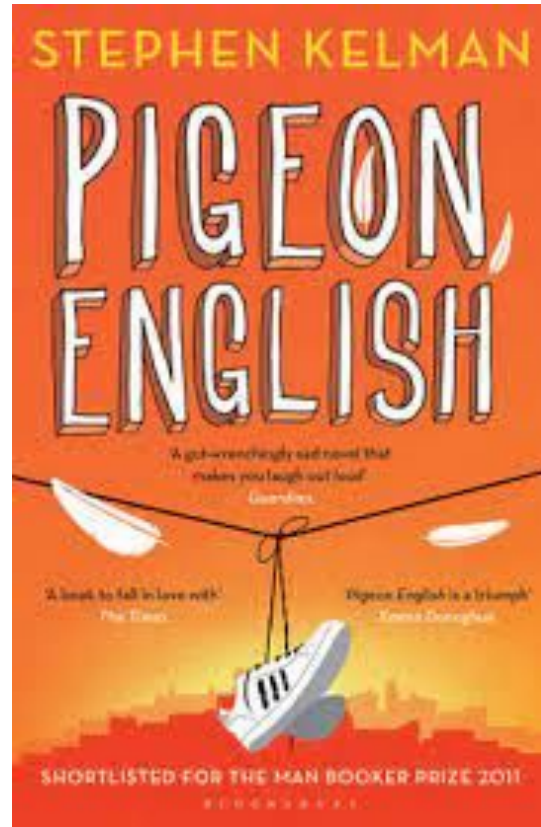


Pigeon English

Stephen Kelman (b 1976)



Pigeon English, the first novel from author Stephen Kelman, is narrated by Harrison 'Harri' Opoku, an eleven-year old boy who has emigrated to South London from Ghana with his mother and sister, and who gives us an insight into his life. It is a world of knife-violence within school gangs; housing estates populated by the poor, immigrants and addicts; of absent fathers and violent Role-models. Even Harri's aunt lives with a thug who supplies forged visas for illegal immigrants at exorbitant prices while she burns off her fingerprints to avoid identification.



[Pigeon English by Stephen Kelman - book trailer - YouTube](#)

	Historical Interest
	Cultural Messages
	Sexual Content
	Violence
	Language
	Controversial Issues

Pigeon English

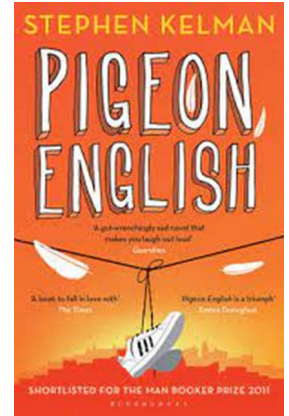
Stephen Kelman (b 1976)

- **Stephen Kelman** - Stephen Kelman was born in Luton in 1976. *Pigeon English*, his first novel, was shortlisted for the 2011 Man Booker Prize, the Desmond Elliott Prize and the Guardian First Book Award, and he was also shortlisted for the New Writer of the Year Award at the 2011 Galaxy National Book Awards.
- **He said...** *'The first time I attempted a novel was in 2006 and I completed it and sent it off to agents and it got lots of rejections. One agent asked to see the whole manuscript but then decided to pass and at that point I thought I might give up. Then I got the idea for Pigeon English.'*
- **Did you know?** Before becoming an author Stephen has worked as a warehouse operative, as a caseworker, and in marketing and local government administration.



St Ives School Tutor Reading: Routine

Ready Respectful Safe



- Ready – arrive promptly and settle quickly at the start of the session
- Respectful – listen, in silence, to their tutor and visiting adults reading
- Safe – follow instructions from staff, first time every time, including tracking the text with their reading ruler, and sitting with good posture