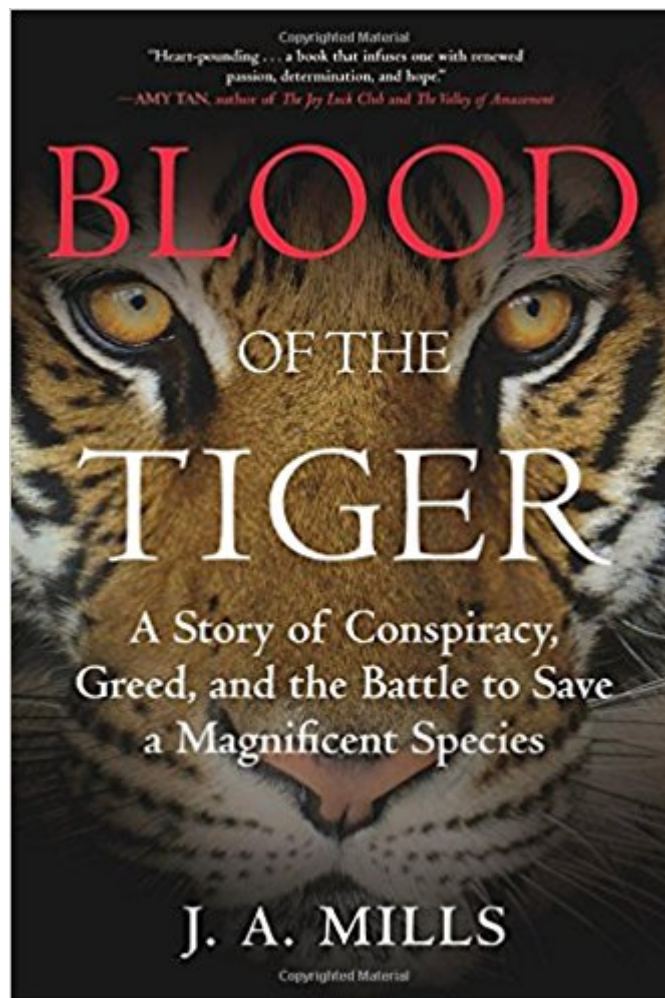




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Blood Of The Tiger: A Story Of Conspiracy, Greed, And The Battle To Save A Magnificent Species



Synopsis

Blood of the Tiger takes readers on a wild ride to save one of the world's rarest animals from a band of Chinese billionaires. Many people think wild tigers are on the road to recovery, but they are in greater danger than ever from a menace few experts saw coming. There may be only three thousand wild tigers left in the entire world. More shocking is the fact that twice that many—some six thousand—have been bred on farms, not for traditional medicine but to supply a luxury-goods industry that secretly sells tiger-bone wine, tiger-skin décor, and exotic cuisine enjoyed by China's elite. Two decades ago, international wildlife investigator J. A. Mills went undercover to expose bear farming in China and discovered the plot to turn tigers into nothing more than livestock. Thus begins the story of a personal crusade in which Mills mobilizes international forces to awaken the world to a conspiracy so pervasive that it threatens every last tiger in the wild. In this memoir of triumph, heartbreak, and geopolitical intrigue, Mills and a host of heroic comrades try to thwart a Chinese cadre's plan to launch billion-dollar industries banking on the extinction of not just wild tigers but also elephants and rhinos. Her journey takes her across Asia, into the jungles of India and Nepal, to Russia and Africa, traveling by means from elephant back to presidential motorcade, in the company of man-eaters, movie stars, and world leaders. She finds reason for hope in the increasing number of Chinese who do not want the blood of the last wild tigers to stain their beloved culture and motherland. Set against the backdrop of China's ascendance to world dominance, Blood of the Tiger tells of a global fight to rein in the forces of greed on behalf of one of the world's most treasured and endangered animals.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

“A telling inside view of 20 years in international tiger conservation work, including the successes, failures and the work that is still required.”

—Kirkus Reviews

“Readers become emotionally invested in Mills’s message.”

—Publishers Weekly

“[J. A. Mills] tells an absorbing insider story of trying to save truly wild tigers, a battle that is not yet won.”

—Booklist

“If you love animals, you must buy this book. J. A. Mills exposes the trade in endangered animals with zest, verve, and outrage. A stunning read.”

—J. Maarten Troost, author of *Headhunters on My Doorstep* and *Lost on Planet China*

“Blood of the Tiger is a heart-pounding read that takes us along on J. A. Mills’s journey through the dark and sometimes dangerous realities of wildlife conservation. Mills is detective, double agent, and guide through a mapless labyrinth of politics, cultural differences, and the economics of greed and poverty. This book is a potent antidote to the despair and helplessness many of us feel observing the race to save tigers and other endangered species—a book that infuses one with renewed passion, determination, and hope.”

