

Marlene Röder/ Felicitas Horstschäfer

Melina und das Geheimnis aus Stein

MELINA AND THE SECRET OF STONE

224 pp	Hardcover
Format	14.3 x 21.5 cm
ISBN	978-3-473-36861-7
January 2013	EUR 12.99
Age	10 years and older
36,002 words / 213,278 signs	

Melina's little brother died several months ago. Her father has thrown himself into his work since then; her mother is so sad that she can hardly take care of Melina. In her new schoolmates she doesn't find any contacts, either. In her loneliness the girl tires out her special gift one afternoon: Melina has the ability to bring things to life with a touch. It doesn't always work, and Melina is actually rather afraid of her special gift...

CONTENT

Melina's little brother died several months ago. Her father has thrown himself into his work since then; her mother is so sad that she can hardly take care of Melina. In her new schoolmates she doesn't find any contacts, either.

Fortunately, she has her best friend, Pippa. Pippa is a Playmobil figure that Melina always carries around with her. But Pippa is a very special toy, because Melina has "woken her up". She has the ability to bring things to life with a touch. It doesn't always work, and Melina is actually rather afraid of her special gift.

In her loneliness, she tries out her gift one afternoon at the cemetery. She touches the angel statue on the grave of Wilhelm, who died at a young age - and brings it to life. Will becomes a kind of older brother and friend for Melina. But Will soon begins to pull away from Melina. He wants to belong among people, and is upset with his wings - he cannot fly with them, but they make him an outsider. He gets to know the wild Jessica and falls in love with her. Filled with jealousy and hurt feelings, Melina wants to force Will to stop seeing Jessica - otherwise she will never rouse him to life again. But Will defies her and runs away.

At that point Melina makes a fateful decision. After visiting a museum on a school field trip, she awakens Anubis, the Egyptian god of death, for a night and asks him to look for Will and bring him to the cemetery. Anubis drags the injured Will back, and laughs in Melina's face when she asks



him to return to the museum so she can undo the magic and put him back to sleep. But fortunately, Jessica has followed Anubis and Will. She kicks her soccer ball straight into the god's head, which makes him stumble, giving Melina a chance to put him back in his rightful state. To make things up to Will, she suggests she put him to sleep one last time so that the stonemason Mr. Hagenbeck can chisel off Will's wings. Then his greatest wish can be fulfilled - he'll become a full-fledged human being.

And so Melina found two good friends, and her parents start to pay attention to her again, too. Pippa leaves Melina's pocket that same night. She wants to travel the world as an explorer and lets Melina know that she doesn't need Pippa anymore, because now she's found other people she can talk to.

www.foreignrights-ravensburger.com

Florence Roux, e-mail: florence.roux@ravensburger.de, or

Lucia Borrero, e-mail: lucia.borrero@ravensburger.de, or

Maike Heinemann, e-mail: Maike.Heinemann@ravensburger.de

Ravensburger

Marlene Röder/ Felicitas Horstschäfer

Melina und das Geheimnis aus Stein

MELINA AND THE SECRET OF STONE

THE AUTHOR

Marlene Röder, born in 1984, has exceptional narrative talent. Her first novel, *In the River*, was awarded the Hans-im-Glück prize by the city of Limburg even before it was published. The major German weekly newspaper "Die Zeit" judged: "Stylistically, Marlene Röder is without doubt in a class with the great role models of the post-war period, such as Heinrich Böll or Gabriele Wohmann."

www.foreignrights-ravensburger.com

Florence Roux, e-mail: florence.roux@ravensburger.de, or
Lucia Borrero, e-mail: lucia.borrero@ravensburger.de, or
Maike Heinemann, e-mail: Maike.Heinemann@ravensburger.de

Ravensburger