

#### Serena Ballista.

Writer, gender studies expert and president of the UDI of Modena. She published essays and books for children. She has published with Settenove *A Room of My Own* (Una stanza tutta per me), inspired by Virgina Woolf.

#### Martina Paderni.

Italian illustrator, works with many Italian publishers such as Einaudi Ragazzi, EMME, Giunti and Lapis.

# Serena Ballista, Martina Paderni Beaver, as a «beaver»

«Do you know why I like beavers? Because they build dams. They challange river's current and the water forgets to flow as it always did.»

When Simone De Beauvoir was a little girl, she was nicknamed «Beaver», after the assonance with the animal's name. What's interesting is that Simone felt this nickname as part of her personality, due to her desire to change the course of the current and to build a political mindset which could transform the status quo. The book tells us about Simone's childhood, when – «brave as a beaver» – she decided to challenge her mother's (and society's) rules for the first time, by asking for a bicycle. She didn't get one, but that was just going to be the first of many times – first as a child, then as a woman - she refused to comply with society's gender norms and block the river's flow by building an alternative path. Just like beavers do.

Some years later,I told everything, absolutely everything in a great book. And so Paris, my city, stopped having fear of little girls like me. Of those who, with or without a bicycle, go deep into the woods, up to happy beavers' lair.»

Title: Beaver, as a «beaver» Author: Serena Ballista Illustrator: Martina Paderna Pages: 32 Price: 14,00 € Target: + 5 Format: 18 x 18 - hardcover Isbn: 9788898947737 Topics: Simone de Beauvoir, freedom, girls, social norms, gender, gender roles, feminism, philosophy, biography.

### Simone De Beauvoir

### Grow in freedom

Great thinkers



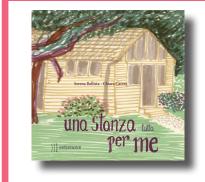
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#### **Opening picture**

# *«Bonjour!*

I was born in winter, at four o'clock in the morning, my name is Simone de Beauvoir.»



## From the same series, avialable also:

*A Romm of My Own* written by Serena Ballista, illustrated by. Chiara Carrer

Inspired by Virginia Woolf's thinking. Pages: 32 - Price: 14,00 € isbn 9788898947256