—Amy Tan, author of *The Joy Luck Club*

“By turns thrilling and sobering, *Blood of the Tiger* is an urgent, heroic book that takes you undercover and behind the scenes of today’s global, multi-billion-dollar illegal wildlife trade. A must-read for conservationists and anyone concerned about the fate of wildlife on this planet.”

—John Vaillant, author of *The Tiger: A True Story of Vengeance and Survival*

“Blood of the Tiger may be the most important book you read this year. It will make your blood boil—but also make your heart sing. J. A. Mills’s courageous and captivating investigation of the trade in tiger body parts reveals some sickening secrets, as well as showcasing fearless, creative heroes. Read this roller coaster of a book and take action for tigers—before it’s too late.”

—Sy Montgomery, author of *Spell of the Tiger*

“What an extraordinary, must-read book for anyone interested in international wildlife policy!”

—From her seat at the center of it all, J. A. Mills has pulled back the curtain on the global effort to save the tiger and in doing so has given the world a primer for any effort to save the world’s iconic species: tigers, elephants, rhinos, whales, and more.

—Endangered species need accountability. *Blood of the Tiger* makes those who got us here accountable.

—Bryan Christy, director of special investigations at National Geographic and author of *The*

Lizard King – “Personal, engaging, shocking, informative. J. A. Mills exposes the dark secrets of the tiger trade and bares her soul, her passion, and her determination to bring about change. I believe there is still hope for wild tigers. Blood of the Tiger is real and raw, intelligent and compelling, and in the final analysis, a story that must not be ignored.” – Will Travers, OBE, president of the Born Free Foundation
“A memoir of triumph and heartbreak that aims to uncover the truth surrounding the threats to one of the world’s most treasured and endangered animals.” – Your Cat magazine

J. A. Mills has worked for TRAFFIC, World Wildlife Fund, Conservation International, and Save the Tiger Fund. She is now a consultant to the MacArthur Foundation and lives in Washington, DC.

If you care about the wild world this book is a must-read. Mills writes of her years in conservation naming names and documenting the political realities behind the mass killing of some of our most charismatic species. The fact that humanity has largely failed in preserving the habitats of our wild neighbors is brought to the fore, as well as the cultural phenomena and illusions that fuel today’s poachers and multinational crime syndicates which profit from the decimation of tigers, rhinos, elephants and more. How we got here and how we can change the future make this a hopeful study of what we can actually do to make the world safe for wild life.

While this is a very important story to tell the book lacks intrigue. I was hoping for more stories from the field mixed with the efforts to effect change from the office. This is not a criticism of the author and her motives, just a desire on my part to read about feet on the ground stories from the jungle. We learn the ins and outs of wildlife conservation as played by the big NGOs which can be frustrating for those of us wanting to see more action and less politicking. I recommend the book for anyone interested in how large scale conservation takes place on the international stage. For those more interested in the research end of conservation I would direct you to books authored by Alan Rabinowitz.

A must read for all the pro trade lobbyists who think rhino horn trade should be legalised. J.A. Mills illustrates how China’s superpower status and disregard for CITES’s role in endangered wildlife protection needs to be seriously addressed. The South African government is intent on applying to the COP in 2016 to have the rhino horn trade ban lifted. This will give China impetus to reverse its domestic trade bans on tiger and rhino parts. Quite an eye opener to the behind-the-scenes political

intrigue of CITES and the lack of political will amongst leaders.

This is a fantastic book by a seasoned conservationist. As a professional wildlife conservationist, I can say that the story gives a great insider's view into how the "sausage gets made", as well as how conservation as a field is just not succeeding. The biodiversity crisis would certainly be worse without the courageous work of nonprofits, but nowadays the best outcomes are about holding the line, not dazzling successes. The messy politics that are well documented in Mills book gives some strong reasons why this is so.

As I first opened this book I couldn't put it down. The heart pounding twists on this search to discover the hidden truth on how countries cover up the abuse of power to further the demise of some of our most beautiful creatures is captivating. J. A. Mills writes in a way that touches all of your senses. I could smell the scents and taste what she was describing. It gave me a profound desire to do more, to think more about endangered animals that I have taken for granted would always roam our world. Blood of the Tiger opens your awareness to the truth. Mills give a voice to these magnificent animals.

If you care about tigers this book will teach you more about what is really leading to their demise than anything you have ever read before. Grippingly told by an expert story teller and yet so full of facts, that you will learn more than you thought possible.

This is an excellent book, and a particularly interesting read right now given the increasing international attention to wildlife trafficking. Both an informative expose and a gripping story, Blood of the Tiger provides incredible insights into the complex forces driving tigers to extinction and what can be done to stop them.

Mills is a veteran of the wildlife trafficking and conservation issues she writes about. Her story is captivating and will leave you fired up to speak out for tigers, elephants and other animals threatened with extinction. In the US we can start by urging Congress to pass the Big Cat Protection Act.

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