



Date : 04/10/2023

Pages : 233

Format cm : 14 x 22

Prix : 15.9

EAN : 9791035206833

## The Chase

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Author: Maureen Desmailles

Publisher : Thierry Magnier

Category : Children's Books

Genres : Young Adult

Keywords : Desire - Friendship - Sexuality - Exploration - Altruism

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One summer, two encounters, and a new playground to explore for a narrator whose we never find out.

Max, 17, has always struggled with feeling invisible. But this summer, with his parents and brother gone, he meets Ellie, the new neighbors' daughter, and her boyfriend Cosme. One thing's for sure: Max is far from invisible to them. The couple, their freedom, and the desire that drives them fascinates Max, who winds up in a dangerous game where he risks losing them both.

This masterful debut novel tells a first-person tale without ever revealing the narrator's gender—not only a literary feat but a statement of principle that interrogates our biases, the stereotypes in our representations, and our binary approach to love and friendship.

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