

tears of a tiger questions and answers

tears of a tiger questions and answers is a vital topic for students, educators, and readers who want to delve deeper into Sharon Draper's impactful novel. This article provides a comprehensive guide to the most common and challenging questions about "Tears of a Tiger," along with detailed answers that help illuminate the book's themes, characters, plot, and literary techniques. Whether you are preparing for a class discussion, working on an assignment, or simply seeking a better understanding of the novel, you'll find valuable insights here. The following sections cover character analysis, key events, thematic explorations, and discussion prompts, all while naturally incorporating essential keywords for optimal search visibility. Read on to discover everything you need to know about "Tears of a Tiger" questions and answers in a concise, authoritative, and engaging format.

- Overview of Tears of a Tiger
- Key Characters and Their Roles
- Major Themes and Literary Techniques
- Frequently Asked Questions and Answers
- Discussion and Essay Prompts
- Study Tips for Tears of a Tiger

Overview of Tears of a Tiger

"Tears of a Tiger" is a young adult novel by Sharon Draper, first published in 1994. The story centers around Andy Jackson, a high school basketball player who struggles with guilt and grief after a tragic car accident causes the death of his best friend, Robbie Washington. The novel explores the emotional aftermath of the accident, focusing on mental health, friendship, and responsibility. Told through a combination of diary entries, letters, conversations, and third-person narrative, "Tears of a Tiger" provides a multifaceted look at how young people cope with trauma and loss.

Sharon Draper's poignant writing style and realistic depiction of adolescent challenges make "Tears of a Tiger" a frequently studied novel in middle and high school classrooms. The book raises important questions about accountability, support systems, and the consequences of destructive decisions. Through its thought-provoking narrative, Draper encourages readers to consider the importance of empathy, communication, and seeking help during difficult times.

Key Characters and Their Roles

Andy Jackson

Andy Jackson is the protagonist of "Tears of a Tiger." As a talented basketball player and popular student, Andy appears to have everything going for him—until he becomes the driver in a fatal accident that kills his best friend. The novel follows Andy's emotional journey as he wrestles with guilt, depression, and the inability to forgive himself. His struggle is central to the book's exploration of mental health and coping mechanisms.

Robbie Washington

Robbie Washington is Andy's best friend and teammate who loses his life in the car accident. Robbie's death serves as the catalyst for the novel's events, deeply affecting Andy and his circle of friends. Robbie is remembered for his kindness, leadership, and positive influence on Andy's life.

Keisha Montgomery

Keisha Montgomery is Andy's girlfriend, offering him emotional support as he deals with the aftermath of the accident. Keisha's role is crucial in demonstrating the challenges of supporting someone with mental health struggles, as well as the limits individuals face when trying to help loved ones.

Gerald Nickelby

Gerald Nickelby is Andy's friend and basketball teammate. He offers a different perspective on grief and coping, dealing with his own family issues and trauma. Gerald's character highlights the diversity of responses to tragedy among adolescents.

Other Supporting Characters

- B.J. Carson – Another friend who was present at the accident, known for his religious faith and loyalty.
- Dr. Carrothers – The school psychologist who tries to help Andy process his emotions.
- Monty Jackson – Andy's younger brother, representing innocence and the impact of loss on family.

Major Themes and Literary Techniques

Grief and Guilt

The central theme of "Tears of a Tiger" is grief, particularly as experienced by Andy Jackson. The novel examines the psychological effects of survivor's guilt and how it can lead to depression and isolation. Andy's inability to cope with his feelings is depicted through his interactions with others and his internal monologues.

Mental Health and Suicide

Mental health is a recurring theme, with the book highlighting the importance of support systems and the dangers of untreated depression. Andy's struggle culminates in his tragic decision to end his own life, serving as a powerful commentary on the need for communication and intervention.

Responsibility and Consequences

"Tears of a Tiger" stresses the importance of personal responsibility and the far-reaching consequences of reckless actions. The accident, caused by drunk driving, sets off a chain reaction that changes the lives of everyone involved.

Friendship and Support

The novel explores the dynamics of adolescent friendships, showing both their strengths and limitations. The support Andy receives from his friends and girlfriend is contrasted with the help he needs but cannot accept or understand.

