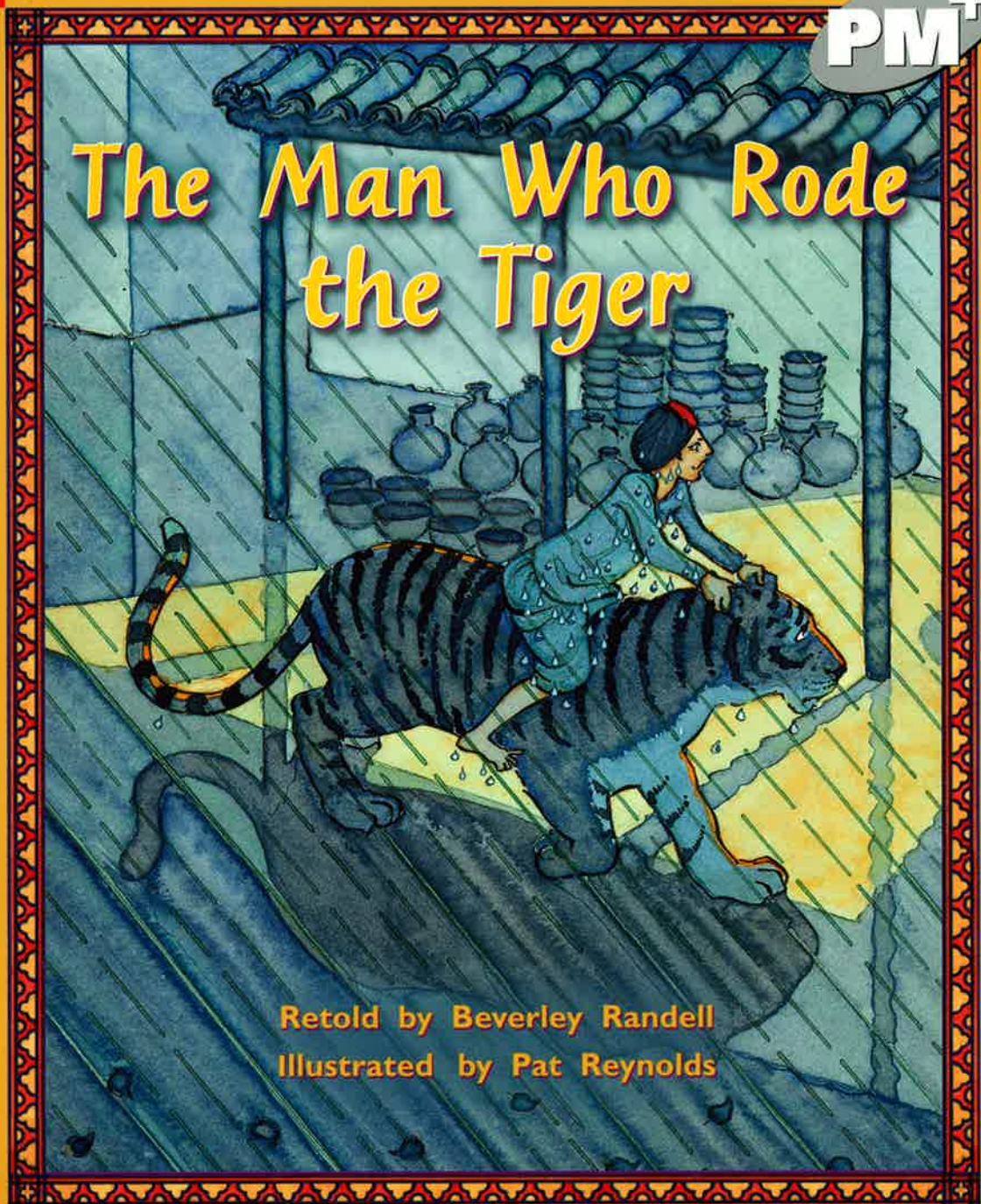
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The Man Who Rode the Tiger



Retold by Beverley Randell

Illustrated by Pat Reynolds

For teachers' inspection ONLY

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Chapter One

The Endless Dripping

Once upon a time, far away in India, a storm went on for days. The wind blew, the lightning flashed, and the rain came pouring down.

Water dripped through the roof of an old house. The poor woman who lived there ran back and forth as she tried to catch the drips in her cooking bowls.

"Will these drips never stop?" she cried. "How I hate them! I'm not frightened of thunder and lightning, but this endless dripping is driving me mad!"

