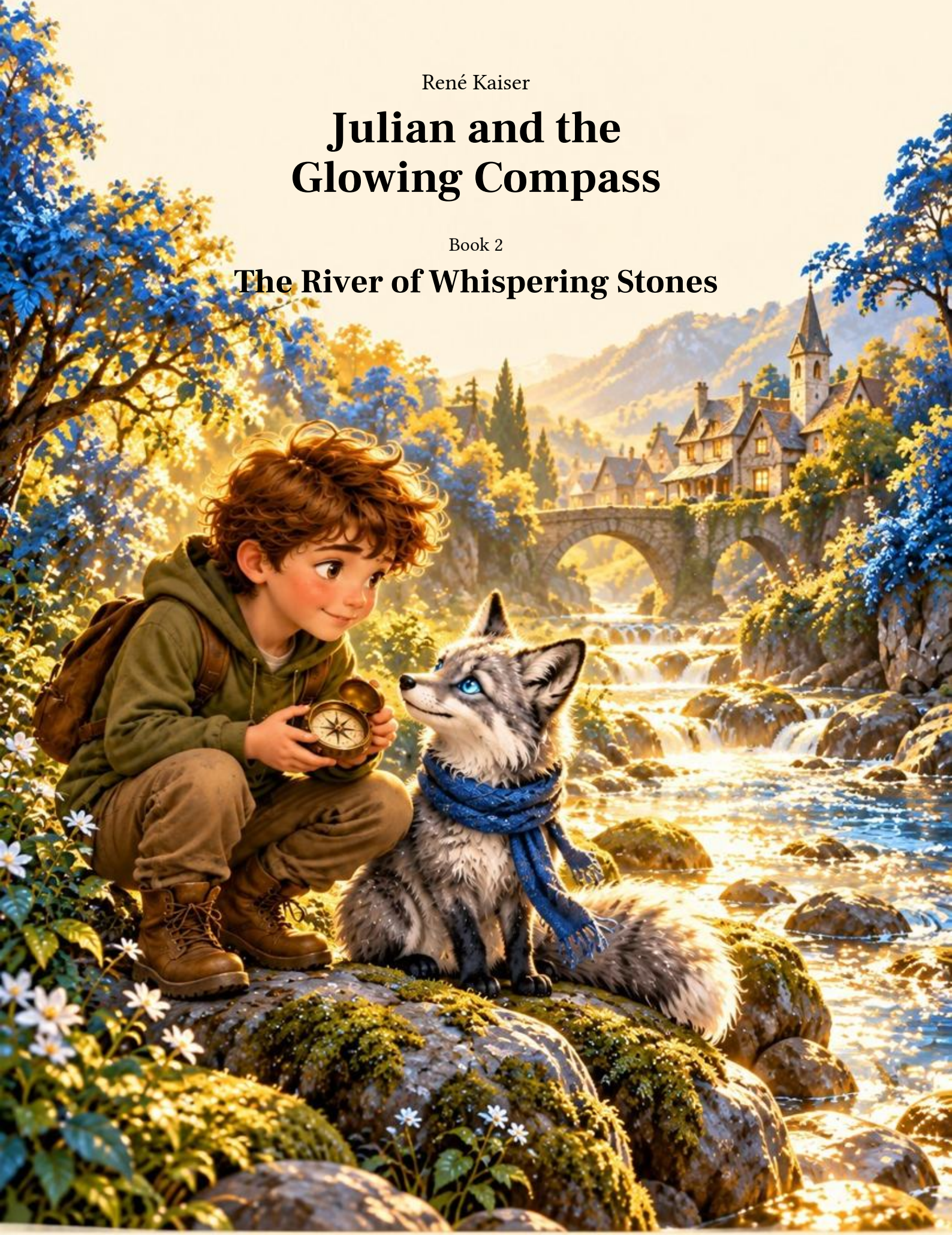
René Kaiser

Julian and the Glowing Compass

Book 2

The River of Whispering Stones



Kostenlose Leseprobe

The River of Whispering Stones (English PDF)

Originalseiten mit den ersten zwei Kapiteln der englischen Ausgabe; zusätzlich Cover und Inhaltsverzeichnis.

Inhaltsverzeichnis des vollständigen Buches

Seitenangaben: PDF-Seiten der Kaufdatei, einschließlich Cover. Die Leseprobe enthält ausgewählte Seiten.

