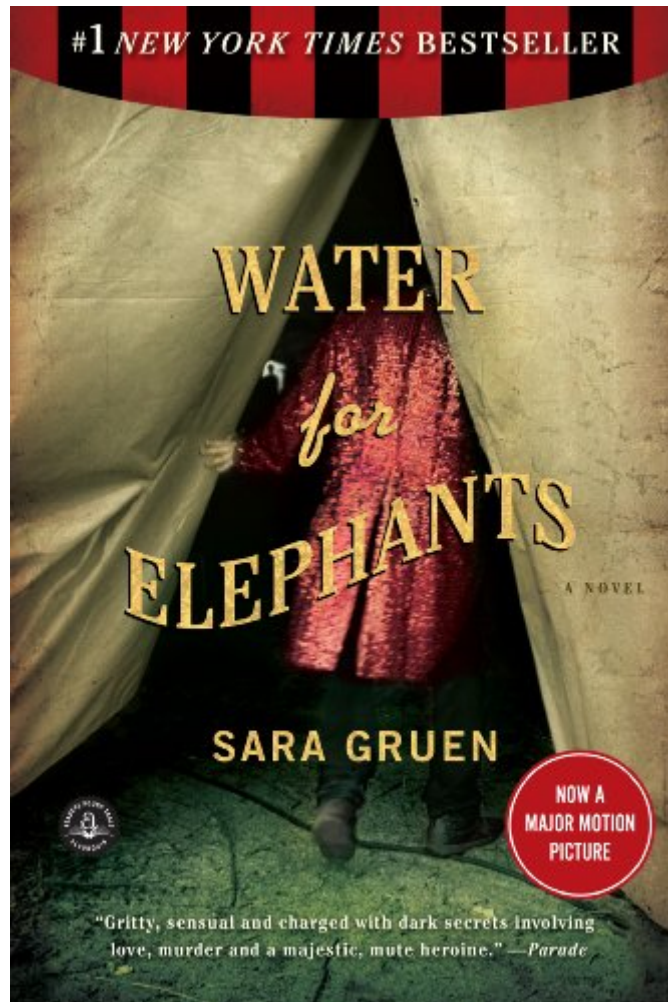


The book was found

Water For Elephants: A Novel



Synopsis

Over 10,000,000 copies in print worldwide #1 New York Times Bestseller A Los Angeles Times Bestseller A Wall Street Journal Bestseller A Newsday Favorite Book of 2006 A USA Today Bestseller A Major Motion Picture starring Reese Witherspoon, Robert Pattinson, and Christoph Waltz

Â Jacob Janowskiâ™s luck had run out--orphaned and penniless, he had no direction until he landed on a rickety train that was home to the Benzini Brothers Most Spectacular Show on Earth. A veterinary student just shy of a degree, he was put in charge of caring for the circus menagerie. It was the Great Depression and for Jacob the circus was both his salvation and a living hell. There he met Marlena, the beautiful equestrian star married to August, the charismatic but brutal animal trainer. And he met Rosie, an untrainable elephant who was the great hope for this third-rate traveling show. The bond that grew among this group of misfits was one of love and trust, and ultimately, it was their only hope for survival.

Book Information

File Size: 1873 KB

Print Length: 364 pages

Publisher: Algonquin Books (May 1, 2007)

Publication Date: May 1, 2007

Sold by:Â Digital Services LLC

Language: English

ASIN: B003I1WY2A

Text-to-Speech: Enabled

X-Ray: Enabled

Word Wise: Enabled

Lending: Not Enabled

Enhanced Typesetting: Enabled

Best Sellers Rank: #412 Paid in Kindle Store (See Top 100 Paid in Kindle Store) #3 inÂ Books > Romance > Historical > 20th Century #10 inÂ Kindle Store > Kindle eBooks > Literature & Fiction > Literary Fiction > Romance #12 inÂ Kindle Store > Kindle eBooks > Literature & Fiction > Historical Fiction > United States

Customer Reviews

Stripped of everything after his parents' untimely death, twenty-three-year old Jacob Jankowski has failed to sit for his veterinary exams at Cornell, left with no home and no future, the country

