handed me the paper, but I looked at her, confused. “What’s this?” I asked.

“This is Bow and Peggy’s number and address,” she said. “I wrote all the instructions on it for you; if you get lost, you can either ring them or me to guide you to their house.”

I nodded and smiled.

“Thank you,” I said.

I moved toward her and hugged her.

She hugged me back.

We both pulled back after a few moments, and I climbed into the car.

Sandy moved back as I started the engine; I placed my seat belt on and looked up.

I smiled at Sandy as I put the car in reverse and turned the car around.

Looking at the paper and knowing which road I had to take. I looked toward Sandy and waved as I stepped on the gas and drove away. I got to the junction of the café and looked behind me. I saw Sandy staring back at me as Carlton came up behind her.

I couldn’t help but smile.

Driving out of the junction and then I turned right. I turned the radio on and turned up the sound. I didn’t know anything about the people I would see, but something told me I might like it there, especially if they helped Sandy out. I couldn’t get over how helpful she was.

While I drove away and kept thinking about the new beginning I was to have. I knew it was for the better, and I believed it.