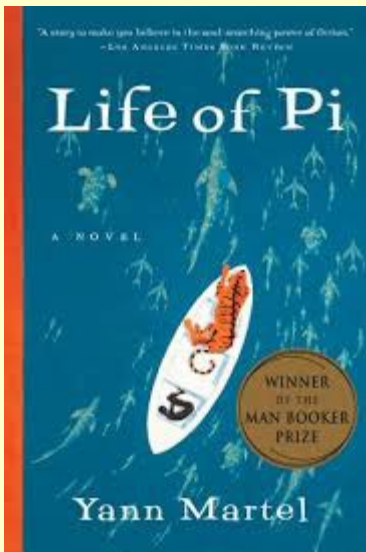


HONORS ENGLISH 11

Life of Pi by Yann Martel

CHARACTERS

Pi
Richard Parker
The Patel Family
The Three Religious Leaders
The Biology Teacher
Tomohiro Okamoto
Atsuro Chiba



LITERARY TERMS

Know your literary terms! Be able to provide example.

Protagonist
Allegory
Plot
Antagonist
Setting
Metaphor
Character
Archetype
Theme
Irony
Symbolism
Point of View
Flat character

VOCABULARY

Have an understanding of these words as well as any you add to the list.

Absconding	Simpatico	Weft	Avatar		
Ineluctably	Zoomorphism	Methuselah	incredulous		
Dyspeptic	Cataleptic	Catholicity	Remonstrations		
Fistula	Simian	Sublimity	Insouciant	Lithesome	Furtively
Attrition	Oestrous	Brackish	Mien	Tremulously	
Galleon	Carrion	Sanguinary	Sentient	Sextant	
Surreptitiously	Licit	Verisimilitude			

Remember to take notes as you read!

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Yann Martel was born on June 25, 1963, in Salamanca, Spain, to Emile and Nicole Martel, but spent his childhood living in a variety of different countries, including Costa Rica, France, India, Iran, Mexico, Turkey, Canada, and the United States.

Life of Pi was published in 2001 to warm, although somewhat mixed, critical reception, and, along with winning the Man Booker Prize, became an international best-seller. Many critics praised the book's ability to suspend disbelief even as it tells an amazingly fantastical tale. Those that had problems with the book most often referred to what they saw as Martel's heavy-handedness with the issue of belief in God, which they considered to underestimate both literature and religion. Other critics, however, praised Martel's handling of the potentially controversial religious material. At the height of the book's popularity, there was a short-lived scandal involving an accusation of plagiarism.



REFERENCES MADE

Hinduism
Christianity
Gandhi—Emergency in India
Mecca
Krishna
Politics in India in 1970's

STRUCTURE AND THEME

Frame Narrative
Magical Realism
Allegory
Verisimilitude
Greif/loss
Solitude
Truth/Belief vs. reality
Survival
Color Motifs
Territory/dominance
Purpose
Tolerance

HISTORICAL/CULTURAL CONTEXT

Life of Pi is set against the tumultuous period of Indian history known as the Emergency. In 1975, Prime Minister Indira Gandhi was found guilty of charges related to her 1971 election campaign and was ordered to resign.

Instead, and in response to a rising tide of strikes and protests that were paralyzing the government, Gandhi declared a state of emergency, suspending constitutional rights and giving herself the power to rule by decree.

The Emergency lasted for eighteen months and was officially ended in March 1977 when Gandhi called for a new round of elections. The historical legacy of the Emergency has been highly controversial: while civil liberties in this emerging democracy were severely curtailed and Gandhi's political opponents found themselves jailed, abused, and tortured, India's economy experienced a much-needed stabilization and growth.

In *Life of Pi*, Piscine (Pi) Molitor Patel's father, a zookeeper in Pondicherry, India, grows nervous about the current political situation. Speculating that Gandhi might try to take over his zoo and faced with depressing economic conditions, Pi's father decides to sell off his zoo animals and move his family to Canada, thus setting the main action of the novel into motion.

HONORS ENGLISH 11

SPEAK BY LAURIE HALSE ANDERSON

CHARACTERS

Melinda Sordino
The Marthas
Ivy
Jack Sordino
Nicole
Joyce Sordino
Rachel Bruin

Mr. Freeman
David Petrakis
Hairwoman
Mr. Neck
Heather
Andy Evans
Ms. Keen

LITERARY TERMS

Know your literary terms! Be able to provide example.

Protagonist
Motif
Plot
Simile
Antagonist
Setting
Metaphor
Static character
Theme
Personification
Dynamic character
Tone
Irony
Round character
Symbolism
Point of View
Flat character



VOCABULARY

Have an understanding of these words as well as any you add to the list.

Indoctrination	Degrading	Conundrum	Coaxes
Demerit	Imbeciles	Tenacious	Inconspicuous
Xenophobic	Vespiary	Recessive	Maladjusted
Errant	Wan	Leper	Pseudo
Drone	Asphyxiated	Devious	Inciting
Demure	Floundering	Dormant	Delinquency

Remember to take notes as you read!

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Laurie Halse Anderson is the New York Times bestselling author who writes for kids of all ages. Known for tackling tough subjects with humor and sensitivity, her work has earned numerous national and state awards, as well as international recognition. Two of her books, *Speak* and *Chains*, were National Book Award finalists. Laurie was honored with the 2009 Margaret A. Edwards Award given by YALSA division of the American Library Association for her "significant and lasting contribution to young adult literature."

She transferred to Georgetown University in 1981. She graduated from there in 1984 with a B.S.L.L. in Languages and Linguistics

REFERENCES MADE

- the first amendment to the US constitution
- Suffragettes: the 19th amendment
- History of the Pledge of Allegiance
- Nathaniel Hawthorne
- The Scarlet Letter
- Maya Angelou

ARTISTIC HIGHLIGHTS

Picasso
Monet
Van Gogh
O'Keeffe
Kahlo
Pollack
Dali
Cubism

Motifs

Mirrors
Trees
Mouths



Mr. Freeman's Wisdom:

"You must walk alone to find your soul."

"Art is about making mistakes and learning from them."

"Nothing is perfect. Flaws are interesting."