Life of Pi is the story of a boy who spends 227 days at sea with a tiger. The boy, named Piscine Molitor Patel, was born in Pondicherry, India and grew up there. He also spent time practicing Islam and Christianity.

The Patel family decides to move to Canada when Pi is sixteen due to the political instability in India. They board a ship with their animals, but the ship sinks and Pi survives on a lifeboat with an injured zebra, orangutan, hyena and tiger named Richard Parker.

An event occurred that caused the Tsimtsum to sink. Only Pi survives, along with a hyena, zebra, orangutan and Richard Parker (the tiger). The hyena kills and devours both the zebra and Orange Juice before Richard Parker kills the hyena. Pi is left alone on a lifeboat with an adult male tiger.

There is no land in sight and the ocean is shark-infested, so Pi builds a raft to keep himself at a safer distance from Richard Parker. Eventually, however, life on the raft proves too exhausting and he decides that if Richard Parker gets hungry enough he will swim to it and kill Pi. So Pi uses different techniques like seasickness and a turtle shell shield to tame Richard Parker until they both understand their roles aboard the boat.

While at sea, Pi and Richard Parker face many challenges. These include hunger, thirst, exposure to the elements, a storm that destroys their raft and almost kills them both. However, they manage to survive by catching a bird and killing it with their bare hands. They are also almost crushed by an oil tanker but
escape death once again.

During a time of severe starvation, Pi and Richard Parker go blind. While blind they hear a voice and realize that there is another boat with people in it. They bring their boats together where the Frenchman attacks Pi to eat him but steps into Richard Parker's territory and gets killed by the tiger. This was Pi's first experience of moral suffering.

Pi and Richard Parker find a weird island made of algae. They stay on the island for weeks, eating the wildlife that lives there. Pi and Richard Parker get stronger from all the food they eat on this strange island, but only during the day because at night it's carnivorous and eats anything that comes near it. Eventually, Pi realizes that he's been staying too long on this island because its dangerous at night. He decides to leave with his companion, Richard Parker.

Pi and Richard Parker eventually land on the Mexican beach. Richard Parker immediately runs off into the jungle without acknowledging Pi, which hurts him deeply. He is found by a couple who feed him, bathe him, and take him to a hospital where he tells his story of what happened to the Japanese men who questioned it.

Throughout the book, there are notes from the author about Pi's life after he survived in a boat with Richard Parker. They include information on his time spent in Mexico recovering from his ordeal and then studying religion and zoology at the University of Toronto. He got married and now has two children. It was painful for him to think back on how Richard Parker abandoned him during the storm, but it still comes up sometimes when he thinks about that terrible experience.

Full Summary of Life of Pi

Overall Summary

Author’s Note

Yann Martel has written two other books, which were not very successful. He went to Bombay to find a quiet place and write his next novel, which is about Portugal in 1939.

The author's next book, about Portugal, didn't do very well. The author felt depressed and wondered what to write next. He left Bombay and traveled south to the French-speaking town of Pondicherry in India.

An author met an old man in a coffee shop who offered to tell him a story that would make the author believe in God. The author accepted the challenge and took notes on what Mr. Adirubasamy told him. He then returned to Canada and found someone named Patel, who turned out to be the protagonist of Mr. Adirubasamy's story.

Mr. Patel showed the author old newspaper clippings about the events of the story, and also let him read his diary. Many months later, the author received a tape and report from the Japanese Ministry of Transport, confirming Mr. Patel’s tale. The author agrees that it is “a story to make you believe in God.” He says that he has written this novel in first person as though Mr. Patel were speaking because he
wanted to be true to his voice and experience as much as possible while still keeping some distance between himself and Mr. Patel's character so that readers can relate more easily with both characters equally rather than only one or two main characters. He ends with some acknowledgements, including thanks for inspiration from Maocyr ScIiar, a Brazilian novelist who wrote "The Carnival of the Animals."

It was an honor to have been able to translate such a fantastic work into English!

Chapter 1

After Pi's traumatic experience, he became sad and gloomy. He continued his religious practices, studied zoology at the University of Toronto and eventually became happy again. His thesis was about three-toed sloths.

Pi found studying sloths to be comforting because they are very slow animals. Sloths are able to blend into the background and avoid predators by moving slowly, so Pi felt safe around them. He also noticed a similarity between his two majors: he thought that God was like a sloth because of their calmness and ability to blend in with the environment. Because Pi is such an intelligent student, he won many awards and scholarships at school. Now he works somewhere but doesn't say where exactly; however, when asked about it, he says that Canada is home for him now. When asked about India (his birthplace), though, Pi said that he misses it every day.

After the events of the story, Pi was treated well at a hospital in Mexico. He had anemia and dark urine, but he could walk again after a while. The first time he turned on a faucet after his ordeal on the boat, he fainted from shock because there was so much clean water available to him. When he made it to Canada, Pi went to an Indian restaurant for dinner with his family and friends. But when the waiter criticized him for eating with his fingers instead of cutlery like everyone else did, Pi felt offended by what seemed like cultural insensitivity from someone who wasn't even Indian himself or familiar with their customs.

Chapter 2

The author describes the adult Pi as a small, gray-haired man who wears a winter coat in the fall and speaks quickly and expressively.

Chapter 3

The story continues in Pi's voice. He reflects on his name, which is Piscine Molitor Patel. His parents named him after a swimming pool that they liked because it was clear and pristine. They knew someone who used to swim there and he told them about it, so they decided to name their son after the pool. That man was Francis Adirubasamy but Pi called him Mamaji, which means uncle in Hindi. Mamaji taught Pi how to swim and became one of his closest friends as well as a mentor for life. The two shared an interest in water and learned from each other how to be more comfortable with the water; this led them both to become good swimmers themselves. Mamaji also loved the Piscine Molitor in Paris because it was such a beautiful place where people could enjoy swimming freely without fear of being attacked by sharks or anything else dangerous like that; this made him feel safe enough to relax completely while swimming at the pool (which is what he liked best). Because of all these things, Pi's parents chose the name "Piscine"
for their son when he was born because they wanted him grow up feeling free like the fish do in clean waters—and thus inspired by nature—he would learn not only how much fun swimming can be but also learn how rewarding it can be if you give your heart into something you love doing...

Chapter 4

Pi's father ran a zoo in Pondicherry, India. The zoo was founded after the city joined the Union of India in 1954. Pi describes the wonders of this zoo and compares it to a hotel with especially uncooperative guests. As a child he felt like he was living in paradise, surrounded by such amazing animals that made noises every day at regular times.

