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Novel by Yann Martel This article is about the novel by Yann Martel. For a film based on the novel and directed by Ang Lee, see *The Life of Pi* (film). In the life of Pi Life Pi cover^{Author}Yann Martel^{Original title}Life Pi^{Country}Canada^{Language}English^{Genre}Philosophical fiction^{Publisher}Knopf Canada^{Publication date}1 September 2001 (2001-09-11) (Canada)ISBN0-676-97376-0 (first edition, OCLC46624335) Is caused by Self Followed byBeatrice and Virgil Life of Pi, a Canadian philosophical novel by Yann Martel, published in 2001. The main character is Piscine Molitor Pi Patel, an Indian Tamil boy from Pondicherry who explores issues of spirituality and metaphysics from an early age. He survives 227 days after the shipwreck, stranded on a lifeboat in the Pacific with a Bengal tiger that raises questions about the nature of reality and how it is perceived and told. The novel has sold more than ten million copies worldwide. It was rejected by at least five London publishers before it was adopted by Knopf Canada, which published it in September 2001. The British edition won the Booker Prize Man for fiction the following year. He was also selected for CBC Radio's Canada Reads 2003, where he was supported by writer Nancy Lee. The French translation of *L'Histoire de Pi* was chosen in the French version of the CBC competition *Le combat des livres*, where he was supported by Louise Forestier. The novel won the 2003 Boeke Prize, a South African prize for his novel. In 2004, he won the Asia-Pacific American Literature Award for Best Adult Fiction for 2001-2003. In 2012, it was adapted into a feature film directed by Ang Lee, scripted by David Magee. The plot of the book begins with a note from the author, which is an integral part of the novel. Unusually, the note describes completely fictional events. It serves to establish and enforce one of the main themes of the book: the relativity of truth. Part one narrator, The Indian theologian Piscine Molitor Patel, tells the story of his childhood in Pondicherry, in the early years of India's status as an independent state. At the time, he is the son of a manager of a local zoo. By talking about their lives there, Piscine offers an insight into the antagonism of zoos, and expresses his thoughts on why animals react less negatively than proponents of the idea suggest. The narrator describes how he acquired his full name as a tribute to the pool in France. Hearing his classmates tease him by turning his name into Pissing, he sets up a short form of his name as Pi when he starts high school. The name, he said, pays homage to the transcendental number, which is the ratio of the circumference of a circle to its diameter. Describing his experience, Pi describes several other unusual situations related to Names: two zoo visitors, one one A Muslim and another devoted atheist have the same names; And the 450-pound tiger at the zoo bears the name Richard Parker as a result of a clerical error in which the names of humans and animals were revoked and the name stuck. One day, P and his older brother Ravi receive an impromptu lesson about the dangers of animals being kept at the zoo. It begins with a goat being fed to another tiger, followed by a family tour of the zoo, at which his father explains the aggressive biological characteristics of each animal. Pi is brought up as a Hindu who practices vegetarianism. At the age of fourteen, he explores Christianity and Islam, and decides to become a adherent of all three religions, much to the dismay of his parents (and the disappointment of his religious mentors), saying that he just wants to love God. He tries to understand God through the prism of each religion and comes to the recognition of the advantages in each of them. A few years later, in February 1976, as Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi declared an emergency, Father Pi decides to sell the zoo and emigrate with his wife and sons to Canada. The second part of the novel begins with the Pi family aboard *Tsimtsum*, a Japanese cargo ship that transports animals from their zoo to North America. A few days from the port of Manila, the ship collides with a storm and sinks. Pi manages to escape in a small lifeboat, only to find out that the boat also holds a spotted hyena, the zebra wounded Grant and an orangutan named Orange Juice. To the boy's big trouble, the hyena kills the zebra and then the orange juice. The tiger was hiding under the tarpaulin of the boat: Richard Parker, who got into the lifeboat with double help from Pi himself some time before the hyena attack. Suddenly coming out of his hiding place, Richard Parker kills and eats a hyena. Terrified, Pi builds a small raft of life-saving flotation devices, ties it to the nose of the boat and makes it his retirement site. He begins conditioning Richard Parker to take on a submissive role, using food as a positive gain, and seasickness as