



# 9 years ago

“Ava ba! Ops!” Squealed baby Luna. Her Mum was carrying her through the forest. And not just any forest. Oh, nooooo. The forest of forever death. There were many myths about the place. Anyway, it’s a long story of why Luna’s Mum took her through the forest. Long story short, their town got destroyed by a huge dragon and Luna and her Mum were the only survivors. The town, Heesh, was surrounded by the forest of forever death so the Mother had no choice but to run away into the forest.

“Hhhhhhhhhhhh...” a strange sighing sound came from behind a tree. Luna’s Mum stopped. Then...

“AAAAHHHHHHHHHHHHHHH!” The baddest myth of all lept on top of Luna’s Mum. This Myth turned out to be true.

Mr. Soulfox. He was said to be half ghost, half fox, and was king of the forest of forever death. He could put a curse upon any person that dares to enter his land.

And with that, he decided he hated Luna’s Mum that day, so put her to death with his claws. But, when he

looked into Luna's eyes... he saw hope for the forest.  
So he picked Luna up by the nappy and brought her  
to another town on the edge of the forest, Grud.

Then he left, never to be seen again... or was he?

# Chapter 1

## The day that Luna quit

Baby Luna grew up to be an adventurous and gusty girl. Right now she is about 9. She was adopted into the Allen family. Now she has a brother named Jay, and her parents are very nice.

But one awful day, that everyone in the world dreaded, there was a VIRUS.

I'm FREAKING OUT!!!

A VIRUS!!!

Like, a reallllly bad virus. Like the myth of coronavirus, only about 10 times worse.

As a result of the virus, Mr. and Mrs. Allen were both in hospital which left Luna stuck alone with her brother.

But Luna had an adult friend called Mel. She was another very kind woman, and she was looking after Luna.

Now, let me tell you something about Jay. He is VERY smart, but no one can understand him because he can't figure out how to speak English.

“Soooy baba da!” Said Jay when Luna was in the car. They were driving to the park, which, unfortunately, was right next to the forest of forever death.

“Yeah, ok!” Said Luna. That was the 5th time Jay had said “Soooy baba da!”.

Finally, they arrived at the park. It was a bit cloudy, but mostly a sunny day.

Luna sat down on the damp grass with Jay and sighed. She loathed the Parahpho virus. It had killed her only big sister, and now looked like the same would happen to Mr. and Mrs. Allen!

There were many harmless creatures from the forest of forever death, like the neon-blue rabbits, and the strange crows which always wanted to be petted.

So Luna was just petting one of the crows on the grass while Jay inspected a leaf the size of his head when suddenly... “Zip!”

Luna heard something coming from the forest. Then... “Crash!” A car crashed into Mel’s and she was in it. Soon the doctors came, and so did the police because Luna had disappeared.

As in she ran into the forest to investigate. She saw purple eyes amongst the tall trees, and moss grew all over the trees. It was bluish in colour and quite slimy.

Luna was very sad that Mel had been hurt. She could feel tears in her eyes, but she was so curious about this mysterious place that it didn’t matter.

She wandered past more trees, and the deeper she got in the forest, the darker it got. But she didn’t have to worry about the dark because the glowing fungi provide enough light. Luna spotted some friendly brown and blue bunnies as she wondered. She wasn’t quite sure where too, though.

“Aabbbbbaaaaahhhhhhh!” Someone loudly whispered.

Luna jumped. She to had heard the stories of old, and was now wondering if coming here wasn't the best choice.

Then she felt a tug on her leg.

She looked down, trembling with fright. But what she saw wasn't scary! It was Jay. He had crawled into the forest too, and had caught up.

Luna checked her watch. 3:26.

"I think we should get back home before it gets dark," said Luna to Jay.

But this place was familiar... very familiar. And the sounds and purple eyes behind the trees seemed to be telling her to stay.

"OOOF!"

# Chapter 2

## The bad curse is a blessing

The “Oof” in the last chapter was of Luna falling down a 3 metre cliff when she wasn’t looking forward *properly*.

Anyway, Luna had fallen 3 meters and almost died. Who saved her? Mr. Soulfox himself. He also managed to drag Jay over to his ancient temple with them, so everyone was together.

“Ahh... where am I?” Asked Luna as she opened her eyes in a small room. She was on a bed... she could feel the mattress.