Piscine Molitor Patel (known as Pi) defends zoos against people who think that animals in the wild are happier. He argues that wild animals are at the mercy of many dangers, but they're safe and secure in a zoo. He also argues against the idea of zoos as "prisons"—he says that animals prefer to have a set territory and rigid boundaries, so they will be happy with their cages if they accept them as their territory. The Pondicherry Zoo is closed now because it's unpopular.

Chapter 5

Pi remembers the teasing he got from other children because of his name. They called him "Pissing" which they took from "Piscine." Eventually, Pi decided to go by a nickname and when he moved schools, trained his teachers and classmates to call him "Pi". He wrote it on the chalkboard in each class on the first day and it stuck.

Chapter 6

The author talks about how Pi is an excellent cook and makes spicy vegetarian food. The kitchen has lots of spare canned goods, as if they were preparing for a disaster.

Chapter 7

The narrative returns to Pi's voice. He describes his biology teacher, Mr. Satish Kumar, who was an atheist and a Communist. Mr. Kumar used to come to the zoo and wonder at the natural world; he also respected atheists for their choice of having no God in their lives but disliked agnostics because they must live with doubt or indifference about religion or God's existence all the time.

Chapter 8

Pi says that the animals in zoos are generally well-treated and safe, but they're still dangerous. He describes several stories of humans getting hurt by zoo animals, such as a man who was mauled by a tiger when he fell into its cage after jumping over the fence to get a closer look at it. Pi also talks about how people tend to think of wild animals as being like humans, with human feelings and motives.

One day Pi's father took him and his brother Ravi to the Bengal tiger's cage. He fed a wild goat to the
tiger in front of them, traumatizing both boys. Then he told them about other ways that seemingly docile animals could hurt or kill people. The lesson stuck with Pi forever, and he learned never to trust wild animals completely.

Chapter 9

Pi talks about flight distance, which is how far away from humans an animal runs. It's important for zookeepers to reduce the flight distance of animals so they're comfortable with people nearby. This can be done by providing shelter, food and water, and personal attention—all things his father was good at doing.

Chapter 10

Pi says that some animals escape from zoos. He believes this is usually the result of bad care or sudden stress, especially if they feel their territory is being invaded. Pi curses these zoo keepers because they make all zoos look bad.

Chapter 11

Pi tells the story of a black leopard that escaped from a zoo in Zurich and lived undetected for ten weeks. Pi wonders how such an animal could live so long without anyone noticing it, which makes him think about how animals just want to fit into their environment. He references someone looking for an animal in the Mexican jungle, and says they might find many more than they expected.

Chapter 12

The author interrupts again to explain how the adult Pi still has memories of his time on the boat. The author says that Richard Parker is still in Pi's mind, and he explains why.

Chapter 13

Pi talks about how animals respect the territories of others. He says that if you fall into a lion's pit, it will kill you not because it is hungry but because you have crossed its boundaries. In order to tame lions, one must enter their territory first so they see him as belonging there and are less likely to attack him.

Pi describes the concept of alpha animals and beta animals. He says that most animal violence is due to social insecurity, or not knowing if you're an alpha or a beta. The lion-tamer reinforces his status as alpha with the whistle and whip and a calm stare.

Chapter 14

Pi says that the lowest animal, the "omega," has the most to gain by having a close relationship with the alpha. This is because it's easier for them to get special treatment from their tamer. It's also true in zoos, where it's easy for caretakers to take care of omega animals.
Chapter 15

The author returns to Pi's house in Canada. It is filled with religious objects such as paintings, statues, and books on Hinduism, Islam, and Christianity. The Bible is kept beside his bed.

Chapter 16

Pi is Hindu, and he was raised mostly by his aunt Rohini. He describes the sights, sounds, smells and feelings that make him feel close to his religion.

Pi describes the Hindu religion and its pantheistic view of God. He explains that he has always been a Hindu, and that his place in the universe is seen through this schema. At the same time, he does not believe it to be true above all other religions. He references a story about Krishna belonging to each of a group of milkmaids at once, but disappearing when one would become possessive over him.

Chapter 17

Pi describes his introduction to Christianity. He was fourteen years old when he saw a church for the first time in Munnar. The doors were open, so Pi went inside and met Father Martin. Pi expected to be kicked out of the church because he wasn't Christian, but instead Father Martin welcomed him into a clean and quiet space.

Pi was drawn to the story of Jesus and went back to talk with Father Martin, who told him a lot about Christianity. Pi wondered why Christ would sacrifice himself for humanity, but he liked that it showed God's love. Father Martin explained that there is only one story in Christianity—God's love—and Pi thought this was very different from Hinduism and its fantastical tales.

After three days, Pi became interested in Jesus. At first he was angry at the idea of him, but then decided to become a Christian himself. He went to Father Martin and asked if he could be one as well. Father Martin told him that he already was. Pi thanked Krishna for introducing him to Jesus.

Chapter 18

A year after that, Pi converted to Islam. He was in a Muslim quarter of Pondicherry and admired the beautiful mosque there. He went into a Muslim baker's shop where he saw people do some sort of callisthenics as part of their prayer routine.

Chapter 19

Pi went back to the baker and asked him about Islam. The baker described how he was a Muslim, which Pi found elegant and beautiful in its simplicity. He taught Pi the prayer routine that Muslims use to pray five times a day.

Chapter 20
Pi says that the baker was a Sufi, a Muslim mystic. His name was Satish Kumar – the same name as Pi’s atheistic biology teacher. The two men taught Pi about how the world works. People would go to Mr. Kumar's house and pray together, but they also went to church together because of their friendship with Pi’s father. One time on his way home from one of these visits, Pi felt like he had an epiphany in which he felt closer than ever before to God and nature. He says that this is only one of two religious experiences he has ever had in his life—the other happened when he saw snowflakes falling at night and thought they looked like Jesus Christ (as depicted by Michelangelo) or the Virgin Mary (as depicted by artists).

Chapter 21

The author sits in a café after talking with Pi and remembers their conversation. He notes that Pi values moral truth over intellectual truth, and he thinks that love is the most important thing.

Chapter 22

Pi describes the deathbed moments of an atheist and how he finally sees the light. He also describes an agnostic who tries to explain what he's seeing scientifically, but misses out on a better story.

Chapter 23

Pi says that he kept his religious activities a secret from his parents, and they were shocked to see him with three different religious leaders.

Pi's parents were not devoutly religious, but they still had a Hindu background. They were surprised when Pi suddenly became very religious. The priest, imam, and pandit also expressed surprise that Pi was practicing all three religions at once. They argued with each other about whether it was possible to be faithful to more than one religion at the same time.