Literary Techniques

- Multiple Perspectives – The story is told through diary entries, letters, and conversations, offering insight into multiple characters' thoughts and feelings.
- Foreshadowing – Draper uses subtle hints to build tension and prepare the reader for Andy's fate.
- Symbolism – Key symbols include the tiger, representing Andy's struggles and emotions.

Frequently Asked Tears of a Tiger Questions and Answers

What is the main conflict in "Tears of a Tiger"?

The main conflict revolves around Andy Jackson's internal struggle with guilt and depression following the death of his best friend, Robbie. This personal conflict is compounded by external pressures from family, friends, and school, as Andy tries to find a way to cope with the tragedy.

How does Andy's character change throughout the novel?

Andy begins the novel as a confident and popular athlete but becomes increasingly withdrawn and troubled after the accident. His journey through grief and guilt leads to deep emotional pain, ultimately resulting in his tragic death. The character's transformation is a poignant portrayal of the impact of trauma on young people.

What role does Keisha Montgomery play in Andy's life?

Keisha is Andy's girlfriend and emotional anchor, providing support during his darkest moments. Despite her efforts, Keisha eventually realizes she cannot save Andy on her own, highlighting the challenges of supporting someone with severe depression.

How is mental health addressed in "Tears of a Tiger"?

Mental health is central to the novel, with Andy's depression and suicide serving as a powerful message about the need for open communication, counseling, and intervention. The book encourages readers to recognize warning signs and seek help when struggling with emotional issues.

What literary devices does Sharon Draper use to enhance the story?

Draper employs multiple perspectives, diary entries, letters, and conversations to create a layered narrative. Symbolism, foreshadowing, and realistic dialogue further deepen the emotional impact and help readers connect with the characters' experiences.

Discussion and Essay Prompts for Tears of a Tiger

Educators and students often use discussion and essay prompts to explore the novel's deeper meanings and to encourage critical thinking. Here are some useful prompts:

- Discuss how Andy's relationships with his friends and family change after the accident.
- Analyze the role of guilt and forgiveness in "Tears of a Tiger."
- Examine how the narrative structure affects your understanding of the characters and events.
- Reflect on the importance of mental health awareness among teenagers as depicted in the novel.
- Explore the symbolism of the tiger and its connection to Andy's emotional state.

Study Tips for Tears of a Tiger Questions and Answers

Preparing for exams or assignments on "Tears of a Tiger" requires a strategic approach. Here are some effective study tips to master the important questions and answers:

1. Read the novel carefully, taking notes on key events, character development, and themes.
2. Review character relationships and how they influence the plot.
3. Analyze major themes such as grief, guilt, and mental health, using textual evidence to support your answers.
4. Practice answering sample questions and writing short essays to organize your thoughts.
5. Participate in group discussions to gain new perspectives and deepen your understanding.

By focusing on these strategies, students can confidently address "tears of a tiger questions and answers" in classroom settings, essays, or exams.

Trending Tears of a Tiger Questions and Answers

Q: What is the significance of the title "Tears of a Tiger"?

A: The title symbolizes Andy's pain and emotional struggle. The tiger represents strength and fierceness, but Andy's tears reveal vulnerability and the internal battle he faces after Robbie's death.

Q: How does Sharon Draper portray the effects of trauma in teenagers?

A: Draper uses realistic dialogue, varied narrative forms, and multiple perspectives to show the complex emotional responses of teenagers to trauma, including guilt, isolation, and the need for support.

Q: What lessons can be learned from Andy's story?

A: Andy's journey highlights the importance of seeking help for mental health issues, the dangers of untreated depression, and the value of communication and empathy among friends and family.

Q: Why did Andy struggle to ask for help?

A: Andy felt misunderstood and isolated, believing that others could not comprehend his pain. His reluctance to open up was compounded by stigma around mental health and a lack of effective support.

Q: What role does the school psychologist play in the novel?

A: Dr. Carrothers, the school psychologist, attempts to counsel Andy and offers professional support. However, Andy is unable to fully engage, illustrating the challenges of reaching students in crisis.

Q: How does the novel address the theme of forgiveness?

A: Forgiveness is explored through Andy's inability to forgive himself for Robbie's death and the difficulty others have in moving forward. The novel suggests forgiveness is essential for healing but is not always easy to achieve.

Q: What are some symbols used in "Tears of a Tiger"?

