

## APPENDICES

### Synopsis of Life of Pi

The story is about Piscine Patel “Pi”, a young boy who accidentally experienced an extraordinary journey. His parents ran a zoo called Pondicherry. Pi was not a common name in India, so he was often bullied by his friends. Pi was able to make his name look great, so that no one mocked him any more.

Pi was familiar with animals since he often played in the zoo. One day his parents taught him and his brother about one specific animal that they could not have fun with, namely a tiger. After the lesson, Pi knew that tigers were very dangerous animals.

Unlike other boys, Pi had a unique interest. He had a strong bond with religions. He embraced three religions, namely Hinduism, Islam, and Christianity.

When Pi was a teenager, his parents decided to move to Canada with Pi. They went to Canada in a cargo ship with the animals his father wanted to sell. However, in the middle of the night, the ship was sinking because of a rainstorm. Luckily, Pi was able to survive on a lifeboat. Pi was not alone; there were animals on the lifeboat. The animals were a hyena, a zebra, an orang-utan, and a 450-pound Bengal tiger. The animals attacked one another and Pi struggled to hide himself on the boat. The hyena killed the zebra and the orang-utan but in the end it was killed by the Bengal tiger. Pi tried his best to survive from the ocean and from

the Bengal tiger. Pi thought that the best way to survive was not to try to kill the Bengal tiger but to keep it alive. He fed the Bengal tiger so that it would not attack him. He used the tools on the boat to build a raft and tied it to the lifeboat so that he could sleep securely on it. He caught fish and never forgot to give some to the Bengal tiger.

Pi survived after being stranded for 227 days on the sea. One key to his survival was to keep himself busy. Besides, he never forgot to pray everyday. Pi met another man who was also stranded. He attempted to attack Pi but he failed and left Pi alone again. Pi was once stranded on a strange island made from algae; the vegetation on the island grew by ingesting creatures' flesh. When he realized it, he immediately fled from the island with the Bengal tiger. In the end, Pi reached Mexico and the Bengal tiger ran away towards the forest ahead. Pi felt sad because he had already had a close relationship with the Bengal tiger. Pi himself was saved by the local people.

### **Biography of the Author**

Yann Martel was born in Spain in 1963 of peripatetic Canadian parents. He grew up in Alaska, British Columbia, Costa Rica, France, Ontario and Mexico, and has continued travelling as an adult, spending time in Iran, Turkey and India. After studying philosophy at Trent University and while doing various odd jobs -- tree planting, dishwashing, and working as a security guard -- he began to write. He is the prize-winning author of The Facts Behind the Helsinki Roccamatios, a collection of short stories, and of Self, a novel; both of them were published internationally.

His latest book, Life of Pi, won the 2002 Man Booker Prize, short listed for the Governor's General Award and is an international bestseller. He has been living from his writing since the age of 27. He spends his time practising yoga, writing and volunteering in a palliative care unit. Yann Martel lives in Montreal.  
(Taken from Randomhouse.ca)