Pi became embarrassed when the religious leaders questioned his beliefs, and he quoted Mahatma Gandhi. He explained that all religions are true because they're just different ways of loving God. The religious leaders were embarrassed by this, but Pi's father used their silence to hurry everyone off to get ice cream.

Chapter 24

After this episode, Pi's brother Ravi would make fun of him for being so religious. He suggested that Pi become Jewish too so they could have more days off from work to celebrate their religions.

Chapter 25

Piscine (Pi) realizes after the religious party incident that there are many problems with religion. People become so focused on their own version of God and how other people do not abide by their beliefs, they don’t realize the love in God’s intent. Pi had to avoid angry and prideful people because he practiced several faiths.
Chapter 26

A few days later, Pi asked his parents if he could be baptized and buy a prayer rug. They were both flustered by this request because they didn't want him to do that, so they tried to distract him with books (including Robinson Crusoe). When he persisted in asking them about it, they tried to convince him to choose among his religions or take their route of rejecting religion altogether as "old-fashioned".

Chapter 27

That night Pi overheard his parents talking about his new faith. They hoped that it would soon pass, but they decided to indulge him and assume that religion was just a phase.

Chapter 28

Pi got a prayer rug, and he liked to pray on it in his backyard. His family watched him from the house as they did their own things, and Pi was baptized as a Christian shortly after.

Chapter 29

Pi explains the political climate of the time – Mrs. Gandhi suspended all rights to avoid being expelled from office, and that caused problems for Pi's father and his zoo.

Eventually, the family's zoo became unprofitable because of political issues and they were angry at how India was changing. The parents decided to move to Canada because it seemed foreign to them.

Chapter 30

The author interrupts to describe a meeting with Pi's wife. He had never heard about her before, so he was surprised. The author wonders at how protective Pi is of the things that are most important to him. The spicy food comes from his wife, but he doesn't know if she's the one who cooks it or not.

Chapter 31

One day, two Mr. Kumars met Pi at the zoo. One of them was an atheist biology teacher and the other was a Muslim baker. They were both fascinated by Grant's zebra and praised it for its beauty or thanked God for creating such a beautiful animal respectively.

Chapter 32

Pi explains the concept of zoomorphism, which is when animals see humans or members of another species as one of their own kind. He talks about how under certain circumstances rare breeds like lions and goats would believe stray dogs are their siblings.
Pi states that some dogs have been used to nurse baby lions because they are able to handle the harsh conditions better than a lioness in raising her cubs.

Pi says that animals know the truth, but they pretend to be something else in order to live happily. For example, a lion cub knows that his mother is not really a dog, but he pretends she is because it's comforting and helps him act like other lions.

Chapter 33

The author mentions that Pi has few pictures from India. He also says that he doesn't have many photos of his mother, and he can barely remember what she looks like.

Chapter 34

In the narrative, Pi's family prepares to sail to Canada. They sold off all their animals and used the money from that sale to fund their trip across the Pacific Ocean.

Chapter 35

Pi and his family left India on a Japanese cargo ship called the Tsimtsum. They departed on June 21st, 1977. Pi's mother was sad about leaving her home country, so she stocked up Indian cigarettes even though she didn't smoke them.

Chapter 36

The author is back. While he visits Pi for the last time, he meets his two kids: Nikhil and Usha, who are four and three years old respectively. The author has no idea that Pi even had any kids until he suddenly sees them while visiting him one day. During this visit with Pi, Usha was holding an orange cat in her arms and laughing at something it did. So apparently there's a happy ending to this story after all!

Chapter 37

The story of Pi begins with the Tsimtsum sinking. He is in a lifeboat and sees Richard Parker swimming desperately, so he throws him a lifebuoy. However, this turns out to be dangerous because there is only room for one person on the boat. Pi jumps overboard before Richard Parker can get back aboard.

Chapter 38

The shipwreck happened four days after they left the Philippines. Pi was enjoying himself, but then everything changed when he heard a noise. He tried to wake his brother Ravi up, but he wouldn't listen to him and went back to sleep. Then Pi set off on his own to explore the ship.

Pi goes outside, where it is raining. He notices that the ship is listing and groaning and realizes something is wrong. Pi returns to his family but finds out that there's a flood in the stairwells. The animals have
escaped their cages and are running around shrieking. Pi finally finds three Chinese crew members who put a life jacket on him before throwing him into the sea.

**Chapter 39**

Pi falls off the ship and lands on a tarpaulin that is covering a lifeboat. A zebra jumps after him, but it misses its target and hits the bench of the lifeboat instead. The impact causes the boat to fall into water.

**Chapter 40**

The story moves forward to Pi's point of view, after he jumped off the boat to escape Richard Parker. He clings onto a piece of wood and then finds a lifebuoy. After climbing onto it, he sees that there are sharks in the water around him. Pi looks into his boat and sees only the zebra; Richard Parker is no longer there. He jams an oar under the tarpaulin and hangs on as a shark approaches him from behind, but misses because it attacks another animal instead.

Pi is hanging over the water, wondering why he didn’t just let go of his oar and succumb to death. He slips a lifebuoy around himself and makes his position more comfortable.

**Chapter 41**

Pi looks for other survivors as the boat sinks. He is surrounded by wreckage but can't see any humans in the water. After a while, Pi needs to change position because he's getting sore and wants to be able to look for other lifeboats. He assumes that Richard Parker has hidden under the tarpaulin of their boat since it sank.

Pi sees that the zebra is still alive, but its leg is broken. Pi wonders why Richard Parker hasn't killed it yet. Then a hyena appears from under the tarpaulin and Pi thinks that maybe Richard Parker drowned because there's no room for both a tiger and a hyena on the lifeboat.

Pi is confused as to how the hyena got on the lifeboat. Pi thinks that it might have been there already, and was thrown in with Richard Parker by the crew members who wanted to clear out the boat for themselves. The hyena is more ferocious than Richard Parker, but at least it's upfront about its intentions.

**Chapter 42**

After that, though, a male orangutan named Orange Juice floats by in the ocean. He is very old and has two sons of his own. This orangutan was well-liked at the zoo because he was so gentle. The author's glad to see him alive but feels bad that it happened like this. Someone should have rescued him before this happened, as he had lived such a happy life with his family who loved him for many years at the zoo until now when he's alone and lost out there all on his own in the middle of nowhere surrounded by salt water without any food or shelter except for what little bit of netting they can salvage from their wrecked boat.

