



*Antonia Michaelis*

## **The Secret Life of Animals – Minik's Departure Into the Wide Sea (Ocean, Vol. 1)**

Das geheime Leben der Tiere - Ozean  
illustriert von Verena Körting

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### **Story**

„THE SECRET LIFE OF ANIMALS“ is the new realistic children's book series for readers ages 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 **OCEAN, Vol. 1**:

Driven by his curiosity, a seal embarks on a journey out into the vast ocean. He wants to know everything, understand everything. But the Baltic Sea holds many things: unknown and threatening. At first, however, he finds heaven on earth: lots of fish! While trying to catch the delicious fish, the animal gets caught. Then a humpback whale rushes to the aid of the seal. The whale introduces himself as Lottatwo and gives the seal the name "Minik". Because a name, the big humpback explains, means making a friend. And friends, as Minik the seal learns, not only brave great and small dangers together, but also help each other in every emergency.

When Lottatwo gets stranded on a sandbank and decides to leave the shallow waters of the Baltic Sea, Minik wants to accompany his big friend. But the way north is not without difficulties. When the friends get caught in a storm, it is finally the humans who save Minik. They send him back to freedom and reunite him with his friend, the humpback whale. This is just the beginning of Minik's journey - something new and great is about to begin in the strange ocean. Minik senses this very clearly.

- **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

## Antonia Michaelis

Antonia Michaelis was born in North Germany in 1979. She spent the first two years of her childhood in a tiny village on the Baltic seaside. Later on she moved to South Germany and spent her childhood and adolescence surrounded by her crazy-likeable parents and various cats. She started writing stories at a very young age. After finishing school Antonia Michaelis left Germany and moved to South India for a year. She worked in a school near Madras as a teacher for English, arts, and acting. Various journeys took her to Turkey, Italy, Greece, Syria and the UK.

Today, the young writer lives in the Northeast of Germany. She has just finished studying medicine and has dedicated herself for the time being to writing children's books.

## More titles in this series



The Secret Life of Animals -  
Minik: A Seal Finds its Way  
Home (Ocean, Vol. 4)



The Secret Life of Animals –  
Minik: Adventures in the Coral  
Reef (Vol. 3, Ocean)



The Secret Life of Animals –  
Minik: Call of the Arctic (Ocean,  
Vol. 2)