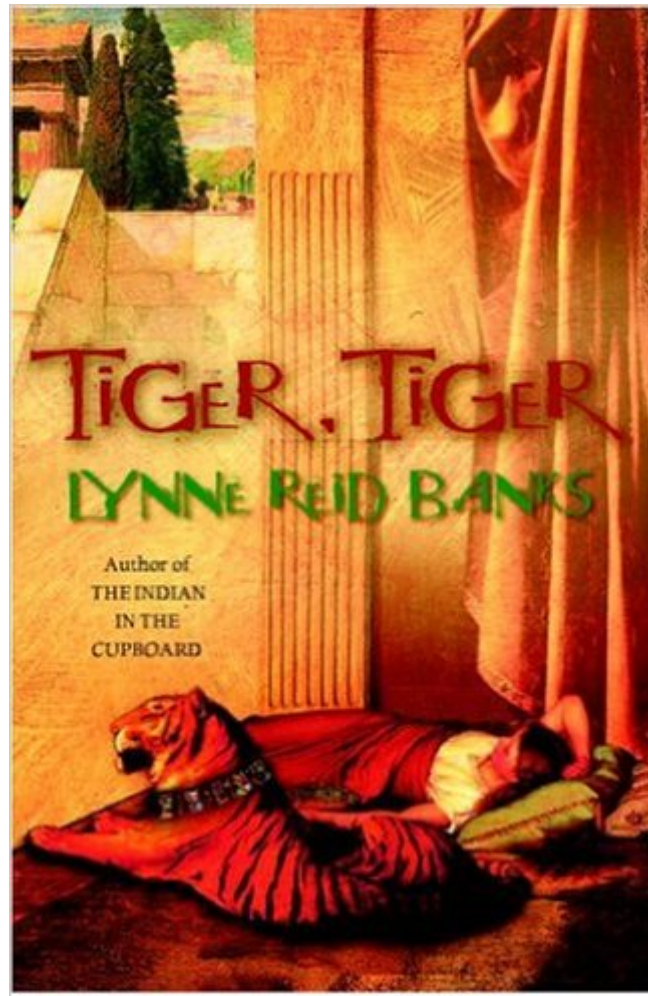


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# Tiger, Tiger



## Synopsis

Two tiger cub brothers are torn from the jungle and taken to Rome. The stronger cub is trained as a killer at the Coliseum. Emperor Caesar makes a gift of the smaller cub to his beautiful daughter, Aurelia. She adores her cub, Boots. Julius, a young animal keeper, teaches Aurelia how to earn Boots's trust. Boots is pampered while his brother, known as Brute, lives in the cold and darkness, let out only to kill. Caesar trusts Julius to watch Aurelia and her prized pet. But when a prank backfires, Boots temporarily escapes and Julius must pay with his life. Thousands watch as Julius is sent unarmed into the arena to face the killer Brute.

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: 840L (What's this?)

Hardcover: 208 pages

Publisher: Delacorte Books for Young Readers; 1st edition (June 14, 2005)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0385732406

ISBN-13: 978-0385732406

Product Dimensions: 5.7 x 1 x 8.6 inches

Shipping Weight: 11.2 ounces

Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (23 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #873,388 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #127 in [Books > Teens >](#)

[Historical Fiction > Ancient](#) #263 in [Books > Children's Books > Literature & Fiction > Historical](#)

[Fiction > Ancient Civilizations](#) #400 in [Books > Children's Books > Animals > Lions, Tigers &](#)

[Leopards](#)