**Chapter 43**
Pi reassures himself that help is on the way, and he imagines being reunited with his family soon. He decides to make sure his spot is as secure as possible by throwing a net over the tarpaulin, creating a barrier between him and the animals.

A few hours later, the hyena starts acting strangely. It runs in frenzied laps around the zebra and barks at it. Pi gets worried because he thinks that something is wrong with the hyena. He also grows annoyed by its constant whining and running because he's bored of watching it and wants to go back into his boat.

Pi knows facts about hyenas. They live in packs and can kill even large animals like a zebra. Hyenas eat anything, including their own kind during a feeding frenzy. After running for a while, the hyena stops to vomit and then wedges itself into tight spaces behind the zebra where it stays for hours waiting for its prey to die of exhaustion so that they can feed on it without any resistance from the animal.

**Chapter 44**

The day passes slowly, and Pi becomes afraid of the night. He can't see in the dark, so he worries about what will happen when it gets dark. The animals become aggressive at night, and he's worried that they might hurt him.

**Chapter 45**

Finally, the sun rose and with it Pi's hope returned. He was sure that he would be rescued soon and thought about his family. However, the horizon was empty. When he looked into the lifeboat, he saw that a hyena had bitten off the zebra's broken leg. The zebra was still alive but in pain from grinding its teeth so hard. Pi felt anger at this animal for harming another creature and sadness on behalf of the poor animal as well, but then dropped those feelings to focus on his own survival.

Pi feels seasick and he moves to sit on the other side of the boat. He sees Orange Juice, who is also sick from being on a boat. Pi finds it funny that she looks so much like a human when she's feeling nauseous.

Pi is also amazed that the hyena hasn't attacked Orange Juice. He's never seen a hyena and an orangutan in the wild together, but he imagines what it would be like if they were put into the same enclosure at a zoo. That afternoon, Pi tells a sea turtle to go find another ship.

**Chapter 46**

Pi sinks into despair. He sees mako sharks and other fish in the water, along with Orange Juice. She looks like a human again but is still sad because she misses her sons just as Pi does his family.

Suddenly, the hyena attacks the zebra and takes a big bite out of it. The zebra kicks at the hyena but can't stop it from attacking again. The hyena slides into the wound and starts eating its insides while it's still alive. Orange Juice lifts herself up on her hind legs and roars, showing her teeth to scare off the hyena. However, instead of retreating, it howls right back at Orange Juice. Blood pours out of the zebra's side as sharks gather around them in anticipation for an easy meal.
The hyena and the zebra continue to yell at each other. The sharks swim away, but Pi is still worried about his family. He cries all night long as the hyena continues eating him.

Chapter 47

A zebra gets attacked by a hyena in the morning. The hyena eats part of its insides, but it isn't dead yet. It dies around noon. After that, there's an argument between Orange Juice and the hyena, who then attacks her again. She fights back hard and inspires Pi with her spirit.

The hyena kills the zebra, and Pi goes to check on it. He finds that the hyena has bitten her throat and severed her head. Pi walks forward toward Richard Parker's cage, but then he sees the headless body of his mother with its arms outstretched like Christ on a cross. He cries at the sight of this gruesome sight and prepares for a fight to death against Richard Parker, but then he suddenly sees that his companion is under a bench in front of him. Shocked by this revelation, Pi collapses into delirious sleep in the bow (front) part of the boat.

Chapter 48

Pi tells the story of how Richard Parker was captured. A panther had been killing people in Bangladesh, so a professional hunter was called to capture or kill it. The hunter left some bait for the panther, and instead two tigers came—a mother and her cub. He tranquilized both of them and took them to the Pondicherry Zoo.

When the hunter received his paperwork, he had accidentally given two tigers the same name. He named one of them Thirsty and the other Richard Parker. Pi's father liked that name so much that he officially gave it to both tigers.

Chapter 49

Pi awakes to find Richard Parker on the boat with him. He wonders how such a large animal could have stayed hidden for so long. Pi has lost hope and decides that he wants to let the tiger kill him when it's ready, but first he needs water.

Pi explores the lifeboat, looking for supplies. He notices that he is no longer afraid of the hyena since it seemed harmless compared to Richard Parker. Pi understood why the hyena confined itself in such a small space and waited so long before killing the zebra – since it didn't want to upset or startle Richard Parker by jumping on him earlier.

Chapter 50

Pi was taking stock of the details of the lifeboat. It was 26 feet long and 8 feet wide, painted white, and had benches with oars and oarlocks. Richard Parker's territory was under a tarpaulin on half of the boat, while a hyena occupied the smashed bench where a zebra fell. Pi himself is on the very tip of bow. The inside surfaces were orange, which seemed like "a nice Hindu color" to him.
Chapter 51

Pi is thirsty and doesn't see any supplies, so he assumes they're under the tarpaulin. He feels more urgency for his thirst than fear of Richard Parker, so he unrolls it a little bit to look underneath. Pi gets his first glimpse of Richard Parker's full size and shivers with awe and fear. He finds a locker full of supplies in the lid on the bow's bench.

Pi is ecstatic to find cans of water and eats some biscuits, which he has a hard time eating because they contain animal fat. He knows that he can survive for 93 days on the food and 124 days on the water.

Chapter 52

Pi describes all the contents of the lifeboat. This includes medicine for seasickness, blankets, solar stills (devices that can distill water from saltwater), flares, food and water, ropes, life jackets and oars, fishing paraphernalia (including a knife), rain catchers (devices to catch rainwater), a bar of chocolate and a survival manual. Pi eats some of the chocolate and falls asleep.

Chapter 53

When Pi wakes up, he realizes that his situation is serious. He thinks about death and cries. Then, he pulls himself together to survive. He prays for help and promises not to die because he has a strong instinct for survival. So, Pi starts building a raft so that he can put some distance between himself and Richard Parker the tiger. First, Pi uses oars from the boat as well as lifebuoys and jackets from the boat's wreckage to build his raft.

Pi lashed the raft together with the rope, and as he worked, Richard Parker started to growl. Suddenly, the tiger killed a hyena without any struggle. He then looked at Pi who was struck by his beauty and power. Richard Parker bared his teeth and prepared to attack, when suddenly a rat climbed onto Pi's head.

Richard Parker, a tiger, approaches Pi. Pi is prepared to die but Richard Parker turns away from him and eats the rat instead. Richard Parker was nauseous from being on the boat so long.

After building a raft and tying it to the lifeboat, Pi steps onto his raft. He floats above the sharks in the water and checks his knots frequently. As night falls, he uses rain catchers to gather water for drinking.