a punishment mechanism, while using the whistle for signals. P soon asserts himself as an alpha animal, and eventually can share the boat with his feline companion, finally acknowledging that Richard Parker is the one who helped him survive his ordeal. Pi talks about various events, being adrift in the Pacific Ocean. At its lowest point, the exposure makes him blind and incapable of fishing. In a state of delirium, he talks to the Sea Echo, which he initially identifies as Richard Parker, getting the opportunity to speak, but turns out to be another blind castaway, a Frenchman who boards a lifeboat with the intention of killing and eating Pi, but immediately killed by Richard Parker. Some time later, The Pi Boat comes ashore on a floating net hundreds of thousands of meerkats. Soon P and Richard Parker restore strength, but the boy's discovery of the carnivorous nature of the island's plant life forces him to return to the ocean. Two hundred and twenty-seven days after the sinking of the ship, the lifeboat washes on the beach in Mexico, after which Richard Parker disappears into the nearby jungle without looking back, leaving Pi heartbroken for a dramatic farewell. Part three of the novel describes a conversation between Pi and two officials from the Japanese Ministry of Transport who are investigating the shipwreck. They meet him in a hospital in Mexico, where he is recovering. Pi tells them his story, but officials dismiss it as incredible. Pi then offers them a second story in which he adrift on a boat not with the animal beasts of the ship beasts, but with the ship cook, a Taiwanese sailor with a broken leg, and his own mother. The cook amputates the sailor's leg for use as a fishing bait, then kills the sailor himself, as well as Pi's mother for food, and soon he is killed by Pi, who dines on him. Investigators note parallels between the two stories. They soon come to the conclusion that the hyena symbolizes the cook, the zebra sailor, the mother of the orangutan Pi, and the tiger represents Pi. Pi notes that no story can be proven, nor does it explain the cause of the shipwreck, so he asks officials what kind of story they prefer: one without animals or one with animals. In the end, they choose the story of the animals. Pi thanks them and says: And so goes with God. Investigators then leave and file a report. Martel's themes said that Pi's life can be summarized in three statements: Life is a story; You can choose your story; The story with God is the best story. Gordon Houser suggests that there are two main themes of the book: that all life is interdependent, and that we live and breathe through faith. Inspiration Martel said in a 2002 interview with PBS that he was looking for a story ... that would guide my life. He talked about being lonely and in need of direction in his life, and he found that writing a novel was appropriate. Richard Parker and the shipwrecked narrative Name Richard Parker for Tiger was inspired by the character in Edgar Allan Poe's maritime adventure novel *The Narration of Arthur Gordon Pym* from Nantucket (1838). Richard Parker is a rebel who is stranded and eventually cannibalized on the hull of an upturned vessel, and has a dog on board called a tiger. Martel also had another appearance in mind in the famous legal case of *R v Dudley and Stephens* (1884), where the shipwreck again results in the cannibalism of a cabin boy named Richard Parker, this time in a lifeboat. A third Richard Parker drowned in the flood of Francis Speight in 1846, described by author Jack London and later the boy was cannibalized. So many victims of Richard Parkers must mean something, Martel suggested Moacyr Scliar Martel mentioned that a review of the 1981 book by Brazilian author Moacyr Scliar of Max and The Cats accounts in part for the premise of his novel. Sklyar's story describes a Jewish-German refugee crossing the Atlantic with a jaguar in a boat. Sklar said that he was puzzled that Martel used the idea without consulting or even informing me and indicated that he was reviewing the situation before deciding whether to take any action in response. After talking to Martel, Sklyar decided not to pursue the issue. Sklyar's dedication to the spark of life appears in the author's note of Pi's life. Literary reviews described the similarities as superficial between the lives of Pi and Max and cats. Reviewer Peter Yang wrote: Reading two books side by side, you understand how inadequate the summary of the bald plot is in conveying the unique creative impact of each book, and noted that Martel's distinctive narrative structure was not found in Sklar's novel. The themes of the books are also different, and Max and Cats are a metaphor for Nazism. Life of Pi 211 of 354 pages focuses on Pi's experience in the lifeboat, compared to 17 of the 99 pages of Max and Cats depicting time spent in a lifeboat. Characters Piscine Molitor Pi Patel He acquires layer upon layer of diverse spirituality and