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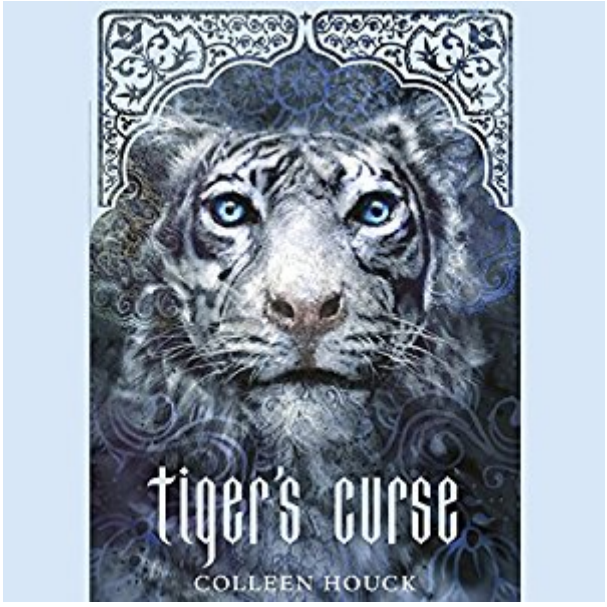
Tiger's Curse



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Synopsis

The last thing teenager Kelsey Hayes thought she'd be doing over the summer was meeting Ren, a mysterious white tiger and cursed Indian prince! When she learns she alone can break the Tiger's curse, Kelsey's life is turned upside-down. The unlikely duo journeys halfway around the world to piece together an Indian prophecy, find a way to free the man trapped by a centuries-old spell, and discover the path to their true destiny.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

First Impressions: Tiger's Curse had been on my wish list for a very long time and I was excited to finally get the chance to read and review it. I'll admit that the cover art definitely had a major impression on me, but the subject matter is awesome too. I've always loved tigers and I thought that the plot of this book was very unique. I don't think I've read any other books about Indian curses and white tigers! I've heard nothing too negative being said about Tiger's Curse so I had very high hopes that I would enjoy it as well.First 50 Pages: I immediately really liked Colleen Houcks writing style. It is very simple, yet her plot is intricate and generally well done. One of my favorite parts of the story was the Indian setting and the attention the author paid to details when she set up her scenes. The mythology aspect of Tiger's Curse was wonderful and it was one of the best aspects of the story. It was pretty apparent that the author did her research in regards to the Indian culture. Now with that said, there were some grammatical errors that slightly bugged me and the dialogue wasn't as good as it could have been, but overall, the beginning of the book had me hooked and I couldn't put it down once I started to read.Characters & Plot: The plot of Tiger's Curse follows the

story of a girl named Kelsey who works at a circus taking care of a rare white tiger named Ren. A few weeks into Kelsey's job, a man named Mr. Kadam shows up to give Kelsey and Ren an opportunity most people only dream of having. The man buys Ren and Kelsey goes to India to be Ren's caretaker. I did find it kind of strange that Kelsey's foster parents had no issues with allowing Kelsey to go away, especially to a completely different country, but hey! This is just a story, right?

This novel suffers from an unfortunate case of poor execution despite a great premise. I completely agree with all the 1-star reviews here, and as a sucker for shifter fiction and paranormal fantasies, I desperately wanted to like this book. But alas. I'm no stranger to suspending my disbelief to crazy stuff. It's the "ordinary" stuff, the way it's written, that throws me off.The biggest problem for me is the forced, stilted, and unauthentic voice of the main character. I'm not much older than her, and believe me, no eighteen year old ever talks like that. The nerds (including myself) don't talk like that. My high school's valedictorian doesn't talk like that. Even in period drama like Downton Abbey (big fan, by the way) I've never heard anyone say "a sad sequence of events." So if even the stuffy yet well-versed post-Edwardian aristocrats don't talk like that, you've got a problem. The main character reminds me of those gunners and overachievers in my pre-med classes, who throw around big words to sound smart. SAT words stay in the SAT, kids. When you can't make the main character believable and relatable, it's all the reader ever thinks about instead of enjoying the story. Mundane things are drawn out with soporific, sleep-inducing description, while the scenes that actually need impact and attention barely get both. That's not how it works. Perhaps it's to keep from writing dialogue, which seems to be the author's weak point. All this keeps me from enjoying what could potentially be a compelling narrative. Unfortunately the whole thing falls flat on its face.Finally, as a POC myself, I'm all for more POC characters, cultures, and mythologies being featured and given justice in the world of writing, but this isn't the best place to find that.

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