Chapter 54

It rained all night and Pi stayed on the raft, cold and wet. He started to plan how he could kill Richard Parker. He thought about pushing him off the lifeboat or attacking him but rejected them as suicidal. Instead, he decided to wait out Richard Parker until his food ran out and then attack him with a knife.

Chapter 55

It's raining hard, and Pi gets cold. But then it stops raining. Pi warms up a bit and realizes how flimsy the
raft is. He thinks of his plan to outlast Richard Parker, but then he remembers that tigers can drink salt water, so if Richard Parker gets hungry enough he will just swim over to the raft and eat him.

**Chapter 56**

Pi is terrified of the tiger and his fear overwhelms him. Pi tries to reason with himself but he's too scared. He feels like he can't breathe and that his body is shutting down because of all the adrenaline pumping through it. The adult Pi says that we must constantly fight our fears, otherwise they'll take over our lives.

**Chapter 57**

Pi is cured of his hopelessness and terror by Richard Parker himself. The tiger seems sated with rainwater and hyena, so Pi decides to tame him. He knows that he cannot kill the tiger, but resolves to live peacefully with him instead.

Pi admits that he is glad Richard Parker is still alive, as the tiger can distract him from grief and insanity. Pi remembers everything he has learned about taming wild animals. He takes a whistle from one of the life jackets and shouts across the water about his "alpha" status. The tigers roars angrily at the sound but then backs away to lie down in the bottom of their boat.

**Chapter 58**

Pi reads the manual that he found in the locker. It advises him not to eat certain kinds of fish, and to only drink his urine if he has no other choice. He realizes that Richard Parker's training regimen is helping him a lot, and decides to continue with it. Pi builds himself a shelter on top of what remains of the raft, so that even if water comes into the boat at least some of his things will stay dry. He resolves never to hope for help again because there is no one else around but sharks and Richard Parker.

**Chapter 59**

Pi's hunger and thirst overcome his depression, so he climbs on the boat. Richard Parker is under the tarpaulin. The boat is rolling in a different direction now, which seems to have made the tiger seasick again – Pi makes a note of this. Pi watches several cockroaches throw themselves overboard and get eaten by fish.

The narrator is in a boat with a tiger. He smells urine and realizes that the tiger has urinated below the tarpaulin, which means it's claimed only part of the boat as its territory. The narrator feels comforted by this discovery because he knows that if he stays away from the area where Richard Parker has marked his territory, then everything should be okay. The narrator eats some food and drinks rainwater from a puddle on deck, but resists drinking water directly out of another puddle because there are organisms living in it that could hurt him. Instead, he uses some of Richard Parker's urine to mark his own territory so that Richard Parker will know not to go near it again.

Pi looks at the solar stills and finds out that they are devices used to make salt water safe for drinking. He
attaches them to ropes so he can drag them behind the boat, and uses oars (from a raft he previously came up with on his small island) as makeshift masts atop which blankets are hung.

Pi eats more food, as he is optimistic about surviving the ordeal. Richard Parker appears again and makes a sound that Pi hears from the water below him. He looks down into the water to see all of the fish and other creatures thriving in their environment. He sees them as a bustling city with many people living there. It's nighttime, so he goes to sleep on his raft for another night of survival at sea.

Chapter 60

Pi once woke up in the middle of the night and was terrified by his surroundings. He then realized that he suffered from a small problem, which seemed insignificant when compared to the vastness of nature. So, he prayed and went back to sleep.

Chapter 61

The next day Pi is in good spirits. He uses his shoe to catch a fish, which he shares with Richard Parker. However, he realizes that he needs more food and water for himself and Richard Parker soon because they might die otherwise. After some time of growing despair, Pi climbs onto the lifeboat to look for bait. At that moment, Pi feels something hit him on the face as if it were an omen from God telling him not to give up hope just yet.

A school of flying fish then jumps into the boat. Some of them hit Richard Parker, but he seems to enjoy it. Pi throws some fish to him as a treat, so that he’ll be tamed and will stay with Pi instead of eating him. The flying fish are being chased by dorados (a kind of fish). Richard Parker eats his fill and goes back for more when there aren’t any left. Pi tries to kill one himself in order to eat it, but can't bring himself to do it because killing animals is against his beliefs.

Pi uses a blanket to catch the flying fish. He feels that he has committed a great sin, but after killing the fish he finds it easier to cut it up and use it for bait. Pi catches another big fish, admires its colors, and thanks Vishnu for taking on the form of a fish.

Pi kills a dorado with his hatchet. He notices that it was easier to kill the second time, and he wonders how quickly people can get used to killing others. Pi throws the fish at Richard Parker and blows the whistle as the tiger eats. Night comes again, and Pi returns to his raft.

Chapter 62

Pi wakes up before sunrise and sees Richard Parker pacing around. He's thirsty so he checks the solar stills but is surprised to see that they actually produced fresh water. He drinks the water with relish, then gives some flying fish to Richard Parker who drinks from a bucket of the new supply. Pi blows his whistle as Richard Parker drinks and realizes it has been a week since the Tsimtsum sank.

Chapter 63
The author, Pi, lists other famous shipwreck survivors and says that he ended up surviving 227 days at sea. He says that keeping a busy routine was the key to his survival. He lists his daily chores and activities, which included feeding himself and Richard Parker (the tiger), praying, and keeping his raft and equipment properly functioning. Pi also spends hours just observing Richard Parker so he can learn more about him.

Chapter 64

Pi's clothes disintegrate from the sun and salt. He gets boils on his skin from being constantly wet, which are painful to burst.

Chapter 65

Pi studies the survival manual to learn how he can navigate his boat. However, he knows nothing about navigation and doesn't understand anything in the book. Eventually Pi gives up because he realizes that there is no way for him to propel or steer the lifeboat anyway. Later Pi would find out that he drifted along a current called Pacific equatorial counter-current.

Chapter 66

Pi continues fishing, and he often uses a gaff to pull fish aboard. He kills the fish with the hatchet. Pi becomes more comfortable around sea life and killing living creatures. He learns how to use a net as a lure to attract more fish. On days when he catches nothing at all, Pi compares his new level of “savagery” with his earlier lifestyle of vegetarianism.

Chapter 67

Pi looks at the bottom of his boat and sees crabs, shrimp, and algae living on it. He eats some of them but only likes the taste of the crab. Barnacles grow on his lifeboat too, so he sucks out their fluid every once in a while to pass time. The small creatures that live there keep Pi from being bored.

