



Terrier: The Legend of Beka Cooper #1

By Tamora Pierce

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BEKA COOPER IS a rookie with the Provost's Guard, and she's been assigned to the Lower City. It's a tough beat, but Beka can hear the voices of the dead on the wings of pigeons, and Beka's birds clue her in to two major murderers on the loose. The rest of the Guard is busy investigating the fire opal killer, so it's up to Beka to nab the Shadow Snake. Tamora Pierce begins a new Tortall trilogy introducing Beka Cooper, a young woman who lived 200 years before Pierce's popular Alanna character. Pierce employs first-person narration, bringing readers even closer to a character that they will love for her unusual talents and tough personality.

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Terrier: The Legend of Beka Cooper #1 By Tamora Pierce Bibliography

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Editorial Review

Amazon.com Review

Tamora Pierce has been creating strong, appealing heroines for teen fantasy fans for years, creating 2 main universes to house her multiple series. With *Terrier*, Pierce returns to the Tortall universe (home to her Song of the Lioness, Immortals, Protector of the Small, and Daughter of the Lioness series). Want to learn more? Read an exclusive essay from Tamora Pierce below. --*Daphne Durham*

An Essay from Tamora Pierce



Sixteen-year-old Beka Cooper lives far removed from knights, palaces, and the nobility. Her world revolves around thieves, beggars, taverns, and the lowest of the low. She's a trainee for the Provost's Guard—a rookie cop, in a world where a cop makes her own name based on her personality, her attitude toward money, and her love of the law. Beka means to prove that she is out to make her mark in this hard and physical world.

She does face a large obstacle. She's shy. Painfully shy. Left to her own devices, she would have no friends. It's hard for her to talk to people she doesn't know. It's a problem for the Guards who train her, a real problem for Beka—unless she can figure out that a uniform is a kind of costume, one she can hide behind. One that will make her a more outspoken person. It will help a lot if people come to realize that under her shyness is a clever, determined young woman. It will help even more if she can make friends who can give her good advice. Luckily, she has one such friend living with her in her slum apartment: a purple-eyed black cat named Pounce. He can make himself understood in human speech if he wishes to. He's capable of doing weirdly intelligent things to help his young companion Beka. With Pounce to assist her, Beka cannot have an ordinary career.

Beka tells her own story in a journal that she keeps from her very first day as a Puppy. The Guards are dubbed "Dogs" in her time and their trainees are called "Puppies." In its pages she writes of her days with her training Dogs, the pair who are to teach her what they know of survival on the streets in the city's toughest slum. Both are veterans. Tunstall is an easygoing, funny man who can be a little crazy in a fight. Goodwin is a small, tough woman who is opposed to Beka's presence at the beginning, a hard Dog and a smart one. They take charge when Beka brings them word of two vicious sets of crimes. Like everyone else in Beka's life, her partners find out that once Beka gets a case in her teeth, she hangs onto it like a terrier until it's been solved.

I have all kinds of reasons why I went to the past of the Alanna books. In part I wanted to show how present-day Tortall came to be. I also knew George's fans would welcome any kind of return to the Lower City, even if it wasn't the Lower City of his time. I wanted to get away from the courts and nobility, the setting for so many of the Tortall books thus far. Since I didn't want to show any of the characters I've come to love as being old or even dead, I couldn't write books in the future of the current Tortall. I turned to the past, and I'm pretty sure my readers will be glad I did! --*Tamora Pierce*

