

"Juniper!" Bear says helplessly.
My eyes fix on his. He's waiting for me to do something.
"We need to get out of here," I say.
"She locked the door!"
"The windows then."

A gunshot sounds outside the cottage and I pull Bear after me, back into the main room.

The moment the door opens, Bear and I throw ourselves outside. We don't give the woman time to stop us. She's got the gun in one hand and the black satchel she took with her is slung over her shoulder.

"Run, Bear! Run!" The trees. Get to the trees, we told each other. We're faster than her, smaller. We can hide. My feet are heavy on the ground but the trees are getting closer. I'm almost there.

Bear's scream stops me. He's fallen and even as I turn back for him, she's caught him. She's pulling him up from the floor.

I run towards her. "No!"

She's got a silver blade in her right hand and she's moving it to Bear's throat.

"No! No!" I cry, my voice shaking.

The woman's face is taut and focused, just like her voice.