struggling through the Great Depression, bartering in goods instead of money. Hopping a train that by chance belongs to The Flying Squadron of the Benzini Brothers Most Spectacular Show on Earth, Jacob hires on to care for the menagerie, his training an entre into this bizarre world; but as the novel begins, Jacob is an old man, restricted to an assisted living home, his memories sparked by a nearby visiting circus and a creeping helplessness that assaults his ageing body: "Age is a terrible thief. Just when you think you're getting the hang of it, it knocks your legs out from under you and stoops your back." The story is related in the somber tones of the Depression, the hardscrabble and often unscrupulous business of a traveling circus and the heartless despots who make their fortunes on the backs of men who must do anything to survive. Star performer Marlana, an equestrian, is sensitive to the needs of her horses, although her mercurial husband, August, the trainer, is obsessively jealous and given to unspeakable cruelties. Uncle Al, Benzini Brothers circus owner-by-default, is a ruthless businessman who cares little for man or beast, engaged in a quest for fame to rival the great Ringling Brothers. With his advanced training in veterinary medicine, Jacob does his best to protect the animals from their harsh existence, especially Rosie, an elephant purchased to replace Marlana's lead horse. Jacob and Rosie share an affinity for one another, the huge creature at times almost human.

Although it is only April, I predict that *Water for Elephants* by Sara Gruen will be one of the best books I read this year. Gruen has proven to be an amazing storyteller. *Water for Elephants* is told in the first person but from two different perspectives--Jacob Jankowski at 23 years of age and again, at 93 years old. Gruen seamlessly weaves the chapters between past and present. Jacob at 23 is finishing up his last semester at Cornell Veterinary School when a family tragedy causes him to flee. He finds himself on a train for the Benzini Brothers Most Spectacular Show on Earth in 1931. Needing a vet, the circus hires young Jacob to tend to their menagerie. Jacob at 93 resides in a nursing home where he laments the curses of old age, the passing of his wife, and the waning affection of his family. The arrival of a visiting circus triggers a flashback to his youthful circus experiences. 1931 is a hard time for almost all Americans, and the circus workers are as hard hit as any. Most are one step away from being homeless and jobless. Conditions on the circus train are harsh for most. Many workers go weeks without being paid, and they tend to disappear during the night when times are tough (management has them thrown off the train). The menagerie is often times treated better than the workers. But the circus does provide three meals a day and a place to sleep--even if it might mean a horse blanket on a train bed floor. Jacob discovers very quickly that he's just about the only advocate the animals have and he must battle a ruthless owner (Uncle Al)

and a crazy animal trainer (August). Any circus has more than their fair share of interesting characters, and Gruen's circus is no exception.

[Download to continue reading...](#)

Water for Elephants: A Novel
Fruit Infused Water: 80 Vitamin Water Recipes for Weight Loss, Health and Detox Cleanse (Vitamin Water, Fruit Infused Water, Natural Herbal Remedies, Detox Diet, Liver Cleanse)
Water Treatment WSO: Principles and Practices of Water Supply Operations Volume 1 (Water Supply Operations Series)
Water Quality & Treatment: A Handbook on Drinking Water (Water Resources and Environmental Engineering Series)
The Wonders of Water - How H₂O Can Transform Your Life: Vitality, Detox, Weight Loss, Quality Water, Benefits (Water Health, Vitality, Weight Loss, Fruit Infused Book 1)
Solar PV Powered UV Water Treatment: How to Solar Power UV Water Sterilizing Systems for Drinking Water Onsite
Fruit Infused Water: 101 Fruit Infused Water Recipes for Weight Loss, Detox and Metabolism Boosting
Vitamin Water
Water is Life: Different Sources of Water and Ways to Conserve Them (For Early Science Learners): Nature Book for Kids - Earth Sciences (Children's Water Books)
Babar's Yoga for Elephants
ANIMAL ATTACK ! Vol 1: LIONS AND TIGERS AND BEARS... AND SHARKS... AND ALLIGATORS... AND HIPPOS... AND RHINOS... AND ELEPHANTS... AND SCORPIONS... AND SNAKES, LOTS OF SNAKES
Elephants on Acid: And Other Bizarre Experiments (Harvest Original)
Do Elephants Have Knees?: And Other Stories of Darwinian Origins
Animal Madness: How Anxious Dogs, Compulsive Parrots, and Elephants in Recovery Help Us Understand Ourselves
Gardening with Less Water: Low-Tech, Low-Cost Techniques; Use up to 90% Less Water in Your Garden
The Water-Saving Garden: How to Grow a Gorgeous Garden with a Lot Less Water
Water-Wise Plants for the Southwest (Water Gardening)
Water Gardens: A Primer on Water Gardening and Its Design Principles
Quick and Easy Container Water Gardens: Simple-To-Make Water Features and Fountains for Indoor and Outdoor Gardens
The Illustrated Practical Guide to Water & Rock Gardening: Everything You Need To Know To Design, Construct And Plant Up A Rock Or Water Garden With Directories Of Suitable Plants And How To Grow Them
Water-Quality Engineering in Natural Systems: Fate and Transport Processes in the Water Environment

[Dmca](#)