



I Want a Pet Tiger

我想養老虎

Author: Wei-Hsuan Wang **Illustrator:** Meng-Yun Chiang

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BFT2.0 Translator: Rachel Wang Yung-Hsin

This warm, hilarious, and light-hearted book follows a boy's dream of keeping a tiger, prompting his family to face the challenges of caring for a large wild animal. Through parent-child reading sessions, the book encourages discussions about wildlife conservation and interspecies friendship. Its unique illustration style, combined with lively text, captivates both children and adults, making it relatable and engaging for readers of all ages.



Author **Wei-Hsuan Wang**

Wei-Hsuan Wang graduated from the Journalism Department at National Chengchi University and holds a Master's degree in Social Work from National Taiwan University. Having lived in several cities, she now resides in Melbourne, where she is delving into the study of play therapy. She has a deep love for children, cats, and walking in nature. Her dream is to write stories that are both humorous and heartwarming, appealing to both adults and children.



Illustrator **Meng-Yun Chiang**

Meng-Yun Chiang is an illustrator who specializes in picture books. She enjoys experimenting with different media in her artwork and has a particular fondness for drawing cat bellies and dog noses. Through her creative endeavors, she strives to produce warm, thoughtful pieces that resonate with readers.

How Difficult Is It to Keep a Tiger as a Pet?

by Shiuan Chiang

What kind of animal makes the perfect pet? A quiet cat, an energetic dog, or a beautiful fish that thrives in an aquarium? Children often dream up adorable fantasies about the pets they'd love to have. *I Want a Pet Tiger* begins with a young boy who loves animals and dreams of having a majestic and powerful tiger as a pet.

Although the family already has a fish, a cat, and a turtle, the boy feels that each of them has their flaws. So, he decides he wants to raise a tiger! The entire family visits the zoo to consult with a zookeeper, and to their surprise, the zoo happens to have a tiger in need of a foster home. They bring the large tiger home, only to discover that living with a tiger is a monumental challenge.

Illustrator Meng Yun Chiang brings this fantastical adventure to life with watercolor and hand-painted textures,

paired with dynamic, emotion-filled compositions. From the moment the boy and his family first encounter the tiger, their astonished expressions, juxtaposed with the enormous tiger in the foreground, make it clear that this is no ordinary pet—it's a majestic and powerful creature.

As the story unfolds, the family becomes increasingly busy and overwhelmed trying to care for the tiger. Eventually, they collapse in their chaotic, messy home, while the tiger, still full of energy, explores every corner, clearly having a great time. Fortunately, the tiger's new home at the zoo is ready, and the family returns it there, leaving the boy with warm memories as he settles back into life with his original pets.

The rich details in each scene provide perfect opportunities for parent-child conversations during read-aloud sessions, with every reading offering the

potential for new interpretations of the story. Author Wei Hsuan Wang, drawing on her background in social work and her experiences as a kindergarten teacher during the pandemic, crafted this story to reflect the joys and challenges of caring for others.

This beautifully illustrated picture book sparks meaningful discussions about pets and responsibility. What should parents do if their child ever asks to raise a tiger?

The blend of realistic and fantastical elements in the story expands the discussion beyond a simple "no." It encourages children to think critically about the practical challenges of living with a tiger—such as feeding, bathroom needs, bathing, and sleeping—and the potential problems that might arise. While the difficulties of raising a tiger become apparent, the family ultimately understands that their home may not be suitable for such a majestic creature.

Despite this realization, the

illustrations convey happy yet reluctant expressions, highlighting the strong emotional bond within the family and their deep love for animals. In the end, the warm and imaginative conclusion allows the boy to rediscover the lovable qualities of his original pets.

Born and raised in Taipei, with chapters of life spent in Hsinchu, Tainan, and London, Shiuan Chiang is captivated by all things that add an extraordinary touch to everyday life—whether it's museums, idol groups, or literature. Once an avid novel reader, she recently noticed her bookshelves filling up with nonfiction. With a background in anthropology and art history, much of her time is spent reading and crafting descriptions of museum exhibitions and artifacts. When not immersed in these pursuits, she enjoys knitting or baking, indulging in the simple joys of creativity and craftsmanship.



On the way home, everyone is looking at us,

because sitting on top of our car is a

MIGHTY BIG TIGER!



All day long, Big Tiger and I

stride about,

roaring loudly,

leaping up and jumping down.

Big Tiger is so awesome and so impressive!

