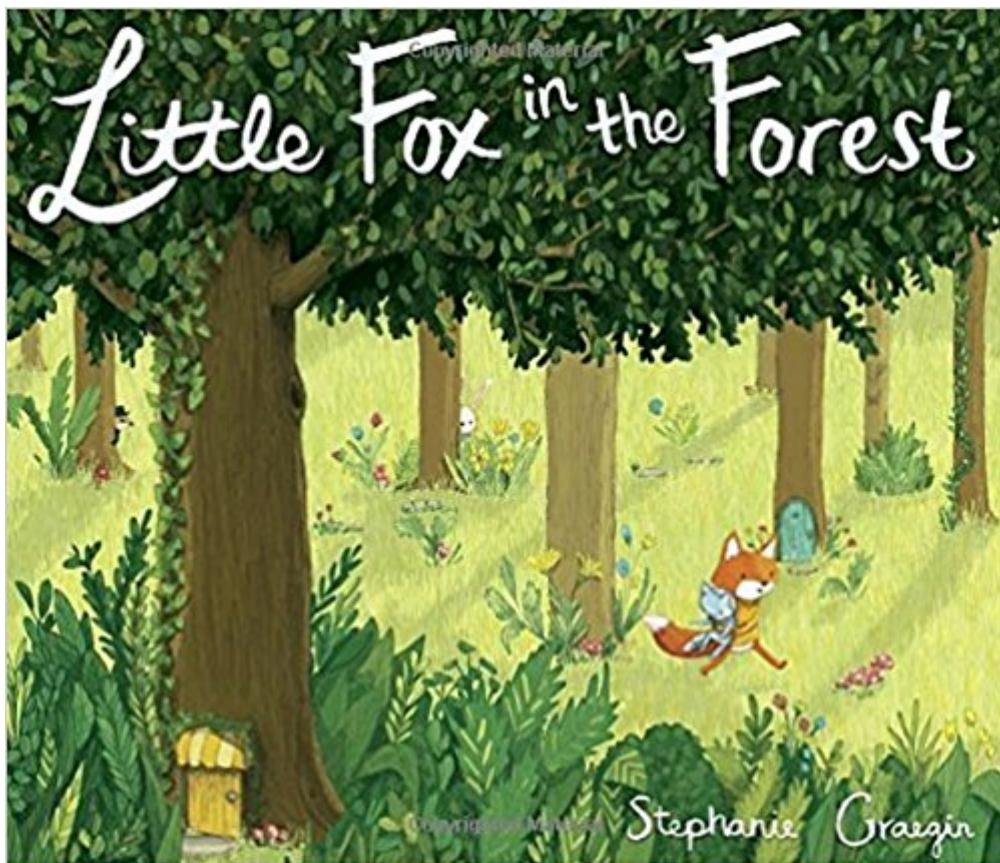


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# Little Fox In The Forest



## Synopsis

Fans of Aaron Becker's Caldecott Honor winner *Journey* will love this utterly enchanting wordless picture book in which two friends follow a young fox deep into the woods and discover a wondrous and magical world. When a young girl brings her beloved stuffed fox to the playground, much to her astonishment, a real fox takes off with it! The girl chases the fox into the woods with her friend, the boy, following close behind, but soon the two children lose track of the fox. Wandering deeper and deeper into the forest, they come across a tall hedge with an archway. What do they find on the other side? A marvelous village of miniature stone cottages, tiny treehouses, and, most extraordinary of all, woodland creatures of every shape and size. But where is the little fox? And how will they find him? Stephanie Graegin's oh-so-charming illustrations are simply irresistible, and readers young and old will want to pore over the pages of this delightful fantasy adventure again and again.

## Book Information

Hardcover: 40 pages

Publisher: Schwartz & Wade (February 28, 2017)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 055353789X

ISBN-13: 978-0553537895

Product Dimensions: 11.8 x 0.4 x 10.4 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.2 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 5.0 out of 5 stars 12 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #51,172 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #59 in Books > Children's Books > Animals > Foxes & Wolves #458 in Books > Children's Books > Comics & Graphic Novels #1478 in Books > Children's Books > Science Fiction & Fantasy > Fantasy & Magic

Age Range: 4 - 8 years

Grade Level: Preschool - 3

## Customer Reviews

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PreS-Gr 2 • A series of monochromatic cells begin this wordless book. A young girl searches her house to bring her most treasured possession (her favorite toy, a stuffed fox) to share during show-and-tell at school. As readers turn pages, a young fox spots the toy unattended and swiftly

runs off with it into the nearby forest, followed by the girl and a classmate. With each succeeding frame, the running fox is highlighted, brilliant orange against a neutral green-gray forest, each scene digitally colored with pencil, watercolor, and ink. Hidden residents gradually come to life with color until a turn of the page reveals a sudden double-page fantasy of small homes filled with personified animals. This tale of a missing toy builds to emphasize the girl's unselfishness—a gesture of a generous heart. Movement of the characters from cell to cell encourages children to infer emotions and plot action, and page details will send viewers looking for small clues that broaden the story. VERDICT An engaging exercise in reading pictures and creative narrative. A general addition for younger readers. •Mary Elam, Learning Media Services, Plano ISD, TX

"Young children will pore over this wordless picture book again and again, finding something new to enjoy each time." • Kirkus, starred review "A charming, fantastical twist on the backyard adventure." • Booklist, starred review "This is a story not just to read but to inhabit." • Publishers Weekly, starred review "...viewers can pick up skills in decoding visual narrative while also getting a chance to breathlessly root around in some serious cuteness." • Bulletin, starred review

Beautiful illustrations and a captivating story. My 5 year old loved it!

