

**Isabelle T.**

### **The Vixen's Paw**

The hunter trekked through the woods. He carried bear traps on his back and had big black boots, camo jacket, and a dark green hat upon his head. Beside him was a hound and a boy with the same outfit. "C'mon boy, there's some traps to check," the hunter said. They've been in the dark woods for some time. "Listen," whispered the hunter. The hunter, hound, and the boy crouched behind a thorny bush. In front of them was a young black vixen with its glossy, black paw stuck in the trap. As they were stepping from behind the bush, the vixen bit off its trapped paw, releasing it from the bear trap. The hunter was stunned by the action it took to be free. Then the vixen noticed the hunter and his companions and locked its unusual amber eyes on the hunter, then lipped off. The hound raced after the vixen, but stopped when he saw the paw by the trap, fear showing on the hound's face. The hunter picked up the paw with a cloth and wrapped it up. "Let's go," said the hunter. So they left the woods, unalarmed of what they have seen means. When they got to their house, the hunter stuffed the paw and made it into a key chain. All of a sudden, he heard racket from the backyard and went to look. There it was, right in front of him, was the vixen with a haunting appearance to it. A chill went down his spine, his head began to spin and he passed out. When he woke up he was in a hospital bed. The boy was sitting at the foot of the bed holding the vixen's paw. When the boy turned to look at him, his eyes were slits and burned amber just like the vixen's. The hunter rubbed his eyes unable to believe what he was seeing. When he looked again the boy was crying. "Are you okay?" He whined quietly. "Yeah," he assured him. But he wasn't sure about that. When he looked at the paw, he was unsure he wanted his treasured possession. Then, he heard a yip from the doorway. There it was again, the three-pawed, black vixen. The boy didn't take notice. The vixen jumped on the bed and stared at him with accusing eyes. The vixen took the paw from the boy and killed them both cold blooded.