She wept and wailed as she pushed her bed away from the drips. "I'm not frightened of fierce tigers, or crawling snakes, or wild elephants," she shouted. "But this endless dripping is horrible. How I wish it would go away!"

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The poor woman didn't know that a tiger was sheltering beside her house, listening to everything she said.

The tiger thought that the 'endless dripping' was a wild animal! He shivered with fright. "What does the **Endless Dripping** look like?" he wondered. "It must be more terrifying than elephants, or snakes — or even tigers!"



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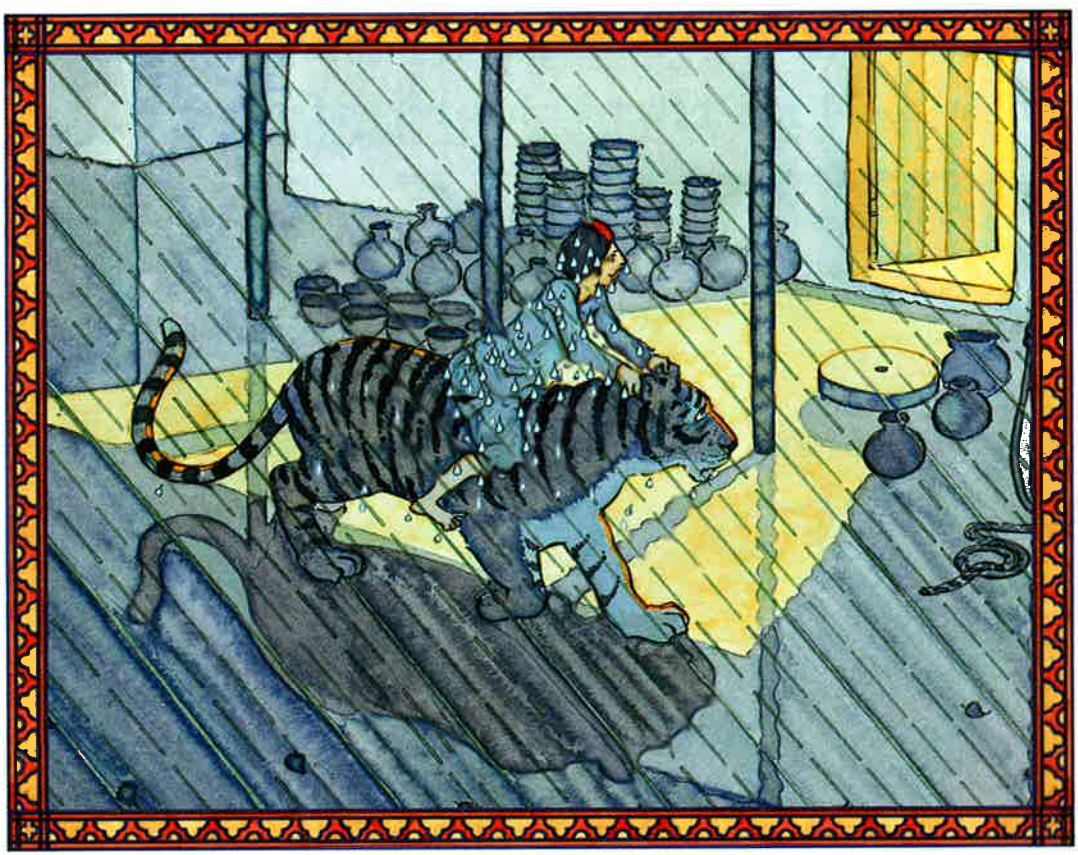
Just at that moment, a potter came walking along. He was wet to the skin, and very angry because his donkey had run away. When the potter saw the dark shape of the tiger sheltering from the rain, he thought that he had found his donkey. He crept up behind the tiger, and grabbed him by the ears.

"I'm caught," thought the tiger. "The horrible **Endless Dripping** has caught me!"

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The tiger was terrified. He was even more terrified when the potter climbed on his back, and rode him down the village street!

The night was so dark and the rain was so heavy that the potter didn't notice that he was riding a tiger! He tied the beast to a post outside his house, and went to bed.



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Chapter Two

Everyone is Astonished

The next morning, the potter's wife saw the tiger. "Do you know what beast you brought home in the storm last night?" she shrieked to her husband.

When the potter saw the tiger, he gasped. He could not believe what he had done!