From School Library Journal

Starred Review. Grade 7 Up—Orphaned Beka Cooper, 16, is a trainee-a "Puppy"-in the Provost's Guard. Having spent the first half of her life in Tortall's slums, she is driven by the need to do what is right and see justice done. Paired with two of the best Guards, or "Dogs," in the organization and aided by her own gifts of magic, Beka learns her job, makes friends with two mages and a thief, and uncovers two serial killers who prey on the poor and unnoticed. With Terrier, Pierce tries out a new style of storytelling and succeeds admirably. Beka, the ancestor of George Cooper from the "Song of the Lioness" series (S & S), tells her story through journal entries, making for a thoroughly engaging read. The characters are recognizable types, but all have their own personalities. Readers will enjoy meeting the Lady Knight Sabine of Macayhill, Alanna's precursor in profession and temperament; Rosto the Piper; and Beka's friends. The level of violence is comparable to that found in "The Circle Opens" series (Scholastic) but isn't as gratuitous. This seems mostly to be due to the journal format, which gives readers only Beka's thoughts and feelings as opposed to those of the killers as well. With its rollicking adventure, appealing characters, and inclusion of Tortall's history, Terrier will be in strong demand by Pierce's fans. It will keep readers on the edge of their seats.—*Lisa Prolman, Greenfield Public Library, MA*

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From [Booklist](#)

Having followed her signature heroine into the next generation with her Trickster duet, Pierce now looks back into the history of Tortall and finds another fierce, lovable gal who won't take any guff. Sixteen-year-old Beka Cooper, born hundreds of years before Alanna drew her first sword, has just signed on as a Puppy (trainee) with her city's crime fighters, unofficially known as the Dogs. Beka's extrasensory gifts and a firsthand understanding of her tough beat help her to "scent" two heinous criminals, whom she delivers to justice--despite the limitations of her apprentice role--by rallying a lively network of informants, mentors, and allies. Pierce deftly handles the novel's journal structure, and her clear homage to the police-procedural genre applies a welcome twist to the girl-legend-in-the-making story line. Leisurely infusions of detail frequently slow things down, but homely, often comic pauses interspersing epic deeds have become touchstones of Pierce's storytelling, and not even the strained surprise ending will prevent fans from begging for more about the avenging pup known as a "Terrier among Dogs." *Jennifer Mattson*
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Users Review

From reader reviews:

Cassandra Martin:

In this 21st centuries, people become competitive in each way. By being competitive currently, people have do something to make these individuals survives, being in the middle of the crowded place and notice simply by surrounding. One thing that often many people have underestimated this for a while is reading. Yes, by reading a reserve your ability to survive increase then having chance to stand than other is high. In your case who want to start reading some sort of book, we give you this kind of Terrier: The Legend of Beka Cooper #1 book as basic and daily reading book. Why, because this book is more than just a book.

Daniel Downey:

This book untitled Terrier: The Legend of Beka Cooper #1 to be one of several books in which best seller in this year, this is because when you read this guide you can get a lot of benefit in it. You will easily to buy this book in the book retail store or you can order it by means of online. The publisher of this book sells the

e-book too. It makes you quicker to read this book, as you can read this book in your Cell phone. So there is no reason to your account to past this reserve from your list.

Sandra Earnhardt:

Reading a reserve tends to be new life style in this era globalization. With studying you can get a lot of information that may give you benefit in your life. Along with book everyone in this world could share their idea. Guides can also inspire a lot of people. Many author can inspire their very own reader with their story or their experience. Not only the storyline that share in the textbooks. But also they write about advantage about something that you need example. How to get the good score toefl, or how to teach your young ones, there are many kinds of book which exist now. The authors in this world always try to improve their talent in writing, they also doing some exploration before they write to their book. One of them is this Terrier: The Legend of Beka Cooper #1.

Marlene Clabaugh:

In this time globalization it is important to someone to obtain information. The information will make professionals understand the condition of the world. The healthiness of the world makes the information better to share. You can find a lot of personal references to get information example: internet, newspapers, book, and soon. You can view that now, a lot of publisher this print many kinds of book. Often the book that recommended to you personally is Terrier: The Legend of Beka Cooper #1 this e-book consist a lot of the information with the condition of this world now. This particular book was represented how do the world has grown up. The terminology styles that writer use for explain it is easy to understand. The writer made some exploration when he makes this book. That's why this book ideal all of you.

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