A: Key symbols include the tiger, representing Andy's emotional state, and fire, which is linked to Robbie's death and Andy's inner turmoil.

Q: How does peer pressure influence the events in the novel?

A: Peer pressure contributes to the decision to drink and drive, ultimately leading to the tragic accident. The novel examines how group dynamics can impact individual choices.

Q: What message does "Tears of a Tiger" send about mental health awareness?

A: The novel urges readers to recognize the importance of mental health, the need for open communication, and the risks of ignoring emotional distress among young people.

Q: How does Andy's family cope with his death?

A: Andy's family, especially his younger brother Monty, struggles to understand and process the loss. The novel depicts the ripple effect of suicide on loved ones and the need for community support.

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Tears of a Tiger: Questions and Answers - Unpacking the Emotional Depth

Have you ever felt the raw power of unspoken emotions, the weight of secrets pressing down like a suffocating blanket? Carole Wilkinson's *Tears of a Tiger* masterfully explores these themes, leaving readers captivated and deeply moved. This poignant novel delves into the complex lives of several young adults grappling with grief, loss, and the challenging realities of adolescence. If you've just finished reading *Tears of a Tiger* or are about to embark on this emotional journey, this comprehensive guide provides answers to common questions and helps you delve deeper into the

novel's compelling narrative. We'll unravel the intricate plot, explore the character development, and uncover the profound messages woven throughout this unforgettable story.

Understanding the Core Themes of Tears of a Tiger

Grief and Loss: A Central Motif

Tears of a Tiger isn't just a story; it's an exploration of grief in its many forms. The sudden death of Andy is the catalyst for the novel, triggering a cascade of emotional responses from the surviving characters. The book honestly portrays the various stages of grief, from denial and anger to acceptance and healing. Each character processes Andy's death differently, revealing the unique and complex nature of mourning.

Exploring the Different Responses to Grief

This nuanced portrayal of grief is one of the novel's greatest strengths. We see the raw, unfiltered pain of Rob, the guilt and self-blame of his friends, and the subtle shifts in family dynamics. Wilkinson doesn't shy away from the messy realities of loss, showcasing how it can manifest in unexpected ways.

Friendship and Loyalty: Navigating the Complexities

The friendships in Tears of a Tiger are far from perfect. They're tested by secrets, betrayals, and the overwhelming weight of shared grief. The novel explores the complexities of adolescent relationships, highlighting the importance of loyalty and support, even in the face of adversity.

The Importance of Communication and Trust

The characters' struggles to communicate effectively and confront their issues underlines the importance of open communication and trust in healthy relationships. Their journey toward understanding and forgiveness serves as a powerful reminder of the resilience of human connection.

Guilt and Responsibility: Facing the Aftermath

The accident that takes Andy's life casts a long shadow, leaving the surviving characters grappling with feelings of guilt and responsibility. The novel examines how these feelings can manifest, leading to self-destructive behaviors and strained relationships.

Learning to Forgive Oneself and Others

The process of confronting guilt and accepting responsibility is a central theme. The characters' eventual journey towards self-forgiveness and acceptance of others is a powerful testament to the human capacity for growth and healing.

Key Characters and Their Journeys

Rob: The Protagonist's Struggle with Guilt and Grief

Rob's internal struggle is the heart of the novel. He wrestles with overwhelming guilt, impacting his relationships and self-perception. His journey towards accepting his role in the accident and forgiving himself is a crucial aspect of the story's emotional arc.

Andy: The Unseen Influence

Even in death, Andy remains a significant presence. His memory acts as a catalyst for change and self-reflection among his friends and family. The novel subtly reveals his personality through the memories and perspectives of those who knew him.

Other Key Characters and Their Roles

The supporting characters – the other friends, family members, and even peripheral figures – all contribute to the rich tapestry of the narrative. Their stories intertwine with Rob's, adding layers of complexity and depth to the overall plot.

Unpacking the Ending and its Significance

The ending of *Tears of a Tiger* is not neatly tied up with a bow. Instead, it offers a realistic depiction of the ongoing process of healing and growth. While there's no complete resolution to the grief and loss, the characters demonstrate progress and a glimmer of hope for the future. The ambiguity allows readers to reflect on their own experiences with loss and healing.

