

Blue Tigers, King Cheetahs, Black Cougars, Spotted Lions And More - The Most Fascinating Big Cats!

When we think of big cats, the first images that come to mind are usually lions, tigers, and cheetahs. These majestic creatures have captured the human imagination for centuries with their beauty, strength, and grace. But did you know that there are even more fascinating variations of these big cats? In this article, we will explore the world of blue tigers, king cheetahs, black cougars, spotted lions, and more!

Blue Tigers - Beyond Imagination

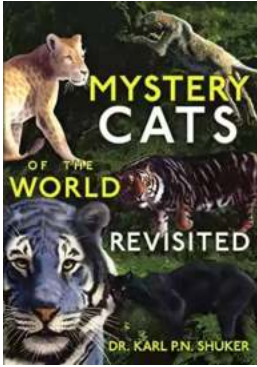
The idea of a blue tiger might sound like something out of a fantasy novel, but these extraordinary creatures do exist, although extremely rare. Blue tigers, also known as Maltese tigers, feature a bluish-gray fur, which is caused by a genetic condition known as dominant chinchilla gene. Sadly, there are no blue tigers known to exist anymore as they were only observed in captivity and no longer maintained.

One theory suggests that blue tigers roamed the forests of the Sundarbans in Bangladesh and India, but due to habitat loss and poaching, they were driven to extinction. Despite this, their existence continues to capture the imagination of big cat enthusiasts and researchers alike.

MYSTERY CATS OF THE WORLD REVISITED: Blue Tigers, King Cheetahs, Black Cougars, Spotted Lions, and More by Leigh Tate(Kindle Edition)

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Screen Reader	: Supported
Enhanced typesetting	: Enabled
Word Wise	: Enabled
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King Cheetahs - A Regal Rarity

The king cheetah is another rare and awe-inspiring big cat variation. With its striking coat, marked with larger, blotchy spots than its more commonly seen counterparts, the king cheetah is a true marvel of nature. This unique pattern is caused by a recessive gene mutation that affects their fur pattern gene.

First discovered in Zimbabwe in the early 20th century, king cheetahs were once thought to belong to a separate species, but DNA testing has confirmed that they are simply a striking variation of the cheetah species. Today, king cheetahs can be found in various parts of southern Africa, but their numbers remain incredibly low, making them a rare sight to behold.

Black Cougars - Shadows of Mystery

Black cougars, also known as black panthers or melanistic cougars, are a fascinating variation of the cougar species. While the typical cougars are known for their tan or light brown coloration, black cougars display a dark black coat due to a genetic phenomenon called melanism.

The idea of black panthers prowling the jungles and forests has captivated our imagination for years, and black cougars are the embodiment of that allure.

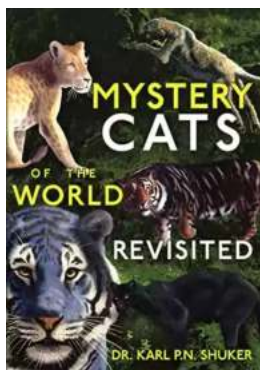
Reports of black cougars have come from different parts of North America, but they are extremely rare and elusive creatures. Whether black cougars possess any special advantages due to their dark coat remains a subject of scientific debate.

Spotted Lions - A Beautiful Anomaly

Lions are known for their golden coats, but every now and then, a lion with unique spotting patterns appears. These spotted lions, also known as leucistic lions, exhibit a pale, tawny coloration with faint spots. Unlike albinism, where animals lack pigmentation entirely, leucism only affects the pigmentation of the skin cells.

These rare lions have been spotted in different parts of Africa, and their striking appearance makes them stand out from their counterparts. While their spotting patterns may make them more visually appealing, it remains unclear if these patterns offer any evolutionary advantage to the spotted lions.

The world of big cats is truly fascinating, and the blue tigers, king cheetahs, black cougars, spotted lions, and other extraordinary variations only add to their allure. Although these remarkable creatures are incredibly rare and elusive, they showcase the wonders of nature and remind us of the vast diversity within a single species. Protecting their habitats and understanding their genetics is crucial to preserving these unique big cat variations for generations to come.



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Mystery Cats of the World Revisited investigates the breadth and depth of the mystery cat phenomenon around the world. What are these enigmatic cat-like animals that have been glimpsed in wild and lonely areas of the world? Are they exotic wild animals that have escaped from captivity, or just common creatures improperly observed? Or could some be genuinely elusive cat forms still unknown to science or supposedly long extinct? According to scientific conventions, these mystery cats cannot exist, but they have attracted increasing attention from natural historians and the public worldwide.

This fully illustrated work is an updated, greatly-expanded edition of Karl Shuker's very first book, *Mystery Cats of the World*, a classic of the cryptozoological literature, now highly sought after by collectors and lauded by cryptozoologists and mainstream zoologists alike for its scrupulously scientific, objective analyses. This new edition examines many new mystery cats reports as well as revisits those previously featured in the original 1989 edition. As such, it remains the only indisputably definitive work on mystery cats in existence.



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