

What if the world's last dodo was actually a genius?

THE LIFE OF JEREMY DODO: a rousing historical fantasy novella that imagines the trials and triumphs of the world's most intelligent bird

The Life of
**JEREMY
DODO**



Rick Bayan

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania Apr 16, 2026 (IssueWire.com) - Now you can read the "biography" of the world's last dodo, an inexplicably brilliant bird who escapes the extermination of his species on his native isle, learns several languages during his adventures, and makes his way to England in the first decade of the 18th century.

After struggling as a hack writer, Jeremy finally breaks into the ranks of London Wits, wins acclaim as "a feather'd Celebrity," and even courts a smart and winsome young woman. His loyal friend and biographer urges him to write an epic poem to immortalize his defunct tribe, with results that are both triumphant and disastrous.

The Life of Jeremy Dodo is distinguished by its realistic treatment of an essentially surreal story. Written entirely in the style of the period, it combines humor, adventures, romance, lively conversations, interactions with actual historical figures, and a stirring conclusion that borders on the supernatural. It immerses the reader in the world of early 18th-century London – and it renders its hero as an eloquent tragicomic figure in the tradition of Don Quixote and Cyrano de Bergerac.

The dodo made headlines recently when Colossal Biosciences, a "juggernaut of de-extinction science," announced plans to resurrect the extinct bird using dodo DNA and a host from a closely related species. The world will be watching.

The Life of Jeremy Dodo. Paperback, 128 pages. \$8.99. Also available as a Kindle e-book for \$6.99. Sold on Amazon.com and its international affiliates. (Other distributors will follow shortly.) You can read more about "the great Fowle" and his author at jeremydodo.com

Rick Bayan is the author of *The Cynic's Dictionary*, the classic advertising thesaurus *Words That Sell*, and three collections of darkly humorous essays. He dreamed up his tale of Jeremy Dodo as a young man during the 1980s, reached the halfway point a few years later, and shelved his brainchild for three decades while other projects (including marriage and fatherhood) intervened. Finally, when his son went off to college, the old bird called out to him: he plunged back into the story and completed it as if no time had elapsed – almost as if he was taking dictation from an 18th-century muse. Bayan lives in a converted Victorian livery stable in Philadelphia. He's a lifelong birdwatcher, a history buff, and an American of Armenian ancestry (which helped him acquire a natural sympathy for innocent races pushed to the brink of extinction).

Contact him at rickbayan@verizon.net or give him a call at 215-290-5732. Book website: jeremydodo.com



Media Contact

Rick Bayan

*****@verizon.net

215-290-5732

6614 Quincy Street, Philadelphia, PA 19119

<http://jeremydodo.com>

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