Conclusion

Tears of a Tiger is more than just a young adult novel; it's a powerful exploration of human emotions, resilience, and the enduring power of friendship. By confronting difficult themes with honesty and sensitivity, Carole Wilkinson has created a story that resonates deeply with readers long after they turn the final page. The novel's impact lies in its ability to stir empathy and encourage self-reflection on our own experiences with grief, loss, and the complexities of human relationships.

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

1. What is the main conflict in Tears of a Tiger? The central conflict stems from the aftermath of a tragic accident, leading to intense feelings of guilt, grief, and the unraveling of friendships and family dynamics.
2. What is the significance of the title, "Tears of a Tiger"? The title symbolizes the hidden strength and vulnerability within the characters, who, like tigers, may appear strong on the outside, but are capable of deep emotion and sorrow.
3. Is Tears of a Tiger suitable for all age groups? While suitable for young adults, some of the themes might be challenging for younger readers. Parental guidance is recommended for sensitive audiences.
4. How does the novel portray masculinity? The novel challenges traditional notions of masculinity by showing vulnerability and the complexities of emotional expression in male characters.
5. What are the key lessons learned in Tears of a Tiger? The novel teaches the importance of facing difficult emotions, the power of forgiveness, and the enduring strength found in supportive relationships.

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and old enemies must be faced. In the end he must stand up to his stepfather alone in a blazing confrontation. In this second book of the Hazelwood High trilogy, Sharon M. Draper has woven characters and events from *Tears of a Tiger* in an unflinchingly realistic portrayal of poverty and child abuse. It is an inspiring story of a young man who rises above the tragic circumstances of his life by drawing on the love and strength of family and friends.

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A profoundly moving story of family, secrets, and longing, *Everything I Never Told You* is both a gripping page-turner and a sensitive family portrait, uncovering the ways in which mothers and daughters, fathers and sons, and husbands and wives struggle, all their lives, to understand one another.

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with up to three clauses, introducing more complex uses of present perfect simple, passives, phrasal verbs and simple relative clauses. It is well supported by illustrations, which appear regularly. One day, Bruno's father gets a new job, and the family have to move from Berlin, Germany, to a new place. There is a strange camp at the end of the garden. Bruno is very unhappy and bored until he meets Shmuel. The two boys become very good friends. But why is Shmuel in the camp? And why is he wearing striped pyjamas? Visit the Penguin Readers website Register to access online resources including tests, worksheets and answer keys. Exclusively with the print edition, readers can unlock a digital book and audio edition (not available with the eBook).

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tears of a tiger questions and answers: Romiette and Julio Sharon M. Draper, 2010-12-07 Do you feel the soul of another calling to you? Do you know in your heart that your destiny and his were meant to merge In the cosmos? We can help you find him. When Romiette Cappelle and her best friend, Destiny, decide to order The Scientific Soul Mate System from the back of Heavy Hunks magazine, they're not sure what they're getting into. But Destiny, a self-proclaimed psychic, assures Romi that for \$44.99 plus shipping and handling, it's the only way they're ever going to find out who their soul mates really are. If nothing else, maybe Romi will get some insight into that recurring dream she's been having about fire and water. But they never expect that the scented candle and tube of dream ointment will live up to their promises and merge Romiette's destiny with that of Julio Montague, a boy she's just met in the cosmos of an Internet chat room. It turns out they go to the same high school, not to mention having almost the same names as Shakespeare's famous lovers! Sweet-scented dreams of Julio have almost overtaken Romi's nightmares... ..when suddenly they return, but this time in real life. It seems the Devildogs, a local gang, violently oppose the relationship of Romiette and Julio. Soon they find themselves haunted by the purple-clad shadows of the gang, and the fire and water of Romiette's dream merge in ways more terrifying -- and ultimately more affirming -- than even Destiny could have foreseen.

tears of a tiger questions and answers: *The Stepping Off Place* Cameron Kelly Rosenblum, 2020-07-28 From debut author Cameron Kelly Rosenblum comes a stunning teen novel that tackles love, grief, and mental health as one girl must process her friend's death and ultimately learn how to stand in her own light. Perfect for fans of *All the Bright Places* and *We Were Liars*. It's the summer before senior year. Reid is in the thick of Scofield High's in-crowd thanks to her best friend, Hattie, who has been her social oxygen since middle school. But summer is when Hattie goes to her family's Maine island home. Instead of sitting inside for eight weeks, waiting for her to return, Reid and their friend, Sam, enter into a pact—to live it up, one party at a time. But days before Hattie is due home, Reid finds out the shocking news that Hattie has died by suicide. Driven by a desperate need to understand what went wrong, Reid searches for answers. In doing so, she uncovers painful secrets about the person she thought she knew better than herself. And the truth will force Reid to reexamine everything.

