## The Werewolf Colony

By: Catherine Renken

A werewolf. Scary right. My name is Haily Smith, well it was my name. My name is now Midnight. Many think the werewolf is scary.

But they do not know the whole story. A werewolf is not made by being bitten, when a human is born under a full moon while being watched by a wolf, it becomes a werewolf.

Different from what you thought.

Humans love to come up with these stories of werewolves being horrifying monsters. I am here to give you a different side of the story.

It is hard to explain all my life, so we will start with the present. I wake up to the soft sunshine. It is about five o'clock. Perfect, it's time to start the day.

I shift into wolf form and go out of my den, leaping up on top of the rock. Humans believe werewolves cannot become a werewolf when they want to. We can. When we feel threatened, we can become werewolves on our own free will. A werewolf cub cannot shift into a full werewolf at first, they mainly stay human, but they can shift into something between human and werewolf.

They can shift into a wolf. And once you can become a werewolf, you will find that you can still be a wolf. We call it the three wolves.

Human, wolf, werewolf.

We live in a camp in a forest called The Wolf's Forest. But humans call it the forest of no return. Funny isn't it.

Humans believe they will never come out if they go in, they believe we will eat them. We only kill humans if they try to kill us.

Also Humans taste terrible.

The werewolves, us, live in The Clearing. That is our camp. It is a clearing surrounded by large trees and bushes.

A long time ago when we first came here our ancestors turned into werewolves and pulled trees up until we made walls and we stacked trees on top of each other to create a small room made of trees

There is an opening where only wolves can fit in, so humans cannot harm us in our sleep. There are these rooms made of trees all around the clearing. We call them dens.

There is a den for retired werewolves, a nursery, a wolf den, which is like the den for the hunters, the werewolves that hunt and fight for our colony.

Also the leader's den, which is my den, it's not made of trees, it is made using large boulders. It creates a small one person den for me. Also I can stand on the boulders to talk to the werewolves below.

I refer to them as wolves, werewolves, and people.

Because we are all three creatures, together. We have a student den, for wolves learning to become hunters.

And the doctor's den. The doctor heals all wounds that we have in battles. Anyways, enough of me talking about our home. Back to the story.

I jumped on the rocks and shifted to human form. "All awake!" This is what I say to get everyone up at night.

We sleep between 5am and 5pm. We get up at 5pm. The sun is still out then so we get the prey that is awake during the day and the prey that is there during night.

Everyone got up and went to the rocks. "Lilypad, Clover, and Arrow will go on the evening hunt, Claw, Robin, and Daffodil go on the first night hunt." We hunt at different times.

An evening hunt, first night hunt, second night hunt, and morning hunt.

It helps supply us with plenty of food.

Sometimes if the food pile is full then I will cut out a few hunts.

While we hunt we patrol the forest. We only hunt in wolf form; werewolf form is for battles.

Lilypad, Clover, and Arrow went out to hunt.

I jumped down and walked over to Robin. Robin is my second in charge. "The humans are starting to get more daring to come into the forest, sending prey running." "What do you think we should do about it?" asked Robin.

"I think the next time the humans come we should frighten them a bit." "Agreed." said Robin. I walked over to the nursery to look in on our new pups in the colony.

As I walked into the nursery, I saw the two pups playing while their mother Thorn sat in a corner and watched them with loving eyes.

"Hello Midnight." Said Thorn, bowing her head. "The pups look healthy, they will grow strong." I said. Thorn and I talked a bit before I had to go to meet the hunting party coming back. "Bye, come back soon." "I will." I said as I walked out.

I was met with a bad sight. Lilypad, Clover, and Arrow were badly hurt. Arrow was hurt worse than Lilypad and Clover.

I bounded over in wolf form.

When I got there I became human and called for Daisy, our doctor. She came over quickly. She had herbs with her.

As a wolf still she put the herbs at the feet of Clover and Lilypad telling them to eat them. She then got Arrow and went into her den.

Robin came over. "Lilypad told me they were hunting when the humans showed up.

They saw the hunting party and attacked."

I understand what Robin is saying. He is hinting at the fact that we need to attack them. "All right, I will look over the students training with their teachers, and get them to practice their werewolf state." Robin nodded.

I sent the second night hunters out but added Jewel, and Leaf.

So if the humans attacked they could have more hunters to defend themselves. I went to my den to sleep a little bit.

I also decided to cancel the morning hunt so everyone would be well rested.

I woke up. I was still tired. But I got myself on top of the rocks and called out, "All awake!" They came out.

"Alright, for an update, Arrow is feeling better and Clover and Lilypad are ready to go out again. For the morning hunt, Daffodil, Storm, Spot, Leaf, and Robin will go out."

Those who I called shifted into wolves and ran out.

We hunt in wolf form and eat like that too. We are usually wolves, the only time that we are human is if we need to get around fast.

I went to the one opening that lets us get out into the forest. Paused. Then shifted into the wolf and ran through the forest.

The wind in my fur, the trees blurring past. Until I finally stopped. I was at Moss Hollow. A hollow that is so hard to see the earth because of the moss.

Then I heard a sound in the bushes, I turned to see Jewel, and Claw. And their students, Snow, and Silver.

They trained for a few hours and I got to help.

Finally, I had to go back to camp. It was a long, busy day. With lots of preparations. We finally agreed as a whole colony that we would attack tomorrow.

I went to bed. I woke and leaped out of bed, bounded up onto the rocks and yelled, "All awake." Immediately everyone was there.

I guess they were as anxious as me for the battle.

"For the Battle patrol I will take Jewel, Snow, Claw, Silver, Leaf, Clover, Lilypad, Robin and Daffodil. The rest of you will stay to guard the camp and protect mothers, and retired members of the colony." When I said that, we went out. It was still around the evening.

The party trekked through the forest until we reached the spot our hunters were injured. Without a warning humans jumped out from behind trees.

"Attack!" I yelled. We shifted into werewolves. I gave a human a few good scratches and let him get up and run.

Clover and Lilypad attacked side by side.

Silver and snow looked awesome in their werewolf form battling the humans until they ran. Jewel was on the ground wrestling with two humans so I leaped over and we both sent the humans away.

Claw was a fighting machine. We did not want to kill humans, we just wanted them to stop bothering us so we gave them a scare. Soon all the humans had fled. I looked at all the faces around me.

But something bothered me. I did not see one face sitting up.

Robin's. I was worried. I looked around and saw him on the ground.

Robin was dead.

My heart shattered. Robin has been my second in charge for a long time, actually as long as I can remember. He was the first second in charge I picked.

And now, he is gone.

My mind did not work correctly and my legs felt weak. I collapsed and everything went black.