



ENTIRETY IS ONE THING, BUT THIS [BOOK] DELIVERS THE DELECTABLE MEANS TO PROVE IT."—PUBLISHERS WEEKLY "ALAN BERGO WAS FORAGING IN THE MIDWEST WAY BEFORE IT WAS TRENDY."—OUTSIDE MAGAZINE  
*LIFE OF PI* YANN MARTEL 2007 PI PATEL, HAVING SPENT AN IDYLIC CHILDHOOD IN PONDICHERRY, INDIA, AS THE SON OF A ZOOKEEPER, SETS OFF WITH HIS FAMILY AT THE AGE OF SIXTEEN TO START ANEW IN CANADA, BUT HIS LIFE TAKES A MARVELOUS TURN WHEN THEIR SHIP SINKS IN THE PACIFIC, LEAVING HIM ADRIFT ON A RAFT WITH A 450-POUND BENGAL TIGER FOR COMPANY.  
*THE LIFE OF PLANTS* EMANUELE COCCIA 2019-01-16 WE BARELY TALK ABOUT THEM AND SELDOM KNOW THEIR NAMES. PHILOSOPHY HAS ALWAYS OVERLOOKED THEM; EVEN BIOLOGY CONSIDERS THEM AS MERE DECORATION ON THE TREE OF LIFE. AND YET PLANTS GIVE LIFE TO THE EARTH: THEY PRODUCE THE ATMOSPHERE THAT SURROUNDS US, THEY ARE THE ORIGIN OF THE OXYGEN THAT ANIMATES US.

PLANTS EMBODY THE MOST DIRECT, ELEMENTARY CONNECTION THAT LIFE CAN ESTABLISH WITH THE WORLD. IN THIS HIGHLY ORIGINAL BOOK, EMANUELE COCCIA ARGUES THAT, AS THE VERY CREATOR OF ATMOSPHERE, PLANTS OCCUPY THE FUNDAMENTAL POSITION FROM WHICH WE SHOULD ANALYZE ALL ELEMENTS OF LIFE. FROM THIS STANDPOINT, WE CAN NO LONGER PERCEIVE THE WORLD AS A SIMPLE COLLECTION OF OBJECTS OR AS A UNIVERSAL SPACE CONTAINING ALL THINGS, BUT AS THE SITE OF A VERITABLE METAPHYSICAL MIXTURE. SINCE OUR ATMOSPHERE IS RENDERED POSSIBLE THROUGH PLANTS ALONE, LIFE ONLY PERPETUATES ITSELF THROUGH THE VERY CIRCLE OF CONSUMPTION UNDERTAKEN BY PLANTS. IN OTHER WORDS, LIFE EXISTS ONLY INsofar AS IT CONSUMES OTHER LIFE, REMOVING ANY MORAL OR ETHICAL CONSIDERATIONS FROM THE EQUATION. IN CONTRAST TO TRENDS OF THOUGHT THAT DISCUSS NATURE AND THE COSMOS IN GENERAL TERMS, COCCIA'S ACCOUNT BRINGS THE INFINITELY SMALL TOGETHER WITH THE INFINITELY BIG, OFFERING A RADICAL REDEFINITION OF THE PLACE OF HUMANITY WITHIN THE REALM OF LIFE.