Chapter 68

Pi needs very little sleep, and usually only gets an hour at a time. Richard Parker sleeps all the time in various favorite positions.

Chapter 69

Pi sees light in the distance on some nights, but when he shoots a flare up into the sky, nothing happens. The area that he can see is only five miles around him, so it's unlikely that anyone will find him in all of the vast Pacific Ocean. He recognizes this and doesn't have much hope for rescue. Pi always smells cumin from his flares and dreams about Pondicherry while they burn.
Chapter 70

One day Pi catches a hawksbill sea turtle. It's too big to bring on the raft, so he pulls it onto the tarpaulin of his lifeboat. Richard Parker growls but allows it. He decides that he needs more territory and to train Richard Parker into allowing him on the boat more often.

Chapter 71

Pi has a list of suggestions for training an animal on a lifeboat. He suggests using the sea anchor to make the boat roll, which will make the animal seasick. Then he says to blow a whistle furiously and stomp, and when it steps onto your territory, blow more whistles and roll the boat again until it is vomiting. Do this repeatedly until you see that it retreats at the sound of your whistle.

Chapter 72

Pi's training continues with survival skills. At first, Richard Parker tries to kill him but Pi is able defend himself using a turtle shell for protection. After several more attempts, he figures out how to make Richard Parker seasick after which the tiger never attacks again.

Chapter 73

Pi wants a book, but especially one of scripture. He writes in his diary about practical things like the weather and Richard Parker's activities.

Chapter 74

Pi practices his usual religious rituals, but he adapts them to his situation. He has solitary Mass without bread or a priest, prays to Allah without knowing where Mecca is and uses turtle meat as prasad (offerings), which are offered in Hinduism. These rituals give him comfort during the difficult times of the journey, but he still finds himself tested by suffering. In order to keep going, Pi sometimes places himself within creation by labelling the sky “God’s ear” or Richard Parker “God’s cat.” Despite these efforts at keeping faith with God despite all that happens on board the ship, Pi still has to battle regularly with despair. However, his faith always overcomes and helps him get through it until he reaches land again.

Chapter 75

Pi is singing Happy Birthday to his mother one day.

Chapter 76

Pi serves as Richard Parker's toilet. This happened when the insurance company asked Pi to name his animal. He said, "Richard Parker," which was ridiculous. Pi had no idea that Richard Parkers didn't serve
in this way for human beings after being captured in the wild. However, things changed once they were
on a boat and Richard Parker became completely feral and disturbed by years of confinement on a zoo
ship with no one to hunt with him or share food with...

Chapter 77

When Pi's food supply runs out, he starts to eat anything and everything. He can tell that Richard Parker's
excrement doesn't have any nutritional value. Soon his body begins to deteriorate from starvation.

Chapter 78

Pi describes his life in the boat as a circle. He is constantly on the water, and he has no idea where he is
going or when he will arrive. His feelings are extreme, which makes him feel like there are two sides to
everything: light and dark; hot and cold; calmness and terror. Pi's emotions swing from one extreme to
another because of how boring his situation is.

Chapter 79

Sharks swim by the boat every day. Pi catches a four-foot mako shark and throws it into Richard Parker's
territory, where it gets attacked. This teaches him that sharks make mistakes, and they aren't perfect
creatures. Richard Parker roars in pain after getting bitten, and rips apart the shark. After this incident, Pi
kills the sharks himself when he catches them.

Chapter 80

One day a huge dorado jumps into the boat while chasing flying fish. Pi picks up the stunned fish,
rejoicing, but Richard Parker sees the dorado in Pi's hands and goes into an attack position. After staring
at each other for a few seconds, Richard Parker turns away from Pi and walks off. From then on, Pi
spends more time on the lifeboat without feeling as afraid of his tiger companion anymore.

Chapter 81

Pi admits that his survival is hard to believe, but he explains how he maintained dominance over Richard
Parker. He was the tiger's main source of food and water, and Richard Parker was used to this kind of
treatment at the zoo. But there are no other witnesses besides Pi himself, so we can't be sure if what
happened really did happen or not.

Chapter 82

Pi has a lot of water but is worried that it will break. He adds seawater to Richard Parker's water, but they
still don't have enough. Pi shares his food with the tiger and eats while the animal watches him do so. One
day he realizes that he is eating like Richard Parker does, even though he doesn't want to be like him at
all.
Chapter 83

One day, a huge storm came and the waves turned into mountains. Pi was forced to leave the raft for the lifeboat, and he rolled up the tarpaulin and got under it, lying flat on the bench farthest from Richard Parker. He gradually closed the tarpaulin over both himself and his friend/enemy as they rode through huge waves with steep inclines and declines. Waves crashed onto them but did not pummel them because of their sheltering tarpaulin. The storm lasted for a day and night, until it eventually stopped when there were no more waves in sight.

The storm abates, and Pi is relieved. However, he notices that the raft has disappeared along with Richard Parker. He is distressed but tries to remain calm by mending the torn tarpaulin and bailing water out of the boat.

Chapter 84

One day, Pi hears a noise and water crashes down on him from above. He looks up at the sky only to see a whale pass by just under the surface of the water. The whale stares directly into his eyes, and then sinks back down to the depths. After this incident, more whales would swim around Pi's boat, but none came as close as that first one did. Pi imagines them talking about him to each other when they're together in their pods.

Pi sees two distant albatrosses, which seem supernatural to him. He also sees a masked booby land on the boat and later eats it all, but he never gets any indication that land is nearby.

Chapter 85

One day, there was a thunderstorm. Lightning struck the water near Pi's boat and he grew ecstatic at this sight. Richard Parker cowered in fear on the floor of the boat and Pi remembered how happy he felt during that storm as one of his happiest moments on the sea.

Chapter 86

One day, a ship approaches the boat. Pi is happy because he thinks that they will be rescued. However, as it gets closer, he realizes that it's a huge tanker and won't be able to rescue them. He tries to signal for help but his voice cannot reach the people on board. The ship moves away silently and disappears over the horizon. Afterward, Pi professes his love for Richard Parker and promises to find land so that they can survive together.

Chapter 87

Pi develops a method of slightly asphyxiating himself. He wets his dream rag with seawater and drapes it over his face while he rests. This makes him feel good, and time seems to pass by more quickly.

Chapter 88
One day, Pi's lifeboat drifted into a mass of floating trash. He picked out an empty wine bottle and wrote a message about his predicament before sealing it back in the water.

