



Chapter One

The Cold is Coming

‘The Great Cold is coming,’ said Magpie as Crow shivered in her nest. ‘You must leave before it’s too late.’

‘I know,’ Crow said fearfully, ‘but I can’t leave, I have an egg to look after.’

‘Then you and your baby will freeze,’ said Magpie sadly, and with a flap of his wings he left his friend and flew away.

Crow knew where Magpie was

going. It was the same place all the other animals were going – the Cavern. The animals were gathering there because soon it would be the only safe place. Snow had fallen that morning and the creeks had ice in them now. Everything had changed when Moon began fighting with Sun. Moon was jealous of Sun's brilliant glow, she wanted to be the most dazzling light in the sky. But if Moon won her battle with Sun, there would be no more light on earth and everything outside the Cavern would freeze.

Crow settled deeper into her nest. Beneath her was a small, warm egg. She couldn't leave him. He was her first egg and she knew in her heart he was a very important bird.

Just then, something cold and white landed softly on Crow's head. As it sank into her feathers a terrible chill crept across her. It was snowing again. Crow felt sick. What should she do? If the snow continued, her nest would be covered. If she was buried under the snow, then her egg would die with her. She had to do something, but what?

Chapter Two

A Winter Wasteland

Suddenly Crow had an idea. She would take the nest with her. It would be very hard, flying all that way to the Cavern with a nest in her beak. It could even be too late, but it was her only chance. Quickly she flew down and gathered some fallen gum leaves. She placed them over her egg to shelter it from the cold, then she grasped the nest in her beak and flew after Magpie. Crow was

sure she heard her little egg faintly cry,
'Don't worry Mum, we'll be okay!'

As Crow flew towards the Cavern,
she noticed how much the land had
changed. It was like an icy hand had
reached out and turned the beautiful
warm earth of her country into a winter
wasteland.

