

Do you ever feel like you don't exist, Year 6?

Set in a futuristic world where animals no longer exist, twelve-year-old Kester Jaynes sometimes feels like he hardly exists either. Locked away in a home for troubled children, he's told there's something wrong with him. So when he meets a flock of talking pigeons and a bossy cockroach, Kester thinks he's finally gone a bit mad. But the animals have something to say...

Author

Piers Torday was born in 1974 in Northumberland, which is possibly the one part of England where more animals live than people.

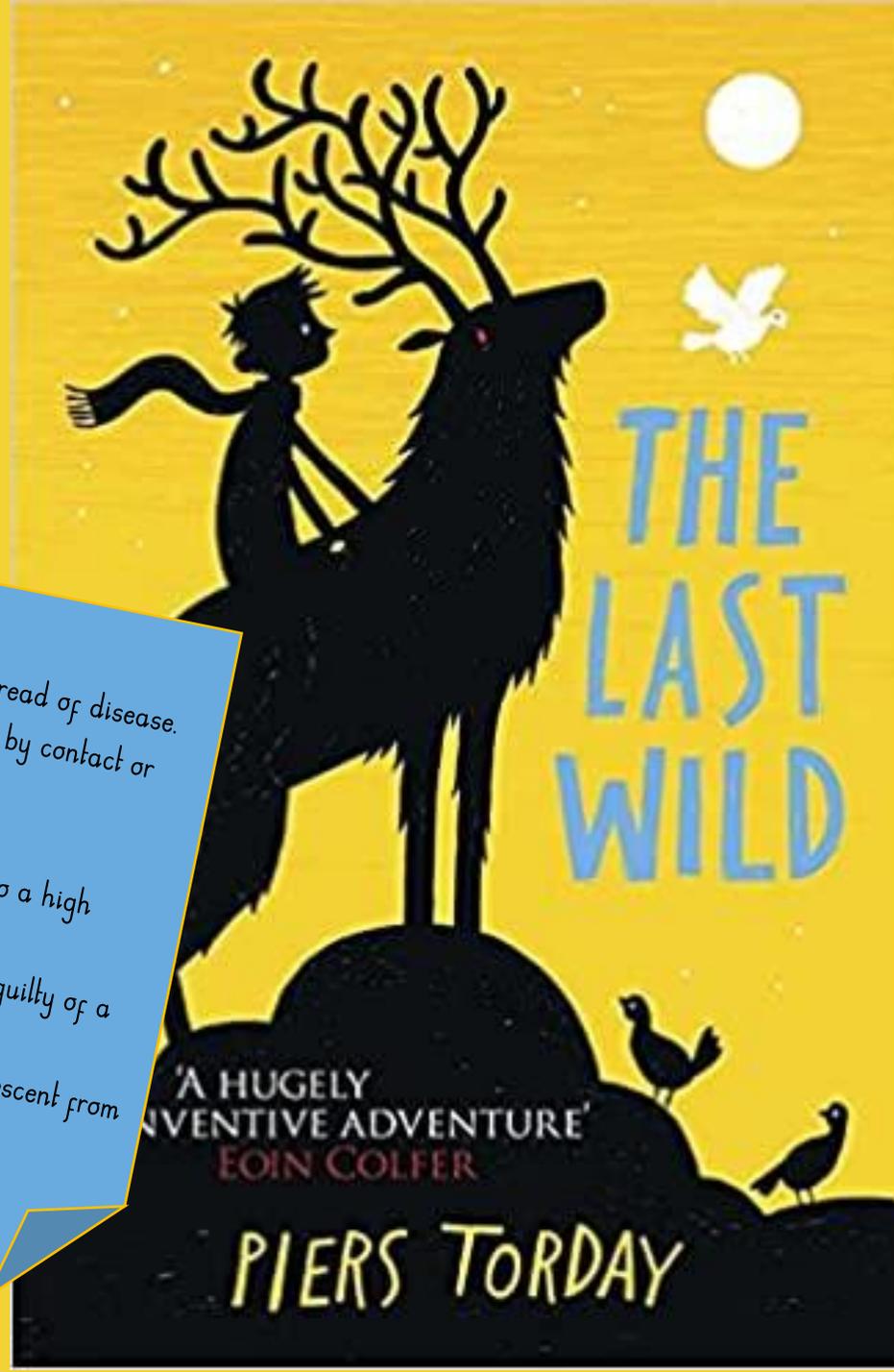
He grew up around books as his mother, Jane, ran a children's bookshop. He enjoyed reading, writing and drawing from an early age. His favourite books always had good pictures.

Today, Piers Torday is an award-winning and best-selling writer for children whose work has been translated into 14 languages and adapted for the stage. He has won the British Book Awards and the Costa Book Awards too!

To find out more use the QR code below:



Key vocabulary:
Quarantine-A strict isolation imposed to prevent the spread of disease.
Contaminated-To make something impure or unsuitable by contact or mixture with something unclean or dangerous.
Mute-Silent; refraining from speech or utterance.
Sterilise-To destroy microorganisms, usually by bringing to a high temperature with steam, dry heat, or boiling liquid.
Delinquent-Failing in or neglectful of a duty or obligation; guilty of a misdeed or offence.
Condescending-Showing or implying a usually patronising descent from dignity or superiority.
Uncouth-Awkward, clumsy, or unmannerly.
Subdued-Quiet; inhibited; repressed or controlled.



Climate Change:

Climate change refers to the shift in the Earth's usual weather conditions over many years.

Our world has been getting hotter due to things humans are doing, like burning huge amounts of fossil fuels, cutting down too many trees and over-farming crops and animals.

Climate change is the result of these actions and it's already putting humans, wildlife and the planet at risk.

But it's not too late. By working together, everyone can help. Our planet needs us! Use the QR code below to find out more.

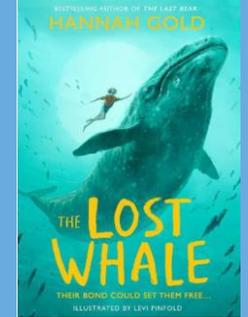


Key animals in the story:

Male deer are known as Stags. Did you know that deer are a native species having migrated to Britain from Europe 11,000 years ago? They were used extensively by Mesolithic man as a source of food, skins, and tools (bones and antlers). However, the development of agriculture by Neolithic man cleared swathes of forest to make way for fields and this loss of forest encouraged the decline of red deer populations, which became confined to the Scottish Highlands, south-west England and a few other small, scattered populations. Find out more about them using the QR code.



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