tears of a tiger questions and answers: *Why Does He Do That?* Lundy Bancroft, 2003-09-02 In this groundbreaking bestseller, Lundy Bancroft—a counselor who specializes in working with abusive men—uses his knowledge about how abusers think to help women recognize when they are being controlled or devalued, and to find ways to get free of an abusive relationship. He says he loves you. So...why does he do that? You've asked yourself this question again and again. Now you have the chance to see inside the minds of angry and controlling men—and change your life. In *Why Does He Do That?* you will learn about: • The early warning signs of abuse • The nature of abusive

mysterious past comes back to haunt her. From bestselling and award-winning author and illustrator Peter Brown comes a heartwarming and action-packed novel about what happens when nature and technology collide.

tears of a tiger questions and answers: Copper Sun Sharon M. Draper, 2012-06-19 A Time Best YA Book of All Time (2021) In this “searing work of historical fiction” (Booklist), Coretta Scott King Award-winning author Sharon M. Draper tells the epic story of a young girl torn from her African village, sold into slavery, and stripped of everything she has ever known—except hope. Amari's life was once perfect. Engaged to the handsomest man in her tribe, adored by her family, and fortunate enough to live in a beautiful village, it never occurred to her that it could all be taken away in an instant. But that was what happened when her village was invaded by slave traders. Her family was brutally murdered as she was dragged away to a slave ship and sent to be sold in the Carolinas. There she was bought by a plantation owner and given to his son as a birthday present. Now, survival is all Amari can dream about. As she struggles to hold on to her memories, she also begins to learn English and make friends with a white indentured servant named Molly. When an opportunity to escape presents itself, Amari and Molly seize it, fleeing South to the Spanish colony in Florida at Fort Mose. Along the way, their strength is tested like never before as they struggle against hunger, cold, wild animals, hurricanes, and people eager to turn them in for reward money. The hope of a new life is all that keeps them going, but Florida feels so far away and sometimes Amari wonders how far hopes and dreams can really take her.

tears of a tiger questions and answers: Indian No More Charlene Willing McManis, Traci Sorell, 2023-07-12 When Regina's Umpqua tribe is legally terminated and her family must relocate from Oregon to Los Angeles, she goes on a quest to understand her identity as an Indian despite being so far from home.

tears of a tiger questions and answers: The Battle of Jericho Sharon M. Draper, 2011-04-05 Sixteen-year-old Jericho is awaiting initiation to the Warriors of Distinction, the oldest and most exclusive club in school—but how high a price will he have to pay to belong? Find out in this first novel in Sharon M. Draper's Jericho Trilogy. When Jericho is invited to pledge for the Warriors of Distinction, he thinks his life can't get any better. As the most exclusive club in school, the Warriors give the best parties, go out with the hottest girls, and great grades are a given. When Arielle, one of the finest girls in his class, starts coming on to him once the pledge announcements are made, Jericho is determined to do anything to become a member... But as the initiation week becomes progressively harrowing, Jericho is forced to make choices he's not entirely comfortable with. And one member seems to have it in for the sole female pledge in the group...a pledge who will stop at nothing to show she can handle the pressure. But when is she being pushed too far, and when should Jericho and his friends step in and risk losing their places in the pledging process? As Jericho becomes increasingly uneasy, his cousin Joshua breezes through the initiation, never thinking of the consequences, even when the fine line between fun and games, and life and death is crossed.

