Book 1 Chapter 17

VERITY

I stir slightly in bed and move to my back, ensuring my eyes are focused on the ceiling.

Sleep came naturally when my head hit the pillow. I fell into a dream, which Axel invaded, but something was different about this dream. Some uncertainty about me doing the right thing by moving away.

I knew it would be hard as I started to get feelings for him, but the words he mentioned nding his mate were etched across my mind, wondering what she was like, and if he had fallen in love with her.

I moved up in bed and looked around.

Before going to bed, I checked the whole cabin out and found that this place had two bedrooms. I chose the one furthest from the motel. I wanted to have peace, and it had an ensuite bathroom.

I move out of bed and throw on a hoodie I brought in. I didn't move anything from my car, only what I needed as I thought I might not stay. But after meeting Bow and Peggy, I might give it a shot. I don't have any family, so I might as well wait till I am back on my feet.

I looked around the room and glanced at the clock on the wall.

Seven am.

I might as well get my things and unpack.

This is going to be my home for a while.

I quickly left the bedroom and returned to where my car keys were placed. I grabbed them and headed straight through the front door.

I walked out of the cabin and headed to the car park. I looked around, but there was no one around. I could move my car to the cabin. At least I can move stuff in from there, and it saves me a few trips back and fore to the car.

I climbed in and drove my car to the cabin.

Once I parked up, I started unpacking the car and placing everything I had brought inside the cabin.

After an hour and a half, all my stuff was inside. I looked around and knew I had to go to the store to grab food and other items.

I took a notebook, sat at the dining room table, and started writing a list of what I needed. I was halfway through the list when I heard a knock on the door. I got up and answered it.

"Hey," Peggy said, smiling as I opened the door wider for her. "You're up early. I only want to check in on you and how about your rst night and wondered if you left as your car wasn't in the car park. But I guess you brought it up here to bring your things in, which is a good idea."

I smiled.

"I hope you don't mind," I said. "I didn't want to impose on anyone. I thought I would bring my car up here as it would be easy to bring everything into the cabin."

Peggy nodded but went to open her mouth, but someone answered for her instead. Someone I knew as she stepped around Peggy and was smiling.

"I would have done the same," Sandy said with a grin.

I couldn't help but launch myself at her and hug her.

Sandy laughed as I pulled back and blushed.

"Sorry," I said. "I don't know what got into me."

Sandy smiled.

"I'm so happy you are here," I continued but looked at Peggy. "Is the offer of going to the

store still on? I just wrote a list of what I need, and food is one of them."

Peggy grinned.

"Sure, we can still go," she said, looking at Sandy. "Do you need to get anything? You and Verity can stay together in the cabin. We can get some food in the town and whatever you both need. You both will be out of sight, and it's quiet."

I looked at Sandy.

I never had a roommate before, but I would love Sandy to stay as she has been a friend, even though it has only been a few days.

Sandy looked at me.

"If it's alright with Verity for me to stay," she asked.

I smiled.

"Of course it is," I said. "It is nice to have someone here with me."

Sandy grinned and looked back at Peggy.

"I will stay," she said.

I moved out of the way to let them both inside.

Sandy looked around and whistled.

"I forgot how big this cabin was," she said, looking around the whole place. Sandy walked over to the other bedroom and opened it but looked back at me.

"I take it you got the other room," she asked.

I nodded.

"I don't mind changing if you want it," I said, but Sandy shook her head. "It's ne. I don't have much stuff," she said. "Remember how small my little at was? This room is big enough for me."

I smiled.

Sandy walked in and placed her bag on the bed, and turned to look at me.

"Carlton has my things in his car," she said, sitting on the bed and staring at me. "He will bring everything in while we go to the store."

I nodded.

"I best get ready to go," I said. "I not long moved everything into the cabin. It will take some time to get everything sorted."

Sandy nodded.

"We can unpack together," she said.

I looked around to see where Peggy was and found her on the phone.

I didn't want to disturb her, so I went into my room and quickly got ready to go to the store.

After half an hour of getting ready, I walked out to nd Sandy and Peggy sitting at the table. They looked like they were in a deep conversation, but as soon as I walked in, they stopped and looked up at me.

"You ready," Peggy asked, moving from her chair, and Sandy followed with a grin.

I nodded.

"I will drive," said Peggy, looking between us, "You can watch which road I take and what to look out for; it might be easy to show you than to give you directions."

I smiled.