Foreword · PDF-Seite 3
1. The Second Star · PDF-Seite 6
2. The Gateway in the Bookshelf · PDF-Seite 8
3. A River Full of Voices · PDF-Seite 10
4. The Village by the Water · PDF-Seite 12
5. The Missing Song · PDF-Seite 14
6. The First Great Wave · PDF-Seite 16
7. The Girl with the Red Ball · PDF-Seite 18
8. The Stone No One Noticed · PDF-Seite 20
9. Brumo's Story · PDF-Seite 22
10. The Water Root · PDF-Seite 24
11. The Voice of the Water · PDF-Seite 26
12. The Voice of the Stone · PDF-Seite 28
13. The Voice of the Heart · PDF-Seite 30
14. More than Fine Words · PDF-Seite 32
15. The Village Must Listen · PDF-Seite 34
16. The Meeting at the Fountain · PDF-Seite 36
17. The Plan of a Thousand Voices · PDF-Seite 38
18. The Night of the Great Rain · PDF-Seite 40
19. The Song beneath the Water · PDF-Seite 42
20. The Three Voices · PDF-Seite 44
21. The Miracle at the River · PDF-Seite 46
22. The Second Golden Star · PDF-Seite 48
23. The River's Gift · PDF-Seite 50
24. Back in the Bedroom · PDF-Seite 52
25. The Voice Julian Almost Missed · PDF-Seite 54

Außerdem im Buch

What Julian Has Learned · PDF-Seite 56
Julian's Questions about Listening · PDF-Seite 57
What Julian Takes with Him · PDF-Seite 58
The Glowing Compass · PDF-Seite 59
A Glimpse of Book 3 · PDF-Seite 60
About the Book · PDF-Seite 61

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CHAPTER 1

The Second Star



It was a rainy Tuesday evening. Julian sat in his room, building an enormous castle out of wooden blocks. It had four towers, a drawbridge and an especially tall lookout tower. He was just about to put the last block on top when he heard a strange noise. Drip. Julian paused.

Drop. He looked towards the window. It was raining outside. But the sound wasn't coming from outside. Drip. Drop. Drip. Julian turned around.

The glowing compass lay on his desk. Julian had kept it there ever since his first adventure in the mysterious forest. A little golden star sparkled on its face. The Star of Courage. Nine more spaces were still empty. But now something strange was happening.

A small puddle was forming beneath the compass. Julian jumped up.

“Huh?”

He picked up the compass. Water dripped from its golden case. Yet the desk had been completely dry. Julian studied the needle. It turned slowly. Then it stopped.

It wasn't pointing north. It was pointing straight at his bookshelf. Suddenly, a familiar voice spoke.

“Well, if you ask me, this is a rather wet business.”

Julian spun around. A silver fox sat on his bed. He wore a blue scarf and was looking curiously at Julian's wooden castle.

“Lio!”

The fox grinned.

“Who else?”

Julian ran over to him.

“You're back!”

“You won't get rid of me that easily.”

Julian laughed. Then he pointed at the compass.

“Why is it wet?”

Lio examined the drops. His smile vanished.

“Oh.”

Julian knew that “Oh” by now. It usually meant something was wrong.

“What's the matter?”

Lio jumped off the bed.

“The River of Whispering Stones is calling us.”

Julian frowned.

“A river can't call anyone.”

Lio raised an eyebrow.

“You're talking to a fox.”

Julian couldn't help laughing.

“Good point.”

CHAPTER 2

The Gateway in the Bookshelf



Julian took the compass in his hand. The needle began to glow with golden light. A thin beam shot towards his bookshelf. There were books about dinosaurs, pirates, planets and wild animals. But suddenly, they moved. First one book.

Then two. Then the whole shelf. The books slid apart. A narrow gap appeared between them. Blue light shone through it. Julian stepped closer.

The light grew brighter. Then the gap turned into a gateway. Beyond it lay a river. It wound through a green valley. Its water glittered like liquid silver. Trees with long blue leaves grew along the bank.

Julian stared in wonder.

“Wow.”

Lio stood beside him.

“Welcome to the second path.”

Julian gazed at the river.

“And what do we have to do this time?”

Lio shook his head.

“I'm not quite sure yet.”

Julian looked at him in surprise.

“You don't know?”

“No.”

“But you're my magical companion.”

Lio grinned.

“Magical, yes. All-knowing, no.”

Julian thought for a moment.

“All right, then.”

He picked up his little backpack. Inside were a water bottle, a cereal bar and a torch. Then he stepped through the gateway. Lio followed. Behind them, the bookshelf closed. And the second path began.