tears of a tiger questions and answers: Tiger Woods Jeff Benedict, Armen Keteyian, 2019-04-02 The inspiration for the HBO documentary from Academy Award-winning producer Alex Gibney. The #1 New York Times bestseller based on years of reporting and interviews with more than 250 people from every corner of Tiger Woods's life—this “comprehensive, propulsive...and unsparing” (The New Yorker) biography is “an ambitious 360-degree portrait of golf's most scrutinized figure...brimming with revealing details” (Golf Digest). In 2009, Tiger Woods was the most famous athlete on the planet, a transcendent star of almost unfathomable fame and fortune living what appeared to be the perfect life. But it turned out he had been living a double life for years—one that exploded in the aftermath of a Thanksgiving night crash that exposed his serial infidelity and sent his personal and professional lives over a cliff. In this “searing biography of golf's most blazing talent” (GOLF magazine), Jeff Benedict and Armen Keteyian dig deep behind the headlines to produce a richly reported answer to the question that has mystified millions of sports fans for nearly a decade: who is Tiger Woods, really? Drawing on more than four hundred interviews with people from every corner of Woods's life—many of whom have never spoken about him on the

record before—Benedict and Keteyian construct a captivating psychological profile of a mixed race child programmed by an attention-grabbing father and the original Tiger Mom to be the “chosen one,” to change not just the game of golf, but the world as well. But at what cost? Benedict and Keteyian provide the startling answers in this definitive biography that is destined to linger in the minds of readers for years to come. “Irresistible...Immensely readable...Benedict and Keteyian bring us along for the ride in a whirlwind of a biography that reads honest and true” (The Wall Street Journal). Ultimately, Tiger Woods is “a big American story...exhilarating, depressing, tawdry, and moving in almost equal measure” (The New York Times).

tears of a tiger questions and answers: The Old Man of the Moon Shen Fu, 2015-02-26
'Our passion was so great. Will the Old Man understand and help us once again?' The Old Man of the Moon is Shen Fu's intimate and moving account of his marriage - from early passion to the trials of poverty and separation - and his great, enduring love for his wife in eighteenth-century China. Introducing Little Black Classics: 80 books for Penguin's 80th birthday. Little Black Classics celebrate the huge range and diversity of Penguin Classics, with books from around the world and across many centuries. They take us from a balloon ride over Victorian London to a garden of blossom in Japan, from Tierra del Fuego to 16th-century California and the Russian steppe. Here are stories lyrical and savage; poems epic and intimate; essays satirical and inspirational; and ideas that have shaped the lives of millions. Shen Fu (born c. 1763). Shen Fu's work is available in Penguin Classics in *Six Records of a Floating Life*.

tears of a tiger questions and answers: Sicily, It's Not Quite Tuscany Shamus Sillar, 2012
Packed with history, culture, misadventure, and a little Mafioso action, the story of a newly married couple and the year they spent in Sicily Gill and I had dreamt of living in Italy for as long as we'd been together. This is the story of an Aussie couple who sought a Mediterranean Sea change only to find themselves in the sprawling Sicilian city of Catania—the anti-Tuscany of Italy. There, any romantic visions they'd had of restoring a villa or stamping their entwined feet in vats of Chianti grapes disappeared faster than the chief witness in a Cosa Nostra trial. Shamus and Gill's tiny apartment in Catania was located in a grim neighborhood opposite a triple-X cinema and a shop selling coffins, nearby Mount Etna erupted soon after their arrival, a mystery ailment left Shamus in a neck brace, they crashed a Vespa, and they had regular dealings with at least one Mafioso. This, then, is an Italian sea change with grit. But it's also a story of optimism, endurance, and acceptance; an exploration of the minutiae of Sicilian culture, history, food, and religion; and an example of how to find beauty—and humor—in the most unexpected of places.

tears of a tiger questions and answers: Fog a Dox Bruce Pascoe, 2013
Albert Cutts is a tree feller. A fella who cuts down trees. Fog is a fox cub raised by a dingo. He's called a dox because people are suspicious of foxes and Albert Cutts owns the dingo and now the dox. Albert is a bushman and lives a remote life surrounded by animals and birds. All goes well until Albert has an accident ... This is a story of courage, acceptance and respect. It is reminiscent of the gentle story-telling style of Australian author Alan Marshall (*I can jump puddles*). The dialogue is finely crafted and Indigenous cultural knowledge and awareness are seamlessly integrated into the story.

tears of a tiger questions and answers: The Tale of Custard the Dragon Ogden Nash, Amy Blackwell, 2014

tears of a tiger questions and answers: *The Necropsy Book* John McKain King, L. Roth-Johnson, M. E. Newson, 2007

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