



Vanessa Walder

The Secret Life of Animals (Vol. 1, Forest)

The White Wolf

Das geheime Leben der Tiere - Wald

illustriert von Simona M. Ceccarelli

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Story

„THE SECRET LIFE OF ANIMALS” is the new realistic children's book series for readers aged 8 and up, divided into several subseries sorted by the Earth's habitats. Each series features exciting fiction about animals and their environment, with each of the four volumes in each sub-series focusing on a different animal in a certain environment (Ocean, Forest, Savannah). Each book can be read independently.

What happens in **FOREST, Vol. 1:**

A mighty thunderclap echoes through the forest when a small wolf cub sees the light of day. The wolf mother Fullgrit gives this wolf cub the name "Five" and swears to protect her - today and forever. Five grows up and dreams of becoming the best huntress of the pack - no, the best huntress of all packs! With her strength of will, she wants to be the leader of the wolves and lead her own pack - one day, when she has grown up and found her place.

But when a fire breaks out in the forest, the river valley is completely destroyed. Five's parents do not return, so it's just Five and her friend, the raven Raak. Two friends and the strong will to seek and find their new place. One thing is for sure: even the biggest and smartest wolf is lost, because a wolf is only strong in a pack. Raak and Five fight their way through the hard winter, and after some time Five's pack grows and becomes the largest pack far and wide. The wolves return to the river valley, where everything is greener than ever. Their old home is now their new home! Five feels that she is expecting wolf cubs again - life starts all over again, the circle closes. The cubs grow into strong animals and Five becomes an old leader

wolf. One deep winter, Five walks quite a distance beyond the boundaries of her territory and catches sight of a hunter. His shot in the form of a thunderclap is the last thing the old leader hears in her life.

- **Fictionalized adventure stories from animals' point of view**
- **'Popular Entertaining Storytelling'** meets **Animal Documentaries**, the successful non-fiction trend translated into narrative – for the first time!
- Semi-annual publication sequence of sub-series in **different habitats**: Forest, Ocean, Savannah
- Each habitat is realized by a **renowned duo of author and illustrator**: wonderfully beautiful narrative voices meet touching black-and-white illustrations

Vanessa Walder

Vanessa Walder was born in Heidelberg, Germany in 1978. She grew up in Vienna, Austria, where she later studied the law and became a journalist. During her time at the university she worked for the Red Cross and the Austrian BookClub for Young Adults. In 2001 her first novel, „sisters“ was published by Loewe publishing. Since then Walder has written many books for children and young adults, which were translated into 30 languages, some of them leading the German children's bookcharts for several weeks. Her trilogy „The Wild Bah“ has been adapted for theatre and is currently in pre-production for an animated streaming show. The trilogy „The Unbearables & me“ received raving reviews from 2019 to 2022, and the new book series „The secret lives of animals“ seems to win just as many readers' hearts.

Vanessa Walder also writes screenplays for movies. „Here comes Lola“ hit cinemas in Europe in 2010 and won several prizes at festivals. In 2016 the even more successful movie „Conni & Co“ followed. A sequel was released in 2017 under director Til Schweiger. Walder also wrote the screenplay for the international production of the animated movie „Bayala“, which was released in October 2019. 2017, 2018 and 2019 Walder received several awards for her screenplays. The movie „Lieber Kurt“, based on a screenplay by Vanessa Walder and Til Schweiger, will hit cinemas on September 15th 2022.

Vanessa Walder has been living in Berlin since 2008.

More titles in this series



The Secret Life of Animals
(Vol. 4, Forest)
Territory of Ravens



The Secret Life of Animals
(Vol. 3, Forest)
The City of Foxes



The Secret Life of Animals
(Vol. 2, Forest)
King of the Bears