**Chapter 89**

The sun and salt continue to wear down everything in the lifeboat, including Pi and Richard Parker. They both become skeletally thin, with Pi sleeping away most of his time. He writes in his diary that he thinks they're going to die soon. After writing about how he's run out of ink for his diary, he touches Richard Parker for the first time when it rains briefly.

**Chapter 90**

Richard Parker goes blind one day, and Pi throws a dorado at him. It hits the tiger in the face and he feels pity for Richard Parker. Two days later, Pi himself goes blind. He suffers through heat and hunger but clings to life as his zookeeper duties have failed him because of this blindness.

Pi is aware that he's going to die. He bids Richard Parker farewell, but soon realizes that someone or something answered him. Pi and the voice discuss food, with the voice insisting on meat dishes while Pi wants only vegetarian foods. Pi concludes that it must be Richard Parker's spirit talking to him before dying.

Pi asks Richard Parker if he has ever killed a man. The voice says that he has killed a man and a woman. Pi realizes that the voice doesn't belong to Richard Parker, but instead is from another castaway who also happens to be blind. They both start crying and Pi rows his boat towards the other castaway.

A castaway is stranded on a lifeboat with Pi, who tells him his story. The man asks for the story of how Pi ended up in the boat. It begins when a boy was eating a banana and he dropped it onto the ground. This made him feel better because he knew that there would be another banana to eat later that day. The man wants to trade something for this amazing story, so they agree upon trading shoes or boots as they call them in their language. They describe them in great detail but then admit that neither has any boots or shoes after all since one ate his and the other traded away his already long ago.

Pi agrees to paddle over to meet the other person's boat, and once they're close enough together, they tie their boats together using rope which is also described in great detail by both parties before doing so.

Pi embraces the castaway, but he suddenly tries to kill Pi. As soon as the man touches the boat floor, Richard Parker kills him. This is a traumatic experience for Pi and it changes him forever. He says that something died in him at that moment and it has never come back.

**Chapter 91**

Pi was on the boat and found some fish, turtle meat, and crumbs. He wept for the dead man because he had lost his family as well. Pi rinsed out his eyes with seawater and his vision returned. He saw that the castaway's body was butchered on the floor of the lifeboat. Later in a delirium of hunger, Pi ate some of the flesh from one arm. Despite this, he still prays for him daily.
Chapter 92

Pi describes an exceptional discovery he makes on a boat. He sees an island covered with trees, but decides that it's probably not real because there is no soil. He tests the ground by putting his foot in the water and stepping on solid ground.

Pi finally realizes that the island is real, and he becomes delirious with joy. He eats some of the algae, which contains fresh water. Pi drinks his fill and then drags himself to a tree to rest. When he gets there, Richard Parker jumps from the lifeboat as well and disappears into the forest.

Pi spends the day in bliss but goes back to his territory on the lifeboat at night. Richard Parker returns to the boat, too. Pi has a good sleep and feels stronger. He learns how to walk again, falling down into soft algae and eating it for breakfast. Days pass, and Pi always stays on the boat with Richard Parker.

Richard Parker returns to his former strength and speed, but Pi is still afraid of him. One night, Parker bursts out of the trees and swims to his side of the lifeboat. The whistle stops him from attacking Pi, who decides that he wants to explore the island where they are stranded. It's a large island with algae at its center; it rises up about 60 feet high on average. There are hundreds of ponds in the center as well, which seem bottomless when Pi looks into them.

The meerkats start diving into a nearby pond and pulling out large fish. Pi is surprised because the fish are already dead, but he finds that they're fresh. He also discovers that the water in the pond is fresh as well as saltwater-based.

Pi and his family are on a boat, but they're stranded when the ship sinks. They get to a lifeboat, but there's only food enough for one person. Pi is left alone with Richard Parker, who kills hundreds of meerkats and eats them all. The next day Pi cleans up the mess from the night before so that he can survive in this new environment.

Pi feels better and better every day. A storm hits the island, but it doesn't have any effect on Pi or his boat. He realizes that the island is actually a huge organism that absorbs energy from all of its surroundings. The trees are part of this organism too, and they're not rooted to the ground; instead, they float in midair with their roots hanging down like hair.

Pi's boat starts sinking because of the storm, so he paddles back to shore as quickly as possible using only one oar (the other one has broken). Once there, he discovers an enormous meerkat colony living there. They're much larger than those on his home island in Mexico.

One day, Pi is exploring the forest when he comes across Richard Parker. He decides to tame him again and trains him to jump through a hoop of branches. Pi then moves onto land and sleeps in a tree.

Pi makes a bed for himself in the trees, and all the meerkats climb up there with him. They cover him like a blanket, then they fall asleep too. The next morning they go back to their normal routines on the ground. Pi starts sleeping in the tree every night, using meerkats as a blanket and pillow. One night he wakes up and sees dead fish floating in one of the ponds but none of them are climbing down from the trees this
time around. Then all of those fish disappear overnight. Pi finds something suspicious about this situation so he tries to find out more about what's going on here at this island that is supposed to be paradise for animals. He explores more into it, and after some days later he gets his answer when he notices that there are no birds or monkeys flying overhead anymore.

Pi finds a tree with fruit. He climbs it and picks one, noticing how light it is. He peels away its many layers to find that the center of the fruit is actually a human tooth. Pi decides to pick more fruit from this tree, finding that each one has a human tooth inside of it.

Pi realizes that the island is dangerous after a meerkat falls and gets hurt. Pi tests his theory by dropping one of the meerkats from the tree, which results in it getting hurt and climbing back up. Pi then tests this theory by touching some algae on the ground, which hurts him when he touches it with his feet.

Pi realizes that the island is carnivorous. The algae becomes acidic and deadly at night, digesting the ocean fish it has lured into its ponds. Pi feels betrayed by this discovery because he had hoped to live on the island for years.

The next morning, Pi resolved to leave the algae island. He would rather die than live on a carnivorous island with no other humans or land in sight. To prepare for his journey, he filled the lifeboat with dead fish, meerkats and algae. He waited until nightfall before pushing off from the island.

**Chapter 93**

Pi describes the rest of his experience, which is a constant trial of endurance and depression. He turns to God for help in his suffering.

**Chapter 94**

One day, a lifeboat washed up on the shore of Mexico. Pi was so weak that he could barely believe it or feel happy about it. He guided the boat through the breakers and then slowly lowered himself down into shallow waters. Richard Parker jumped over his head and walked clumsily down a beach without looking back at him.

Pi crawled out of the lifeboat and collapsed on the beach. He was completely alone now that Richard Parker had disappeared forever. A few hours later, some people found him and carried him away, speaking in a language he didn't understand. Pi started to cry because he missed Richard Parker so much.