She could also see a light blue figure... as her eyes focused, she realised it was the one and only Mr. Soulfox.

Luna sat up.



“AAAAAAHHHHHHHHH!!!! SOMEONE HELP MEEEEEEEE!!!” She squealed.

Mr. Soulfox calmly put a paw on her mouth.

“Owww... my leg!” Luna noticed a huge bloody mark on her ankle and it hurt.

Mr. Soulfox put 2 paws near the cut, and sitting on his haunches, did a kind of wave thingy and some blue and purple light appeared. In about 3 seconds, the pain went away.

Since Soulfox was king of the forest of forever death, he rang a small bell and a grey wolf came in the room and bandaged Luna's ankle.

“Now,” said Mr. Soulfox in a voice so croaky you could hardly understand it. “Is this your friend?” He put a paw up to a cage more wolves were carrying with Jay in it.

“Y-y-y-yes,” sputtered Luna.

Of course, if you fell a few meters and woke up to see a gang of ghosts, you'd be much more likely to pass

out than Luna. She is particularly brave. Oh, but not in this case.

Soulfox opened the cage and Jay jumped onto the bed.

“Wait a minute...” said Luna.

“Aren’t you Mr. Soulfox? The Myths say you kill people, like some sort of beast. You’re helping me. Why? People say you are a curse.”

“Well, child, *would* you like me to kill you? When you were a baby I met you in the forest. I blessed you. You must know no more,” said Soulfox wisely.

“Huh. I didn’t know you could bless.”

“Well, child, I can and you are the only hope for my kingdom.”

“What?! How?!?”

“You see, I always look into people’s eyes before I attack. You know what they say! The eye is the window to the soul. If I see bad, and anger, and just sin, I kill them. They do not deserve to live. I have

only seen sin in the eyes for many centuries, and the remaining sinners have killed all the others of my kind, the ghost foxes. I am the only one left. And I am soon to be killed by them, so I have looked for someone kind to tell them to stop. Some guys also stole my formula. It was a formula I was trying to use to hatch my ghost fox egg. I have one, but it needs that formula to hatch. Then we can hopefully have more ghost foxes.”

“Oh,” said Luna.

“That explains a lot.”

“So then who’s the bad guy if it’s not the people?” She asked.

“My child, that would be Recker.”

“Who’s Recker?”

“The end of all life. He wants to destroy the forest.”

Luna gasped. Jay crawled onto her lap, and she soon fell asleep, dreaming of all the forest creatures.

# Chapter 3

## Mission possible... right?

Luna had started her mission to get the formula. She was with a cyber wolf, and it was obvious that it was grumpy.

“This is possible, right?” Asked Luna.

“Oh, don’t worry! We only have to get through the air duct, then sneak into the lab and get past about 50 scientists in 1 small room to *borrow* the formula without getting noticed!” Said the wolf sarcastically.

Luna almost started to cry. She didn’t want to have Soulfox die, and it was very worrying. She might even get killed.

The wolf got Luna into the air duct. No kids were allowed in the lab, and Luna was only just nine, so, yeah, I bet you know what's coming next. They needed a Disguise. In the dimly lit room they ended up in through the duct, there was luckily some lab coats and a few tools.

The wolf ended up having to use a few clumps of metal and even a rusty part of his cyber pieces from his helmet to construct some tall legs for Luna. They were, as I said, very tall so when Luna put them on she was about the height of an adult.

She put on the lab coat and found some old leggings and put them on the robot legs. The wolf's cyber part from his hind leg then produced a tracking device, of which was given to Luna and she attached it to her robot legs. Luna put on some leather shoes, which were actually quite like boots, and walked out of the room. She walked and tried to find the room with the formula.

Eventually Luna got a bit lost. She was alone in an elevator. Then, she heard the tracking device beep and then say, "hey, kiddo, it's me! Wolfington! Now, I figured out which room has the formula!"

Luna said, “Ok, where?”

“Once you get to level 4 of the building using the elevator you are in, turn left. You should see a corridor.”

Luna pushed the button for level 4 of the lab and turned left. She did see a corridor.

“Now, walk to the end of the corridor. Go through the door that says “UNTESTED” in big red letters above it.”

