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bru·in  (br ĭn)

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n.
A bear.

[Middle English, name of the bear in *History of Reynard the Fox*, translated by William Caxton from Middle Dutch *bruun*, *bruin*, brown, name of the bear in the Middle Dutch version of the fable; see **bher-**² [in the Appendix of Indo-European roots](#).]

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Indo-European & Semitic Roots Appendices

Thousands of entries in the dictionary include etymologies that trace their origins back to reconstructed proto-languages. You can obtain more information about these forms in our online appendices:

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The Indo-European appendix covers nearly half of the Indo-European roots that have left their mark on English words. A more complete treatment of Indo-European roots and the English words derived from them is available in our [Dictionary of Indo-European Roots](#).

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