Pi says that he wishes he had thanked Richard Parker before leaving the boat. He also asks the author to end his story in 100 chapters. Pi hates his nickname because pi goes on forever and never ends, just like a painful memory.

Pi washes up on a beach and is nursed by kindly villagers. Police officers then take him to the hospital where he receives treatment from doctors who later send him to live in Canada with foster parents. He rises through academics, thanks his supporters, and ends his story.
Chapter 95

The author returns to describe the nature of the next section. It is a transcript of an interview between Pi, two officials from Japan's Maritime Department and others in Mexico. The interviewer was Mr. Tomohiro Okamoto and one other official whose name he didn't catch. They were on unrelated business in California when they were called back to Mexico because there had been an accident involving a ship called Tsimtsum that sank somewhere near Canada, killing everyone onboard except for Pi who survived for nearly 200 days at sea with only a tiger named Richard Parker by his side as company after being separated from his family during the sinking vessel's final moments before it went under water forever.

The officials misread the map and got lost in Mexico. Their car broke down, they couldn't find a mechanic, and they had to travel for forty-one hours before reaching their destination of Tomatlán. They interviewed Pi in English after getting there, but the author hasn't heard back from them since then.

Chapter 96

The interview with Mr. Okamoto begins, and he gives the date as February 19th, 1978. He is a junior official, and he advises Pi on how to talk to the officials in Japanese. They greet Pi and discuss their trip. The officials say that they had a nice trip, and Pi says that his trip was terrible. He is hungry, so they give him a cookie. They ask him to tell his story.

Chapter 97

What is the importance of telling stories?

Chapter 98

Pi tells Okamoto and Chiba that his story is interesting, but they say it's not believable. They talk about how Pi has been storing the cookies under his bedsheets.

Chapter 99

The interviewers return and tell Pi that they don't believe his story. As an example of its impossibility, they claim that bananas don't float. Pi challenges this by bringing out two bananas from under the bedsheets to test them in water. The interviewer fills a sink with water and puts the bananas in it; he then realizes that there is algae on the bottom of the ocean.

Pi says that they don't believe in the island because no one has seen it, but Okamoto claims that it is "physically impossible." Chiba interrupts to say he has an uncle who is a botanist and bonsai master. Pi then says that since you can carry three-hundred-year old trees around in your arms, they must also be physically impossible.

Okamoto asks Pi about Richard Parker. He says that no one has spotted a tiger in the area lately and asks if anyone has seen a panther recently, as it escaped from the zoo. Okamoto then questions how believable
it is for Pi to have survived with an animal like Richard Parker.

Pi responds that animals are as afraid of humans as we are of them. He gives more examples of wild animals living undetected in big cities, and says it's ridiculous to think you'll find a tiger in the jungle. Pi then questions the interviewer – he asks if they believe love or God exists, because these things seem improbable too.

Pi is distracted by the officials' questions and Okamoto scolds him in Japanese. He asks Pi to help with the situation, but they eventually give up challenging his story.

Pi refuses to stop talking about his story, so Okamoto asks him about the blind Frenchman he met. The cook on the ship was also French, Pi says. He asks them about the meerkat bones in the lifeboat and reminds them that he lost his whole family in a shipwreck.

The officials are embarrassed to know that Pi's story was fake. He offers them cookies, and asks if they liked his story. They say they did like the story but want to know what really happened. Pi says he'll tell them another version of the same story, which will be more believable than the first one with all those animals in it.

Pi pauses and then tells a new story about what happened. In this second version, Pi is on the lifeboat with his mother, the French cook, and a Chinese sailor. The cook was greedy and cruel and ate all of the flies in addition to one rat that survived on board. The sailor was young but spoke only Chinese; he also had broken his leg when jumping into the boat.

The sailor's leg got worse, and the cook convinced the others to cut it off. The sailor was quiet throughout this ordeal, and clung to life even after his leg was gone.

The next day, Pi went to throw the severed leg overboard but was stopped by the cook. The cook said that they needed to use it as bait and that this was his plan all along. Pi's mother realized what happened here. She saw how guilty the cook looked, but he said they needed food otherwise everyone would die at sea.

Pi's mother was angry at the cook for stealing food. She discovered that Pi ate some of it too, and she turned away from him in disgust. Two weeks had passed by then.

A sailor died and the cook butchered him. He used some of the flesh as bait and ate the rest. The cook occupied one end of the lifeboat, while Pi and his mother occupied the other. They couldn't ignore him because he was a great fisherman. However, they didn't eat any of his meat or fish, even though it provided them with food to survive on.

After some time, Pi and his mother got along better with the cook. The cook was able to help them survive on the small raft. One day they tried to catch a turtle, but he escaped from their boat. The cook hit Pi for doing this and then killed Pi's mother because she attacked him in retaliation. He cut off her head and threw it at Pi while he was still standing on the raft.

A cook killed Pi's mother and ate some of her flesh. Pi stayed on the raft for a day without saying anything, and neither he nor the cook talked to each other. Then, Pi climbed onto the lifeboat. The cook
silently gave him a turtle to eat, and then they fought with knives until Pi killed him in self-defense.

Pi cut up the cook and ate his heart, liver, and pieces of his flesh. He says that the heart was delicious. Pi says that the cook was an evil man, but he met with evil in himself. Of the rest of this story, Pi only says “Solitude began” before asking if it is more believable than the original story.

Okamoto and Chiba were disturbed by the story of Pi being stranded on a lifeboat with Richard Parker. However, they noted some similarities between that tale and another one: the zebra was like the Chinese sailor, while the hyena corresponded to the cook. Orange Juice represented Pi's mother, while Pi himself was represented by Richard Parker. Okamoto didn't know what to think about meerkats or an algae island in either story, but Chiba asked him about it anyway.

Officials ask Pi some questions about the sinking of his ship. He says that he can't remember much because most of the crew members were drunk and unfriendly. The officials eventually give up trying to figure out what happened, recognizing that they'll never know for sure.

Pi tells the officials that neither story explains why his ship sank, and both stories don't matter to their business. The officials agree that Pi's animal story is better than his human one. Pi thanks them for listening and says "And so it goes with God." He starts crying, and gives them some cookies as a parting gift.

Chapter 100

The author then discusses the interview with Okamoto, who says that Pi's story is probably true. He also adds a personal note about Pi, saying that he was unique and amazing because few people survive as long as he did on a lifeboat and none of them do so while sharing it with an adult tiger.