Luna was now in the room. It was filled with about 10 other scientists, and they were experimenting with some strange chemicals. One of them was using an eyedropper to put a drop of a neon pink liquid in a thin plastic pipe. The stuff went down, and the pipe led it to a glass bottle with a gas heater underneath, which had been turned on beforehand. After a moment, FIZZ! The neon potion had evaporated and was now a pink cloud of steam floating up to the top of the bottle. As Luna walked across the room, she saw it push the cap of the bottle off and it rolled onto the floor while the pink vapour went up to the ceiling.

After 3 minutes of looking around, Luna found a big glass bottle with a label on it that said, “**GHOSTFOX FORMULA. DO NOT TOUCH.**”

*That must be the formula!* Thought Luna, staring at the ooze inside. It was all thick and slimy at the bottom of the bottle, but right above that was a light blue liquid. There was even foam on top.

She checked no one was looking at her. Most of the scientists were together discussing one of their vaccines to some type of cancer, but there were a few doing their own thing with bottles and boxes. The guy who was playing with the neon pink thing now had the same pink colour spilled on his face and he was wiping it off. In conclusion, nobody was looking over at Luna.

She reached out to grab the bottle... and hid it under her lab coat. *That wasn't as hard as I thought it would be,* Luna thought as she looked around the room what she was missing.

Luna walked out of the room, and with the bottle in her coat and the hallways and corridors abandoned, she followed the wolf's instructions back to the exit.

# Chapter 4

## Zuppy!

Luna had returned to the palace of Soulfox.

“Oh, well done, you!” He shouted with glee.

He took the formula from Luna and strided up the stairs with her following close behind, and into a room.

There, on a small podium carved out of stone, on top of a pile of sticks, was a large egg.

This was not a normal egg at all. It was blue and was glowing an aqua glow, and you could see through the shell. Inside Luna could see a little grey dot. It was probably the ghostfox inside.

“This is the last remaining ghostfox egg. Now, if I just rub the formula into the shell the ghost inside would



start to glow...” Soulfox rubbed the slime from the bottle into the shell.

After a few minutes, the egg started changing colour. It went to warped blue, then spring green, to daffodil yellow, tiger orange, crimson red and then back to blue.

Luna could see the dot inside starting to grow.

5 minutes ago it was just a speck... now it was a centimeter.

The next day, Luna got up and went to the egg room. She observed the egg, and the “speck” was now taking up most of the egg.

Soulfox was already in the room reading the newspaper.

Wait a minute... foxes can't read. Oh, well. I suppose we should just accept the story.

It had stopped glowing but was now a beautiful teal.

Then, suddenly, the egg started to wriggle. Then it started to squirm. Soon enough the egg had a huge crack in it going down the middle.

In a minute there was a green paw sticking out of the egg.

“Hey, aren’t ghost foxes blue?” Asked Luna as a little green face emerged from a large hole at the top.

Soulfox had a closer look at the egg.

“Wait! It’s not possible! It really isn’t!” Soulfox exclaimed.

“What? Something not right?” Asked Luna

“IT’S TERRIBLE! THIS IS NOT A GHOSTFOX EGG! IT’S A ZUPPIE EGG!!” Screamed Soulfox, facepalming himself.

“What’s a zuppie?” asked Luna.

Soulfox thought for a moment, when Jay crawled into the room. “GAGBA! Groo!” He shouted.

Soulfox ignored him and said, “A Zuppy is pretty much a zombie puppy. It won’t hurt you.” The zuppie got free and waved at Luna.

“ZUPPY!!” Luna shouted as the Zuppy ran over and licked her face.

Soulfox kept on thinking about the egg.

“Ah-ha!” Said Soulfox. “I’ve finally remembered! Ghost foxes come out of Soul flowers! I think I have a few seeds in this room...” Soulfox rummaged around a drawer on the other side of the room.

Soulfox ran over to the courtyard and put the seed next to a tree. All of a sudden, POP! The seedling bursted out of the seed and Luna could see a bud. Then it bloomed! A beautiful Lily! Soulfox hovered his paws over the flower and the same blue magic came.

The flower started to wiggle its leaves... and out of the flower fell a tiny baby ghost fox. It had slightly different colouring than Soulfox. It’s main was bright and vivid aqua, and had a few tiny white spots on it’s blue back.

The ghost fox landed safely on the grass. The flowers were quite big, and would probably reach up to your waist. Because baby ghost foxes are only about the size of your palm, they have quite a long way to fall.

The little ghost fox opened its eyes and looked around. Soulfox leaned down so the baby ghost fox could rest its head on his nose.

