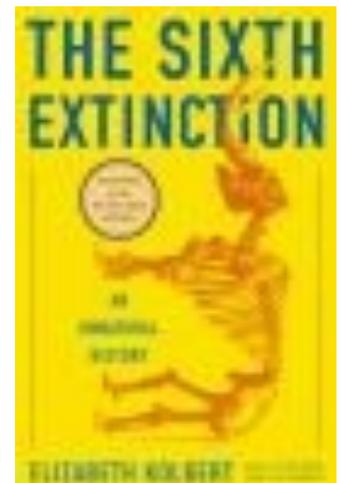




The Sixth Extinction: An Unnatural History Elizabeth Kolbert

Discussion Questions

1. Has reading this book changed your views about climate change in any way?
2. Did you find what you learned in this book alarming?
3. What do you think about the example of the ammonite – they were perfectly adapted to their environment, but the catastrophic effects of the asteroid still resulted in their extinction.
4. Do you see any way of slowing the acidification of the ocean? (pg118 tipping point is pH 7.8 – expected 2100)
5. Do you think the “islands on dry land” method of studying small ecosystems can help us to predict the effect of our actions our larger ecosystem?
6. In some parts of the world the number of species has dropped, in some parts of the world the number of species has increased. How does this add to the difficulty of predicting the future?
7. What percentage Neanderthal are you?
8. How far would you go to stop a species from becoming extinct?
9. Do you think that Kolbert remains unbiased about the subject?
10. Do you think you will change the way you live as a result of reading this book?





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About the Author

Elizabeth Kolbert is a staff writer for *The New Yorker* and the author of *Field Notes from a Catastrophe: Man, Nature, and Climate Change*. Her series on global warming, *The Climate of Man*, from which the book was adapted, won the American Association for the Advancement of Science's magazine writing award and a National Academies communications award. She is a two-time National Magazine Award winner. She is also a recipient of a Heinz Award and Guggenheim Fellowship. Kolbert lives in Williamstown, Massachusetts.

This book is available for download as an eBook and eAudiobook. For more information, please visit lpl.overdrive.com or call 519-661-4600.