

# The Path

A Story about  
Finding Your Way



Marine Schneider  
Reif Larsen

LITTLE  
GESTALTEN

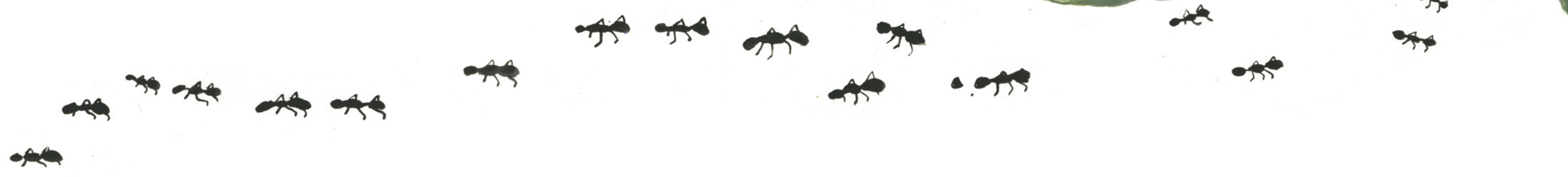




On the first hot day of the year, the woods grow full with life. Insects dance, snakes wriggle, birds collect strange objects to build their nests.



Clara and Luka have made an observation post. Clara is teaching Luka about how ants make trails using scents. Luka is teaching Clara how hyperdrive works. "You can travel anywhere in the universe in seconds," he says.





That night, the sky is clear. Three deer step onto the path, follow it for awhile, then step off again.





She teaches him how to read footprints.  
Toes and pads and hooves. Stories come  
to life. Luka's aliens are curious too.  
They help Luka and Clara look for clues.



They hear footsteps.  
Finn and Moo are  
barreling down the path.  
"Watch out!" he says.

They let him by. The  
forest grows quiet again.  
They continue their  
work. They are making  
a book of path prints.  
"Tomorrow?" he says.  
"Tomorrow," she says.





Plants begin to grow. Leaves open, like hands waving at the sun. The rains come. The path turns muddy. Footprints appear—boots, paws, feet, hands, bicycle tracks.









Clara and Luka sometimes  
run into each other on  
the path, but Luka's path  
is not Clara's path.  
Aliens and ants haven't  
learned how to speak to  
each other yet.







When the humans have left with their dogs and their binoculars and their worries, the woods settle down. Creatures come out in the dusk, scratch in the dirt.

A fox emerges from his winter den. For him, the path will be home.



FALL  
2021

# The Path

A Story about Finding Your Way

Written by Reif Larsen

Illustrated by Marine Schneider

Category: Picture Book

Recommended for: Ages 3 and up

Features: Full color, hardcover, stitch bound,  
32 pages, 19 × 28 cm, 7½ × 11 inches

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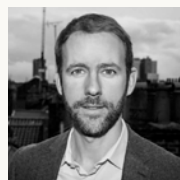
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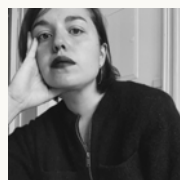
**In an ever-evolving world, the only thing to count on is change.**

A path is never the same path twice. Everything we experience, be it real or imagined, influences what is around us—even if the changes are sometimes too small to recognize! For three curious kids, their regular walk down their neighborhood path is an experience far from ordinary. With sketchbooks tucked under their arms and a magnifying glass in hand, each child interacts with the path in a different way, and together, they create a whole world for themselves.

*The Path* encourages young readers to take a closer look at their surroundings and emphasizes the importance of empathy towards all living things. For readers of all ages, this book demonstrates that change is certain, but that change is good.



**REIF LARSEN** is a bestselling author, with books like *The Selected Works of T.S. Spivet* translated into more than 27 languages. Larsen's essays and fiction have appeared in *The New York Times*, *The Guardian*, *Travel + Leisure*, and *The Believer*. Larsen is currently living in Troy, New York State, and hosts an event series and podcast named *Future of Small Cities*. This is his second children's book.



**MARINE SCHNEIDER** is a Belgian illustrator. A traveler at heart, she loves wandering through vast and preferably snowy landscapes, that inspire her and nourish her stories. Beginning her career with *Life and I: a Story about Death*, and *I am Life*, both published by Little Gestalten, she worked on several projects, ranging from books for babies to books for older children. She lives and works in Brussels.

## WHAT TO EXPECT

→ Written by acclaimed author Reif Larsen, whose books appeared on bestseller lists

→ A tender story accompanied by hand-painted illustrations

→ An opportunity to learn about plants, animals, and to nurture a connection to nature

