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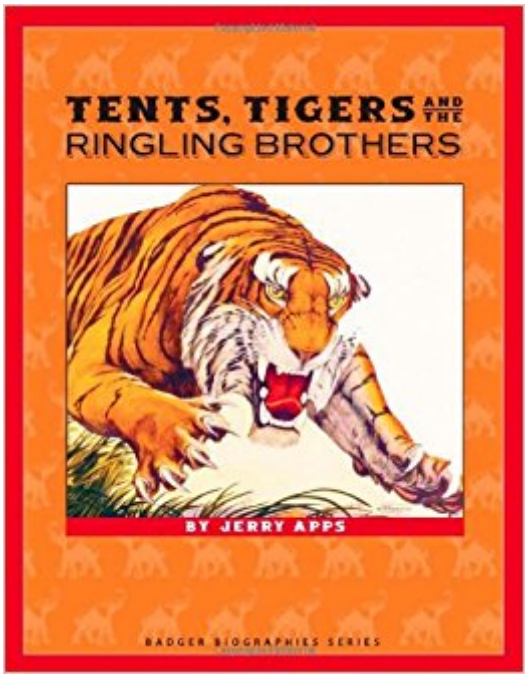
Tents, Tigers And The Ringling Brothers (Badger Biographies Series)



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Synopsis

This addition to the Badger Biographies series for young readers features the story of the young Ringling brothers of circus fame. The book tells the inspiring story of the seven sons of German and French immigrants who were guided by their dreams to escape poverty through hard work and ambition. These entrepreneurial brothers moved with their parents to Baraboo, Wisconsin where their fantastic circus adventure began. With no prior circus experience, the brothers tackled one of the riskiest businesses of the time. Each brother contributed his unique talents to make their enterprise successful. The Ringling brothers were admired for their technological innovations, strategy, and devotion to education. They were also esteemed for their genuine appreciation of their audience.

Book Information

Series: Badger Biographies Series

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Age Range: 7 - 12 years

Grade Level: 2 - 7

Customer Reviews

The Ringling brothers grew up in a Mississippi river town where every summer they saw circuses, which were brought to the town on riverboats. Several of the seven brothers became performers themselves, and they dreamed of owning a circus. Eventually, all of the brothers became involved in the circus enterprise, each taking a different business role. Much of this book, which is part of the Badger Biography series, focuses on the Ringlings' day-to-day struggles to keep the circus going as

they traveled from town to town in wagons and, later, in railcars. Additional chapters describe the care of the animals and the circus' winter quarters in Baraboo, Wisconsin. Black-and-white period photographs appear on nearly every page and illuminate almost every activity, from the raising of the big top to the training of the elephants. Back pages include suggested classroom activities, further readings, and a concise, descriptive paragraph about each brother. An illuminating account of nineteenth-century circus life for reports or browsing. Todd MorningCopyright Â© American Library Association. All rights reserved

"Jerry Apps recalls for me the poignant memories of good times and camaraderie when I worked on the circus 1937 through 1941." (Paul Ringling, grandson of Alf T. Ringling. Paul worked for the Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus when it was managed by John Ringling North)"Mr. Apps captured the spirit of the brothers who had a dream, worked together, and persevered to become one of the largest circuses in the world. Not only is this biography a wonderfully entertaining story, but it's narrated in a way that makes the reader feel a part of the growing excitement and adventure of developing a circus. Even though the vocabulary and captivating factual information is geared towards children, this is a book that can be enjoyed by young and old alike because it does resurrect that child in all of us!" (Barbara Bellmer, art specialist and teacher at Brandon School, Brandon, WI)

I would heartedly recommend this book. It is well-written, accurate and entertaining. It is a quick read and a testament to hard work of men that moved an army every day!Jack Stengel

It was fine,

Just the book I was looking for - fast read - full of great history, facts and pictures I can show my class of 4-year-old children and my beautiful "grand girls"

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