“What shall we name him? You can pick,” said Mr. Soulfox, still playing with his new child.

“Why me?” Asked Luna.

“This wouldn’t be possible without you,” said Soulfox, finally looking at Luna.

She smiled. Soulfox smiled back. This was the first time Soulfox had smiled in DECADES. 87 years, to be exact. It was just a small one, but it warmed Luna’s heart.

“Umm...” Luna looked at the ghost fox. It was trying to stand up. It had shiny fur and a twinkle in his eye.

“Leo,” whispered Luna.

Luna looked up at the sky.

“Like the constellation Leo. They both shine bright,” she said. It’s true, Leo’s fur was glowing.

Soulfox nodded and Luna picked up Leo, who sniffed her a lot.

They got inside. The two prepared a room for Leo. It used to be an empty storage room. They prepared a bed, made some toys and dusted away the cobwebs.

Soon the dusty old room had become an awesome bedroom. The Zuppy, who Luna had called Zombie, jumped onto the bed along with Leo.

They instantly fell fast asleep.

# Chapter 5

## Friends for Leo

Leo woke up in the middle of the night.

*This place is so interesting*, thought Leo. He wandered out the open door.

Leo stumbled into the kitchen and found nothing interesting. As the sun rose up, so did Luna and Mr. Soulfox. When Soulfox saw Leo crawling into the cabinet in the kitchen, he smiled for the first time Luna had ever seen.

Over the next few weeks, Leo grew. So did his compassion.

“Luna,” said Mr. Soulfox one morning. “Why don’t we get some more Ghost foxes?” Soulfox grinned. So did Luna. They rushed out to the courtyard of his ancient palace.

“You know, It’s normal that the shy, artistic Ghost foxes come from the lilies. We could plant a daisy. The ones made from the daisies are quite sunny and happy,” said Mr. Soulfox.

Jay was there, too. “Ghost fox!” He said.

“Jay! Your first word!” Cried Luna. She picked him up as Soulfox put the daisy seeds into the ground.

Like with Leo’s flower, it grew within about 20 seconds. After a moment, out came another Ghost fox from the flower.

“Is there any way to make a flower make another fox?” Asked Luna.

“Yes. A flower will make life when it gets pollen from another flower of the same kind. So soul sunflowers need more soul sunflowers, and the same with the rest,” said Soulfox.

This little fox was quite different from Leo. It has white fur, with lots of blue patches and a blue

main. Also unlike Leo, it got up and went to explore immediately. “Let’s call her Eva,” said Luna.

Over the next month or so they made several new Ghost foxes. There was Adla. She was very fair. Her name even meant *justice!*

There was also Lani. Lani was what Luna thought as the kindest being in the forest. He was also playful.

There was Haku. He had a Hawaiian name just like Lani! He seemed to like being a little bit bossy. He also liked to supervise. His name meant *manager, supervisor.*

There were about 30 Ghost foxes in total. Luna’s favourite was still Leo.

One night, Luna went out to the tower in the corner of Soulfox’s castle to stargaze. It was a perfect night; there were no clouds, the moon shone bright, and it was quiet. Even from there Luna could see Grud. She missed it. She hadn’t



been there for almost 2 months. At least Mr. Soulfox had healed her.

After Luna was finished, she walked across the battlement. Near the edge she found Leo looking into the horizon. Luna picked her up and looked at the Leo constellation.

“Aren’t you supposed to be in bed?” Asked Luna.  
“Arrr. Rarw,” growled Leo. It was like saying,  
“Suppose so.”

Every Wednesday night when Luna went stargazing she found Leo like that. She tried to make it clear to Leo that he needed to stay in bed at night.

She told Soulfox. “He’s an animal, like me. He will be fine,” he said while he cooked up a ginormous pot of porridgey muck for his children. Luna starred at it.

Realising that, Soulfox said, “it’s made of grains. Haku loves it.”

That same day, Luna went outside. The baby ghost foxes were playing. 37 of them were. But there was one missing... Leo. He was sitting by the little pond gazing at his little siblings.

Luna remembered, she had never seen Leo play with the other foxes. He normally sat next to them and winced whenever a paw nearly hit him as they wrestled.

*Are you lonely?* Wondered Luna. It didn't make sense. Leo had welcomed all the other ghost foxes to Earth when they were born, and then Leo would give them a tour that took *hours*. They'd become friends.