I was happy not to be driving again.

Even though I had a good sleep, I still was aching in places I shouldn't have been, and I blamed the car journey I went on.

I stared at Sandy and Peggy, who looked back at me.

"I'm happy with whoever drives," I said. "I had enough of driving for a lifetime after yesterday."

Sandy giggled while Peggy grinned.

We all headed out, and I locked the cabin behind me.

We went in Bow's truck and headed out. I couldn't help but look at the bar as I watched two men walk.

It was too early for drinking, right?

I didn't say anything.

I knew I was in a new town and had to take everything in my stride.

After ten minutes in the car, Peggy pulled up in a small car park outside the store. It wasn't massive, but it looked like it catered to everyone's needs.

Sandy and I walked in while Peggy went off to get what she needed from the opposite place.

Sandy pushed the trolley while we placed stuff into it.

I had some money with me, which was handy.

After an hour, we placed everything back into the car and waited for Peggy. We would have some food; the only place was a small cafe next to the store.

I looked at Sandy.

"I'm so happy that you are staying," I said. "I didn't know if I could have done this alone."

Sandy stared at me as I carried on.

"I mean, I know how to look after myself," I said, "But after everything I went through, I just need a friend or something. I don't have many of those."

Remembering that I had to ring or text Kelly that I was safe and settled.

I bought myself a new phone and would keep it for emergencies.

I was still trying to gure out everything, but one thing was for sure I wasn't looking for anyone, especially any shifter.

My heart couldn't take that again, especially if they have mates.

I would rather be alone than with some and catch feelings only for them to tear my heart apart.

Sandy smiled.

"I needed a change," she said, her eyes boring into me.

I looked at her, trying to gure out what she was thinking, but Peggy came around and shouted before I could do or say anything.

"Let's eat," she said.

We all headed to the cafe and ordered some food.

I could eat a horse if I had the option.

The only food I had yesterday was the stew and Carlton's sandwiches. I needed to eat more.

I ordered loads of the menu, which made Peggy and Sandy look on in shock.

"You okay," Sandy asked, looking at the fth plate that came to me.

I nodded after taking another mouthful of pasta.

"I am," I said once I ate the food. "I didn't eat much yesterday and was too tired. I think I'm making it up today."

Peggy grinned.

"That's what I like to see," she said. "Someone eating loads."

I smiled and continued eating.

After two hours, we ate some milkshakes and got to know one another. I still wasn't ready to talk about Axel, at least. I didn't mention the real reason for me to leave my hometown.

When I am, I don't even know what to say to them.

Do they know about werewolves?

Peggy, Sandy, and I paid for the food and headed out of the cafe straight to the truck.

We headed back to the cabin, and as Peggy pulled into the car park, more cars were there.

Peggy parked next to my car outside the cabin and unloaded everything inside.

Once everything was in, Peggy sighed.

"I have to go to the motel," she said. "I have a few people ready to check out and two new ones who need rooms."

She looked at me and smiled.

"How would you like to work in the motel?" she asked, "I need the help, and I can pay you."

I smiled.

"That would be great," I said. "I would love to."

Peggy grinned and turned to Sandy, "You can have your old job back at the bar," she said. "Bow will be happy to have you back. He has missed you."

Sandy beamed.

"And I have missed that lug," she said, making Peggy laugh loudly.

We said our goodbyes and started to unpack all of our things.

We were two hours in when I looked out the window and realized it was dark outside.

"I think we should nish the rest tomorrow," I said, yawning.

Sandy looked at me and rubbed her eyes.

"I agree," she said. "I'm tired. We won't be working for another few days. Peggy will want us well rested."

I smiled, liking that idea.

"I'm going to bed," I said.

Sandy nodded.

"See you in the morning," she said as I turned to walk away.

I walked into my room and got into a hot shower. I washed quickly and headed out, and got into my PJs.Climbing into bed, I settled down. I left the curtains open, and the moon shone through my window. It lights up the whole room.

I was happy and ready to fall asleep, and a loud howling came as my eyes were about to shut.

I shot up in bed and looked toward the window.

It can't be.

My heart thudded in my chest hard.

There can't be wolves here, can there?

I stayed still momentarily, wondering if I had heard wrong, but nothing came. I must have imagined it. Thinking wolves were here was not on my agenda; I would need to go. I don't want anything to do with any of them.

I lay back down and drifted off to sleep as soon as my head hit the pillow again.