Loved every part of it!

I bought this as a gift for three boys in my preschool class. I introduced it to them in a small group for literacy. We read it every day for two weeks. It is a wordless book with great illustrations that tell a story of friendship. I will use it many times.

Great story! I love the wordless format - perfect for encouraging children to "read" on their own, tell each other different stories based on the pictures, be as dramatic as possible, etc. The illustrations are wonderful.

We checked this book out of the library and we all enjoyed Graegin's clever illustrations and story. This is a wordless book but even readers will enjoy it. The first part of the book is illustrated in grayish blue, white, and black. The pastedown and free endpaper shows a bookcase in the little girl's room. She has a variety of books about animals and mythical creatures as well as four stuffed

animals. Her favorite is a little stuffed fox she sleeps with. At school, the teacher announces a show-and-tell in which they are supposed to bring something old and treasured. The little girl brings her stuffed fox. After school, she and a friend are playing on the playground when a real fox spies her stuffed fox sticking out of her backpack. He steals it and the chase begins. The little fox is a bright reddish orange and quite vivid against the blueish gray of everything else. The children run after him and are ultimately led through an ivy-covered arch and into a mythical world where animals wear clothes and live in houses. The illustrations suddenly change and become vibrant and multi-colored. With a bear's help, they finally find the home of the little fox who is already in bed with the stuffed fox. The little fox's mother makes him give it back to the girl. The little fox is so sad that the girl relents and lets him have it. He in turn gives her a stuffed, polka dot unicorn. As soon as the children leave the animal enclave, the pictures revert back to the bluish gray tones. So interesting. The world of the animals is clearly more vibrant and real! At the end you see the little girl in bed with the unicorn and the little fox tucking the stuffed fox into bed. The endpages show the same bookshelf in the girl's room but now the unicorn sits in the fox's place. Fun book. The illustrations make it special.

In this wordless graphic novel, a little girl brings her stuffed toy fox to school for show-and-tell and it is taken from the playground by a real fox! The girl and her friend chase after the fox, stopping to ask directions when they find a small door in a tree. The squirrel who lives there points them in the right direction. Meanwhile, a weasel tries to steal the toy from the little fox, but a bear steps in and sorts it out. The children arrive at a town where animals live together and they enlist the help of the entire area to search for the fox. Soon they discover the little fox and his stolen toy, but what will they do then? Graegin tells a really wonderful story solely through images. Using white space to frame her images into a graphic novel format, the story is told with rich details. It clearly establishes the little girl's long attachment to the stuffed fox and her desire to share it with her class. Then the story becomes a chase sequence and a mystery of where the fox has gone. It then enters a lovely fantasy where the entire animal town comes to life, shown in a wide panorama that makes one want to wander the streets. One special device used through the book is that the children are shown in black, grays and whites. The color enters the book subtly at first with the little fox and a red bird who watches from above. The children maintain their more somber color palette even as the world around them is vibrant color. Yet these worlds can touch and cross, much to the joy of the reader. This genre bending graphic-novel picture book is beautiful, rich and worthy of journeying through time and again. Appropriate for ages 3-5.

Children love playing with stuffed animals -- mine would play "stuffie school" for hours and hours. I adore this new wordless picture book for the way it honors a child's love for her stuffed animal, bringing magical life to her imaginative world. This story works well with a range of ages precisely because it is wordless; children can tell the story with as much detail as they want. Graegin controls the pacing of the story by varying the size of the panels, using larger panes to let readers soak in details and multiple smaller panes to move the action along briskly. This whimsical story will appeal to children steeped in their own imaginative worlds. They will be drawn into the detailed scenes, especially in the enchanted village. The resolution, where the young girl and the fox exchange favorite stuffed animals, brings its own sweet charm to the story.

When I finished reading this book I had ordered for my library collection, I couldn't help giving a loud Awwwwwww. So charming. The illustrations reflect the busy animal world of the beloved Richard Scarry, but with a much sweeter, more modern appeal. So much to love about this book: the love the little girl has for her favorite stuffed animal; the way her young friend helps her pursue her stolen toy fox; the way they show the picture of the missing animal to all the animals they meet, looking for help; the amazing way they cross over into the animal world, where they animals all live together in a quaint, Middle Earth type village, and the happy ending, when the young girl realizes the young fox needs her stuffed animal more than she does. This is a lovely, lovely book.

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