Age Range: 12 and up

Grade Level: 7 and up

## Customer Reviews

Aurelia is born to riches and power, where slaves rush to meet her every want and need, and where every citizen of Rome knows and admires her. She is the daughter of Caesar, the ruler of Rome. And Caesar adores his youngest child, so he plans an exotic and spectacular gift for her: a wild tiger cub! Boots the tiger is born to the green wilds of the jungle, where he lies in the sun with his brother and learns to hunt and survive with lessons from his mother. But when their mother is murdered, he and his brother are taken captive and dragged miserably across the ocean in the dark, dank hold of a ship. Upon arrival, Boots is defanged, neutered and forced to wear leather coverings over his

razor-sharp claws. But despite this, he is the luckier of the two brothers, ending up with the pampered palace pet of Aurelia. His brother Brute, on the other hand, gets caged in the dungeons of the Colosseum and is abused, tormented and starved in preparation for the deadly entertainment of the arena with the armed gladiators and other exotic animals. When sheltered Aurelia attends the Colosseum for the first time, the images of the cruel and horrid deaths of the gladiators, the outlawed Christians and the beautiful animals linger in her soul, haunting her dreams and days. It is then that she begins to realize that the father she's admired her entire life isn't as honorable as she'd believed, for he is the one responsible for the horrors at the Colosseum. Then comes the day when a seemingly harmless prank lands Aurelia's beloved pet tiger and her secret love right into the dangerous depths of the Colosseum's arena to face Brute, the hungry and angry brother of Boots, in a fight to the death. Aurelia is forced to watch and finally face the injustices of her society.

This is a youth book. I've been teaching 7th grade Language Arts this school year, and I wanted to coordinate their literature curriculum with their social studies curriculum, so they would have an interdisciplinary literature experience. Seventh graders here are supposed to study ancient civilizations from ancient Egypt up through Roman empire and medieval Europe. I must have read 25 different youth books to come up with the ones I chose. I wanted books that are historically accurate, while entertaining enough to keep a 7th grader engaged in learning. This book gives a picture of life in ancient Rome that is painfully accurate, but it is not appropriate for elementary school age children. They are not old enough to handle the hard facts of life in ancient Rome (e.g., people thrown to the lions when accused of a crime), just as they don't understand the Holocaust. The story is about twin tiger cubs captured in the wild, and brought to Caesar's palace. One is neutered, tamed and becomes the pet of Caesar's daughter. Tame Boots wears soft leather boots to cover his claws, and is in the constant care of a trainer who was hired to make sure that he will never harm anyone. His twin is taken to the dungeons of the Colosseum where he is bullied, tormented and starved to make him a killer, in preparation for his part in the "entertainment" of the day -- bloody battles to the death between wild animals and condemned prisoners or armed gladiators. The two tiger brothers do not see each other again until the day a childish prank causes gentle Boots and his trainer to face Boots' wild brother in a fight to the death in the arena.

Tiger, tiger was an exciting novel with surprising twists that captured the mind. This book pulls you in as soon as you lay eyes upon it. There were three main characters. Aurelia, Caesar's young 12 and later on 13 year old child. Marcus who is a year younger than Aurelia and is her cousin. Finally there is

Julius. He is the young tiger tamer for Aurelia. In the book two tiger cubs were taken from the jungle and brought to early Rome. They both take extremely different paths. Some, life-threatening. When the tiger cubs are taken from the jungle they are both used to serve Rome. But in very different ways. The smaller more scrawny cub is taken to be Aurelia's personal pet. The stronger more husky cub, is taken to the Colosseum to learn to fight, and eventually kill. He becomes a vicious killer and his abuse to the Christians rapidly becomes known throughout Rome. However, "Boots" as Aurelia now refers to him as, is living a pampered life amongst the "two legs." He is petted, pampered, fed a large assortment of meat, and never gets bored with the palace life. But while he is treated like the "real" king of the jungle, his brother known as Brute, lives in a small dark cage, only let out to kill. Brute, the cold man-killer sits alone in a small dark cage surrounded by other dark cages filled with animals that have been to the arena or await the day they get to go up. All Brute can smell is the stench of fear and anxiety. There are thrillings to the thought of going to the arena, but all the same there is extreme fear. When an animal goes up, they more than likely don't come back down. When Brute's day finally arrives, he can not wait to tear, rip, and feast. For when HE goes up, he will come back down. One evening when Julius, and Aurelia venture to Marcus's house.

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