

*The Forest and the Trees*

Briefly describe Silman's experiments with trees in Peru.

Following the 73<sup>rd</sup> meridian west from the North Pole will lead Kolbert through what important regions?

How many species of trees live in Silman's plots? According to various theories, why do more species live in the tropics than in the north?

What does Kolbert mean when she describes Silman's forest as "already, measurably in motion"?

How do organisms like trees deal with variations in temperature?

What results from changes in the Earth's orbit? From the gravitational tugs by Jupiter and Saturn?

Name the most charismatic and hilarious plants you know.

What do we learn from the graph on page 165 about the space-area relationship for trees?

When did the recent ice ages occur? What survived them all?

What is biotic attrition?

*Islands on Dry Land*

What is BDFFP? Where is it? What does the BDFFP study?

What is a fragmentologist? How do we distinguish anthrones from wildlands?

Kolbert begins by describing about 50 million square miles of land on Earth free of ice cover. About 27 million square miles have been transformed by human beings. What about the other 23 million—what's happening there?

How many species of birds does Cohn-Haft believe live in the Amazon? When is the best time to hear their calls? How many did Cohn-Haft and colleagues band in their "ring and fling" days? What has happened to the diversity in birds? Why?

What is depauperate? Why are species living on land-bridge islands less diverse than species living on the continents they originated in? Why is it so hard to recolonize a species that ends on an island?

Consider: There are between 2 and 7 million tropical insect species, but only about 10,000 bird species in the entire world and only 5500 mammal species in the world.

Please review top two paragraphs on page 186—what do you learn?

When assessing the contrast between predictions and actualities about extinction, Kolbert observes, “humans aren’t very observant.” What evidence does she offer?

According to Lovejoy, how can destruction of the rainforest lead to a disappearance of rain?

What should we know about the importance of army ants? And antbirds?