



Dear Reader,

After stumbling upon her hidden werewolf heritage, Artie Irvin has a lot to navigate as she begins the eighth grade: transformations, family secrets, and a new crush. Oh, and the vampires. But as she works to master her new abilities and confront the painful chapters of her mother's past, Artie finds that her greatest power comes in the form of her fellow werewolves. Nothing is impossible when they work together as a pack.

Beyond all of the supernatural happenings of *Artie and the Wolf Moon*, I sought to make a graphic novel about how each of us can find the space to heal, learn, and thrive within a loving community. A strong sense of community gives us the bravery to be our authentic selves and to reach our full potential as curious and empathetic beings, always working to shape our world into a better place. That's why libraries are so important to the health of our communities. Through the free exchange of stories, information, and ideas, libraries provide a safe space for people to learn and grow together.

I've spent many days working, learning, and growing inside my local library, so I'm beyond excited for *Artie and the Wolf Moon* to be selected as the next Big Library Read. Thank you for joining Artie on her journey! I hope you are inspired to look to your own community for strength and to stand with libraries against book bans. During the next visit to your local library, ask how you can get involved so that the freedom to read is guaranteed for all.

In love and solidarity,

Olivia Stephens