brilliantly synthesizes it into a personal belief system and a dedicated life that captures the spirit of its depth and scope. His youthful study of comparative religion concludes with a magnificent epiphany. Phoebe Kate Foster of PopMatters, known to everyone as Pi, is the narrator and protagonist of the novel. It was named after the swimming pool in Paris, despite the fact that neither his mother nor his father particularly loved swimming. The story is told as a narrative in terms of middle-aged Pi, now married with his family, and lives in Canada. At the time of the main events of history he is sixteen years old. He tells the story of his life and his 227-day lifeboat journey when his ship sinks in the middle of the Pacific Ocean while traveling to North America. Richard Parker's Bengal tiger Richard Parker is a Bengal tiger who is stuck on a lifeboat with Pi when the ship sinks. Richard Parker lives on a lifeboat with Pi and stays alive with food and water Pi delivers. Richard Parker develops a relationship with Pi, which allows them to coexist in their struggle. In the novel, a hunter named Richard Parker is hired to kill a panther who terrorized the inhabitants of a small village in Bangladesh and is believed to have killed seven people in two months. Instead, he accidentally immobilized A Bengal tiger with tranquilizer darts while her cub is caught hiding in the bushes. Parker calls the cub Thirsty after his enthusiasm when drinking from a nearby river. The documents, which accompany the shipment of the two tigers to the Pi family zoo in Pondicherry, state that the cub's name is Richard Parker, and the hunter's name is Thirsty, and his surname is None Given, due to confusion with names. P's father finds this story so funny that they continue to call the tiger Richard Parker. Receptionist Brian Bethyun of McLean describes Pi's life as a head-scratching combination of dense religious allegory, zoological knowledge and a fascinating fairy tale adventure, written with warmth and grace. Master Plots suggested that the central themes of Pi's life relate to religion and human faith in God. Reutter said: It's so plausible that Pi's story that readers will be amazed. Gregory Stevens added that he achieves something more relaxed. Smith said there was no bamboo here. Gary Crist of The New York Times praised the book, but added that sometimes Martel pushes too much of his story agenda. In 2010, U.S. President Barack Obama wrote a letter directly to March, describing Pi's life as elegant proof of God and the power of storytelling. The adaptation of the Illustrated edition of the first edition of Life of Pi was illustrated by Andy Bridge. In October 2005, a worldwide competition was launched to find an artist to illustrate Pi's life. The competition was run by Scottish publisher Canongate Books and the British newspaper The Times, as well as the Australian newspaper The Age and the Canadian newspaper The Globe and Mail. Croatian artist Tomislav Toranac was chosen as an illustrator for the new edition, which was published in September 2007. The screen adaptation of the main article: Life of Pi (film) 2012 adaptation of directed by Ang Lee and adapted by David Magee received a wide release in the United States on November 21, 2012. At the 85th Academy Awards, she received four awards out of eleven nominations, including best director. The theatrical adaptation of this novel was also adapted as a play by Kate Robinson, artistic director of the youth-focused Twisting Yarn Theatre Company. Andy Rushley wrote an adaptation directed by Keith Robinson. The premiere/original cast contained only six actors - Tony Hasnath (Pi), Tares Solanki (Richard Parker), Melody Brown (mother), Conor Alexander (Father), Sanjay Shalat (Brother) and Mark Pierce (Uncle). The play was produced at the Alhambra Theatre in Bradford, England, in 2003. The company toured England and Ireland with performances in 2004 and 2007. Keith Robinson also directed the second version of the play. He led part of his company to work with students of BA (Hons) Drama, Applied Theatre and Course at the Central School of Speech and Drama. The joint production was performed at the Minack Theatre in Cornwall, England, at the end of June 2008. It was well received by the press and the community. Lolita Chakrabarti's new adaptation was released at the Crucible Theatre in Sheffield in June 2019. The film was directed by Max Webster, with the puppet movement and movement directed by Finn Caldwell. It was well reviewed unanimously by critics and will open in the West End, at the Wyndham Theatre, in June 2020. Inquiries: Miller, Daniel (February 18, 2013). 'Life of Pi' is an unexpected success story around the world. Los Angeles Times. Received on January 7, 2019. Gibbons, Fiakra (October 24, 2002). Top publishers rejected Booker as the winner. Keeper. Uk. Received on August 31, 2010. Life of Pi. Booker Prize. 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