*Wait a minute, wait a minute...* thought Luna. She remembered that they would be friends... until another ghost fox jumped out of the flower. Suddenly, Leo's new friend would go and play with the other, and Leo was a little too shy to ask and play.

*Ah, ha!* If Luna could put a ghost fox with Leo, maybe they would get to know each other?

And that's exactly what Luna did.

She put Gail in a room with Leo after lunacy, and the two became besties. Gail's friends — Haku, Pablo, Abla, and Yan — to come play with them. Soon they were a group of besties. Luna no longer saw Leo stalking her at night.

# Chapter 6

## The war

It was early in the morning when Soulfox began gathering all his children, Luna and Jay. He had found an army of humans with chainsaws that stretched as far as the eye could see. They were marching towards the palace. There were even a few tanks and army soldiers.

At 9:43, they arrived. A soldier stepped forward.

“This forest is dangerous—” said the man to the immense crowd.

“It’s not dangerous!” Luna said from the battlement.

“Ahh! IT’S SOULFOX HIMSELF!” Screamed everyone. Mr. Soulfox had peeked his head above

the little notches on the battlement. So had the babies.

“We *will* cut down your forest if you don’t surrender!” Some people shouted.

“I shall not. Well, that’s that. I better be getting on with my work now,” said Soulfox, getting up on his hind legs and walking away.

“ATACK!!” Yelled half the people.

After a moment, the 6 tanks rolled over to the castle. One of them fired. It put a crater in one of the towers. Small pieces of the stone brick the ancient castle as made of went flying.

“You shall attack, too, young ones!” Shouted Mr. Soulfox. Instantly, the medieval castle opened its drawbridge and a flood of ghost foxes came out. They crowded around one of the tanks.

Adla managed to get on the roof and open the hatch. Leo mounted up the tank and jumped in with Adla. They snuck under the driver’s clothes!

They bit him with their tiny sharp teeth and he ran, screaming.

Jay clapped his hands. Another tank fired at the empty tank with all the baby Ghost foxes. Luckily, they all ran away at the last moment. None of them seemed hurt.

After the foxes dispersed, they all went to go and fight a different person. A group of about 7 went to another tank, and the rest attacked the crowd, but I should call it an army of chainsaw-bearing maniacs.

Haku nipped at a tall man with a chainsaw who was in the middle of cutting one of the mystical trees. The man tripped over, knocking over the tree. It fell and squished another tank.

However, the loss of a tree was still devastating to the foxes. It was getting too out of hand.

So, the strange crows that loved to be petted swooped at a few women. The neon bears sat on some new tanks coming in. And Soulfox's butlers

and workers, the ghosts, came creeping up to haunt the people.

And, the people started punching and kicking, spraying bug spray all over the ghost foxes. Several threatened to use their chainsaws on the bears.

Luna charged through the army. She was about to jump on top of the tank that was firing like crazy at the surrounding trees, but from the top she could see something... Leo! He was lying on the ground with his eyes closed.

She picked him up.

He was breathing, but he was unconscious. Luna soon became aware that the Ghost foxes, well, they were doing better than one would think.

Just for a moment... imagine about 50 mice. Now imagine a huge, hungry dog. Now add 5 more dogs. Now imagine the mice somehow winning.

This is exactly what it looked like.

Except the 5 dogs were actually 500 which were holding chainsaws, that were actually people. And with a few other creatures helping the mice,, which were forest creatures.

Luna rushed Leo to the nurse werewolf. She was still in the castle. Luckily, Leo just got a small hit on the head, and the werewolf said Soulfox could fix it.

The people, it turns out, were actually here to destroy the forest; they saw it as a threat. They had chopped down half the forest now. That was when there were only 2 humans standing. Luna, and a tall man called Mark.

Luna looked into Mark's brown eyes.

“Stop.” She said.

Mark stayed silent.

“Why are you chopping down trees?”



Mark shrugged.

“The world needs trees.”

There were dust clouds settling in the background. Mark was holding a broken chainsaw.

The scene calmed. The ghost foxes lay still, as well as everything else.

“So go plant trees.”

Luna handed him a seed.

Mark looked down at the small brown item Luna had carefully placed in his hand.

“...” said Mark.

He bent down. Luna had actually given him a soul flower seed. Mark placed it on the ground, about to dig a hole with his hands, when it started growing.